

Milford Mill Academy



Newsletter: August 2019

Principal's Message

August 10, 2019

Greetings Milford Parents and Guardians,

I hope you are having a great summer with your family. I am proud to announce that Milford is turning 70 during the month of September. After graduating more than 300 seniors who earned over 3 million dollars in scholarships, Milford received a diversity award for increasing female access to AP Computer Science courses, which was highlighted with a featured school tour by the National Magnet Schools of America conference. Further, Milford saw an 11% increase in incoming 9th graders who earned credits towards graduation. We had the unique opportunity to host our first National Magnet Conference Tour where our students led demonstrations and discussions on the importance of equitable programming to engage learners. This year, I am proud to announce that we are an official apprenticeship school. Our students will now be able to participate in paid apprenticeship opportunities in the Baltimore area that directly lead to career opportunities.



We are making enhancements to our campus and facilities, and you will notice signage throughout the campus to show our Miller pride to the community. We have a new dance room that expands access to non-magnet students. Our students requested more afterschool activities and we responded by offering two new opportunities, Step Team and Gamers Club. Our robotics team has grown, and we have received new equipment that will allow us to participate in larger competitions.

We just completed our first Summer CCBC dual enrollment course for our rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors who had the unique opportunity to earn both college and high school credits. We are offering more of these dual college credit opportunities throughout the school year, please contact Ms. Whitaker for more information at twhitaker@bcps.org or at 443-809-0662. We also hosted our first Career Technology Education (CTE) camp for our incoming freshmen and sophomores. We ended the summer with an orientation camp to help incoming freshmen successfully transition to high school. We will have celebration activities during the month of September followed by our Platinum 70th anniversary gala on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

I am looking forward to another amazing year of working together to ensure our students meet with success. I am so honored to serve as your Principal, and I thank you for your continuous support. If you have not already joined our PTSA, please contact this important organization at info@milfordmillptsa.com.

Respectfully,

Kyria Joseph

August 29th -

Senior Parent Night (5 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the auditorium)

August 30th -

Freshman Orientation Day (7:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. in the auditorium)

September 3rd -

Opening day for students. Afterschool Twilight starts (2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) for students completing Apex courses.

September 5th -

Back-to-school night (5 p.m. - 7 p.m.)

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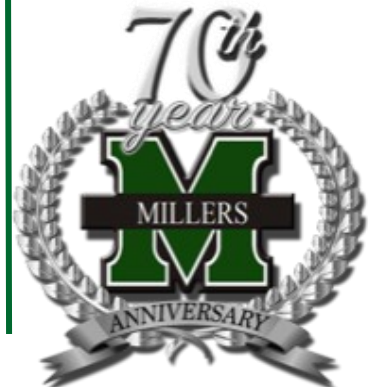
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Department Chairs' Welcome



Assistant Principals



Ms. Shipman (9th Grade Administrator) tgoode@bcps.org

Mr. Austin (10th Grade Administrator) maustin4@bcps.org

Ms. Thomas (11th Grade Administrator) ythomas4@bcps.org

Mr. Long (12th Grade Administrator) tlong@bcps.org

Let the New You Shine Through, Class of 2023!

I would like to officially welcome all incoming 9th grade students to the 2019/2020 school year. As we begin the year, I look forward to working collaboratively with parents and students on a successful transition to Milford Mill Academy. On Day One, you are a MILLER! Middle school days are done and you have a clean slate. Make the best of it! Let the new you shine through. As the ninth-grade administrator, I plan to encourage and challenge each child to achieve academic excellence. Students will begin their school experience with the Orientation Day program that is scheduled Friday, August 30, 2019. Transportation will be provided for those students who are scheduled to take a bus to school. Those students will be picked up at their assigned bus stops, during their regularly scheduled times, and transported home at the end at 11:15am. The orientation begins at 7:30 am in the Milford Mill auditorium and ends at 11:15am. The program is for students only and more detailed information will be provided on the Milford Mill website. – **Ms. Shipman**

Greetings Parents, Guardians, and the Class of 2022!

I remain honored to serve as your Assistant Principal, and I am look forward to continuing my work with our sophomore students, class officers and advisors, Mrs. Hudson and Ms. Jones. Having completed your first year of high school, I challenge you to set both short-term and long-term goals. Where do you see yourself at the end of your second year of high school? Where do you see yourself after graduation? The sophomore year is not too early to start thinking beyond your Miller years.

