

Milton Elementary/Middle School Parental Involvement Policy

2009-2010

Milton Elementary/Middle School

Lafayette Parish School System

Suzanne Kebodeaux
Principal

School Mission Statement: We are **MILTON!** Motivated Individuals Learning Together to Obtain New knowledge. Milton Elementary/Middle School is dedicated to the achievement of excellence. Working cooperatively with warmth, respect, and love, we provide all of our students with the opportunities and skills needed to succeed now and in the future.

Belief Statements:

1. We believe that all students should be granted the skills and opportunities needed to achieve individual excellence.
2. In order to achieve in life, we believe that we must have high expectations, challenging experiences, and self-discipline.
3. We believe that all students can learn in an instructional setting that is centered around purpose and goals.
4. We provide a safe and challenging environment that meets the needs of ALL students.
5. We believe that our school centers itself around love, respect, warmth, and cooperation.

I. Introduction:

The Milton community, originally settled by a staunchly Catholic, French-speaking population, was named for Milton Cushman. The young doctor, who moved to the area from Alexandria, rode his horse up and down the banks of the Vermilion River, stopping where he was needed and asking nothing in return.

When he petitioned for a post office, established in 1887, it bore the name of Milton, LA. His work inspired the community spirit of pride and cooperation, the most important of which was this school.

Currently, Milton Elementary/Middle School services 778 students. Less than 25% of the students are on free and reduced lunch. The campus has 38 general classrooms and two special education classrooms. This year the school earned a three star rating.

Milton is unique in being the only school in the parish made up of kindergarten through eighth grade. This school promotes special programs including Reading Renaissance, Renaissance Math, and STING (Positive Behavior Support).

This plan for parental involvement was developed by a committee of faculty and parents. Policies and activities are distributed through newsletters, pace messages, and three school hosted websites.

II. Describe plans to hold an annual meeting for parents to inform them of the school's participation in Title I and their right to be involved in school planning and their child's educational process, and inform parents how Title I reserved funds are allotted for parental involvement activities.

Milton Elementary/Middle School does not receive Title 1 funding.

III. Describe how the school will involve parents in planning and school policy development and review of Title I programs organized in an ongoing manner.

Milton Elementary/Middle School does not receive Title 1 funding.

IV. Describe how the school will provide parents with information on school's performance profiles, forms of assessment used to measure student progress and a description of the school's curriculum, State content Standards, Benchmarks, Grade Level Expectancy, Louisiana Accountability System and the interpretation of results.

Milton Elementary/Middle School provides parents with information on school performance using the School Report card issued by the Louisiana Department of Education. State Assessment is used to assess State Content Standards/Benchmarks and Grade Level Expectations. At grades 3, 5, 6, and 7 the IOWA portion of the iLEAP measures our students' achievements compared to national standards.

All teachers at Milton address the Louisiana State Comprehensive Curriculum. This curriculum provides a wide variety of activities to meet the needs of individual learning styles. This curriculum addresses state standards and grade level expectations.

Milton has achieved three star rating with the Louisiana Accountability System for the 2006-2007 school year with a school baseline score of 117.3. Our school performance baseline score for the 2005-06 school year is 118.5. We also make adequate yearly progress for the subgroup component of the school score.

Newsletters are also sent home quarterly to inform parents of school activities. These newsletters include activities parents can do with their children at home. We also frequently (3 or more times a month) utilize the Connect-Ed messaging system to send schoolwide information to students' homes.

Curriculum information is regularly updated through teacher hosted webpages through www.schoolnotes.com. As of September 1, 2009, there were only 6 teachers not hosting a webpage through this medium. The school and PTO also host three websites to distribute information.

V. Describe how school will offer training and other parental involvement capacity building activities to help parents work with their children to improve academic performance.

During the 2009-2010 school year, parents will be informed of daily activities and student progress through the use of planners and/or schedules sent home nightly. Parents and the community will be able to access School Notes and web blogging sites. This will provide an opportunity for ongoing interaction and open communication. Parents without computer access at home can access the school library during school hours. Teachers may print a hard copy of school notes and other online information for parents.