Over the past year, I have met many of you and I remain dedicated to building an even stronger community bond for the upcoming year. Our productive partnership with parents will ensure our students achieve at their highest potential. The sophomore class motto is “Dreams Won’t Work Unless You Do Class of 2022”, which challenges each student to work hard to make their dreams come true. This year is an excellent opportunity to begin the work towards your dreams. – **Mr. Austin**

Welcome back Class of 2021!

Can you believe you are now juniors? I am excited to continue to work with you on your journey. The junior year is a critical year for students to create their paths towards graduation and beyond. In October you will take the PSAT, and in April you will take the SAT. We are also busy planning visits to help with you college and career choices. This year as juniors you will have the opportunity to visit the HBCU College and Career Fair. This will be a wonderful opportunity for you to gain exposure to some of what is available to you after graduation. Once again, I look forward to continuing this journey with you. You have made me proud, and I know you will continue to do so. – **Mrs. Thomas**

Welcome back Seniors!

Class of 2020, congratulations on making it to your senior year! You've come a long way, but there is still much work to be done. This is not just another year of high school; this is the year you will prepare your path into adulthood and lay the groundwork for your future college and career goals. It is your responsibility to check Naviance and BCPSOne regularly to monitor your grades, your graduation requirements, and your college and career readiness. As your class advisors, Ms. Gillespie and Coach White want to make this a year to remember, but they need your involvement in fundraising and planning for fieldtrips, class events, the prom, and graduation. Our first parent meeting is August 29th at 5 p.m., in the cafeteria. Check out the extended senior calendar on the Milford Mill Website. – Mr. Long

Senior Calendar QR Code:



Guidance Department

Mr. Childs (9th Grade Counselor) rchilds@bcps.org

Mr. Berlett (10th Grade Counselor and Chairman) kberlett@bcps.org

Ms. Ingram (11th Grade Counselor) zingram@bcps.org

Ms. Whitaker (12th Grade Counselor) twhitaker@bcps.org

Ms. Jones (College and Career Counselor) mjones25@bcps.org

Ms. Woodlon (Registrar) dwoodlon@bcps.org

Ms. Christian (Records) jchristian@bcps.org



Senior Dates to Remember

Date/Activity	Location	Time
8/24/19 SAT Administration	Scheduled at oncollegeboard.org (Off Campus)	To be determined by the College Board
8/27/19 - 8/28/19 Senior Portrait Makeup Days	Café	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Times are assigned by <i>LifeTouch</i> via mail to home address)
8/29/19 Senior Parent Meeting	Café	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
9/14/19 ACT Administration	Scheduled at onactstudent.org (Off Campus)	To be determined by ACT
9/17/19 First Senior Class Meeting	Auditorium	9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
10/15/19 - 10/31/19 First Fundraiser (Claire's Gourmet)	To be sold outside of school	To be sold before or after school hours.

Greetings From Our Department Chairs:

Art Department

We are excited to offer two new magnet courses this year as we welcome back the Digital Art program. All Visual Art programs will focus on making students college and career ready. The visual arts are an integral part of our society in all their forms: fine arts to graphic design and marketing, illustration to fashion design, photography to architecture. We are thrilled to announce the success of our AP Studio course and the Drawing and Photography students who passed their AP exams. We look forward to working with a new group of students this year.

– **Ms. Gerstenberg-Kline**

Athletic Department

I would like to welcome our young athletes to the 2019-2020 school year. The first day of training for all fall sports is Wed, August 14th. For the spring, Milford offers volleyball, football, outdoor track, cheerleading, and golf. Our student athletes are encouraged to set an example of high academic achievement, good sportsmanship, and mature behavior. We encourage all students to try out for the team of their choice. They will be challenged to reach their potential, both mentally and physically.

Check out the latest news and information from the Athletics department on the Milford Mill website: milfordmillhs.bcps.org – **Mr. Silverman**

Business Education

The Business Education Department is proud to offer four Business Education Career Pathways, Business Management, Accounting, Information Systems, and Information Technology. Business students have the opportunity to earn college credit at the Community College of Baltimore County if students take all four courses in each completer and earn a B average in a program of study. Upon graduation, students will be able to enter employment, earn industry certification, and/or attend a postsecondary school in order to earn a certificate or degree. Capstone or work experience (CWE) may be available to eligible students in the junior or senior year.

– **Ms. Lawrence**

Career and Technology Education (CTE)

The Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs provide students with relevant career skills, preparation, and rigorous academic course work. Our state-approved programs of study are designed to prepare students for the 21st century global economy and its rapidly changing workforce needs. In the CTE program, students complete projects and engage in real-world learning experiences that mirror the expectations of professionals working in the students' particular field of interest. – **Ms. Proctor**

English Department

During the 2018-2019 SY, there were many positive outcomes in the department, such as having over a 96% success rate with students passing their English Bridge Projects. Our dedicated teachers began working with students in the 11th grade and were able to facilitate them completing this important graduation requirement. In addition, our Creative Writing program has been gaining students and is ready to expand with new learning and publishing opportunities. Last year was the first year that the Theatre Arts program was part of the English Department, and the students performed its first musical production. – **Ms. Gillespie**

Family and Consumer Science

Family and Consumer Sciences, formerly known as “family studies” in BCPS, prepares young men and women for their future roles in society by focusing on life skills, consumer rights and responsibility, and community involvement. FACS directly addresses the preparation of students for adult roles, including work and family responsibilities. FACS career completer programs prepare students for admission to related programs at community colleges and universities as well as for entry-level positions in specific job areas. Students in completer programs take a sequence of courses in their selected career major. The 90-hour childcare certificate issued by the state of Maryland may be earned through successful completion of the Childcare and Early Childhood Education program. The instructional program prepares students for entry-level positions and postsecondary study in the areas of dietetics, food science and nutrition, and food service in commercial and/or institutional settings. Students who complete the program may earn articulated college credits. – **Ms. Cole-Burnett**

Foreign Language Department

The World Language Department not only prides itself on the importance of giving rigorous lessons to our students; but, it also provides students with extracurricular activities, such as Spanish and French clubs, and African and Latin Dance classes. These activities expose our students to multiculturalism, while giving them an opportunity to practice what they have learned. In addition, we have embarked upon our first year of the AP Spanish program, and we have been awarded eight Seniors French Honor Cords. We would like to say farewell to Ms. Masango and Mrs. Merritt-Steighner who will be transitioning to other teaching endeavors outside of Milford. We will be welcoming a new Spanish teacher from Puerto Rico for the school year 2019 – 2020. – **Dr. Hukportie**

Math Department

The Math Department at Milford Mill Academy is committed to planning and delivering cohesive, engaging, student-centered lessons that foster both higher-order-thinking and self-efficacy skills. We are also committed to creating data-driven and standards-aligned assessments that drive instruction. Our curriculum focuses on problem solving, communication, and critical thinking in order to provide a foundation where every student reaches their potential to become a globally competitive, mathematically literate citizen. For the 2019-2020 school year, we will continue to offer our students a variety of courses across all levels. Students will have access to courses ranging from Algebra I through AP Calculus. – **Ms. Blackwell**

Music Department

Milford Mill Academy's Music Department comes with a high level of expertise. The programs offered range from Design & Production, Music Appreciation, Instrumental Music (Band & Strings), Piano, and Vocal Music. Our performance ensembles have repeatedly received accolades for their performances throughout the area. They have traveled locally, throughout the states, and internationally, performing for various elite organizations. As a priority, we hold each student to the highest expectations, while ensuring that they progress in their areas of interest.

– **Ms. Proctor**

Physical Education and Health Department

The Physical Education and Health department is welcoming back all of its teachers. Mrs. Aimee Helmick, department chair; Ms. Kathleen Bryant, Mr. Marc Kersey, and Mr. Jeremy Wortman, PE teachers; and Mrs. Lisa Nelson, health teacher. We are committed to developing the mental and physical fitness of our students, as they learn to live balanced, healthy lives. Besides the required supplies, which will be designated by their teacher the first week of school, P.E. classes do require specific uniforms. Required uniform consists of athletic bottoms (shorts or sweats), and the Milford PE shirt. The cost of the shirt will be approximately \$5.00. — **Ms. Helmick**

Science Department

The Science Department at Milford Mill Academy is committed to creating scientifically literate citizens by teaching students the fundamental principles that will lay a foundation upon which to build lifelong learning. It is our goal to inspire students, through interactive classroom experiences, to give careers in the sciences serious consideration. This will be accomplished by offering a variety of courses and electives at all levels. Our expanded course offerings for the 2019-2020 school year include: Anatomy & Physiology, Aquatics, Advanced Placement (AP) Biology, Earth Systems, Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC), Living Systems most offered at the Standard, Honors, Gifted and Talented/ Advanced Academics levels (GT/AA). We are looking forward to working with you this school year. Please do not hesitate to contact me, LaShawn Brown, Science Department Chair, at lbrown12@bcps.org with any questions or concerns specific to science course work at Milford Mill Academy. – **Lashawn Brown**