Parents will be invited to attend a family/parent Reading Renaissance instruction day given by the librarian. This coincides with Parent-Teacher conferences each fall. This will help parents participate in activities to learn how to help their children excel in reading. This will continue during the summer. Mini sessions will be held by teachers and/or the librarian.

Parent training is available to introduce our new Renaissance Math stations. These stations will also continue through the summer so that parents and students can keep skills sharp. Every year, parent workshops are offered through the counseling department.

VI. Describe the school's plan to hold parent conference regularly and report frequently to parents about their child's progress.

At Milton Elementary/Middle School we provide a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education. The first day of the school year we have "Meet and Greet". Parents visit the school, meet the teacher, and bring in the supplies the student need for class. About four weeks later, we have "Open House" for the parents. Parents are invited into the school building in the evening to learn more about school programs, procedures, and activities. On student progress conference day, parents meet with the teacher individually to discuss student progress. Parents are informed of their child's progress every two weeks. Parents are encouraged to schedule a

conference if their child is having difficulty in a specific area. Teachers also contact parents for conferences, if concerns arise.

VII. Describe how the school will provide school information to parents with Limited English Proficiency, parents with low-level literacy skills and parents who cannot attend meetings and conferences.

We had only a few parents who are Limited English Proficiency and few with low-level literacy skills. For those parents meetings are most effective. This way information can be explained. To make contact with the parent who does not speak English the teacher utilizes the student's older sister to communicate. We are also fortunate to have on our faculty a teacher who once taught high school Spanish. When he is not available, communication is given in writing. A Spanish interpreter, provided by the school system, has also been utilized when necessary.

VIII. Describe how the school will offer parents opportunities to volunteer and how will community organizations be given opportunities to contribute to the school.

There are many opportunities for parents to volunteer in the school. Specialty events like kindergarten testing, hearing and vision screening, student picture days, and special LEAP week activities bring a variety of parents and community partners together. PTO also organizes some of the report card incentives that occur each six weeks.

Ongoing events also help to ensure the presence of our stakeholders on campus. Every two weeks we utilize parents to monitor classroom while teachers attend grade level meeting. Every Thursday, members of the PTO are on campus to run our PBS kiosk for all students so that they can redeem their "cosmic cash". On a daily basis, parents can volunteer in the office area to run off papers and go to the media center to make letters, laminate, etc. Fund raisers are also an area where a parent can volunteer time. Milton had an entertainment book sale and a cookie dough sale. These activities are organized by the teachers and the PTO.

Our parents are also very active in campus improvement projects. In recent years, Saturday teams were organized to install playground equipment, run internet connections, and install projectors and Promethean ActivBoards in our classrooms.

PTO hosts a potluck luncheon each six weeks to provide a special treat for the teachers to help ease the stress during the end of each grading period. Parents also host holiday luncheons and activities for the faculty during teacher appreciation week. Their behind the scenes participation in school events like Renaissance rallies and end of the year banquets is also critical to our success.

Our community partners are also involved in the events listed above and support our school with donations of time, money, and products.

IX. Describe how the school will develop a home-school compact with parents and the plan to distribute, evaluate, and revise the compact.

Milton has a school compact that was established by a committee of teachers and parents. This compact is reviewed and updated yearly. The compact is signed by parents, students, and teachers at the beginning of every school year. For the past three years, we have had an 85%-98% return rate. The compacts are housed with the child's homeroom teachers.

X. Describe how the school will coordinate and integrate family involvement activities with Pre-K programs.

Milton is a school serving students in grades K-8. We do not have a pre-K program.

XI. Describe how the school will respond to parents dissatisfied with the school's Title I program and the school's plan for evaluating the revising the school parental involvement policy.

Milton Elementary/Middle School does not receive Title 1 funding.

Special Note:

(II., III.) Non-Title I Schools do not address Title I funds or Title I programs on these items.

(X.) Middle and High Schools do not address Pre-Kg. Programs.

Signature of Principal

The following persons participated in the development of the Milton Elementary/Middle School Parental Involvement Policy for the 2008-2009 School Year.

Parents:

Jennifer Leger

Tyree Broussard

Tina Desormeaux

Heather Istre

Teachers:

Jessica Norman-chair

Michelle Hebert

Nanette Meaux

Tara Venetis

Administrators:

Suzanne Kebodeaux

Renee Langley Nunez