Social Studies Department

Greetings BCPS Family, the Social Studies Department is excited to start the 2019-2020 school year with all of you. Social Studies in Baltimore County is going through some wonderful changes: the American Government course has been rewritten to allow students to better connect to our current governmental landscape, and seniors will enjoy a redesigned EPI curriculum with even more focus on personal finance and real-world decision making. The 2018-2019 school year was a great one filled with many successes from students taking AP courses for the first time to freshmen working hard to prepare for the Government High School Assessment in May. – **Mr. Kusterer**



Pay Attention to Attendance: Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school everyday, make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats. Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school.
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs.

Communicate with the school

- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.





Ponga atención a la Asistencia Escolar: Mantenga a su hijo por el buen camino en la Secundaria y la Preparatoria

La asistencia escolar tiene un gran impacto en el éxito académico de un estudiante. Aún cuando los niños crecen y se vuelven más independientes, las familias siguen jugando un rol clave en asegurarse que asistan diariamente a la escuela, porque la asistencia es importante para el éxito escolar y en el trabajo.

¿Sabía usted que...?

- Los estudiantes no deberían faltar más de 9 días a la escuela durante el año escolar, para permanecer motivados y exitosos.
- Las ausencias pueden indicar que el estudiante pierde interés en la escuela, tiene problemas con el trabajo escolar, está siendo acosado por otro estudiante o enfrenta algún otro problema.
- En el sexto grado, el ausentismo es un indicador de que el estudiante pudiera abandonar la secundaria.
- En el noveno grado, la buena asistencia escolar es mejor pronóstico para los índices de graduación, que los resultados de los exámenes del octavo grado.
- Faltar a la escuela un 10% o alrededor de 18 días durante el año escolar, puede afectar el éxito académico.
- Se considera ausencia crónica si el estudiante falta uno o dos días en varias semanas.
- La asistencia escolar es un hábito de vida importante que ayudará a su hijo a graduarse de la Universidad y a mantener un empleo.

¿Qué puede hacer usted?

Hacer que la asistencia escolar sea una prioridad

- Hable sobre la importancia de ir a la escuela todos los días, haga que se convierta en una expectativa.
- Ayude a sus hijos a mantener rutinas diarias, como terminar la tarea y dormir bien por la noche.
- Trate de no programar citas con el dentista y el médico durante el día escolar.
- No deje a su hijo en casa a menos que realmente esté enfermo. Las quejas de dolores de cabeza o de estómago pueden ser signos de ansiedad.

Ayude a su adolescente a estar involucrado.

- Averigüe si su hijo se siente motivado por sus clases y profesores y si se siente a salvo del acoso de estudiantes y de otras amenazas. Asegúrese que no está perdiendo clases debido a una mala conducta. Si tiene cualquiera de estos problemas, trabaje con personal de la escuela.
- Manténgase al tanto de su progreso académico y busque la ayuda de maestros o tutores si es necesario.
- Manténgase al tanto de los contactos sociales de su hijo. La presión de grupo puede llevarlo a faltar a la escuela.
- Fomente actividades relevantes después de la escuela, incluyendo deportes y clubes.

Comuníquese con la escuela

- Conozca las reglas de asistencia de la escuela - incentivos y sanciones.
- Hable con los maestros si nota algún cambio repentino en el comportamiento de su hijo.
- Verifique la asistencia de su hijo para asegurarse que las ausencias no se están acumulando.
- Pida ayuda a las autoridades escolares, recurra a programas después de clases, otros padres o agencias de la comunidad, si está teniendo problemas para conseguir que su hijo vaya a la escuela.

MILFORD MILL BAND



IS NOW
RECRUITING

9th GRADE
BAND INTEREST MEETING

JOIN
THE BAND



Please come out to our band interest meeting to find out more about our band family!

MEETING INFORMATION:



MORE INFORMATION:

For incoming 9th Grade
Monday August 5, 2019
Milford Mill Band room
6:00 pm-7:00 pm

milfordmillband@gmail.com
443-809-0629

ONLINE BAND APPLICATION

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

