MILA Students REACH for the Stars
School Wide Expectations
Respect for People and Property
Exhibit Safe Behavior
Actively Engaged
Courteous Language
Hold Yourself Responsible

Mission: We work together to meet the needs of every student with excellence as the standard.
Vision: MILA’s community fosters motivated, independent, lifelong achievers who work together as contributing members of society.

Dear Students and Parents,
We would like to welcome back all of our returning students and families. We are looking forward to a new and exciting school year. If you are a new family to MILA, we are excited to build partnerships with you. Please look for a weekly update to be sent electronically, it may also be found on our school webpage. Important information including dates and times are always provided to keep you informed.

It’s going to be a great year!

MILA’s Positive Behavior Support Program
MILA’s school community will continue to implement behavioral expectations and goals for our students. Our school-wide expectations, R.E.A.C.H., utilizes the Positive Behavior Support Model which is based on current research and best practice. Located on the right-hand side of the newsletter are our five school-wide expectations that will be modeled and practiced throughout each school day. Please help us by discussing these expectations with your student(s).

REMINDER! Early Dismissal Every Friday
Please make note that every Friday (starting August 28th) will be an early dismissal day beginning at 1:30 p.m. If your child is a car rider, please make arrangements in your schedule to arrive on time. Special rates are offered through our Brevard After School (BAS) program at MILA if needed.

Thank You
MILA continues to be supported by many organizations on Merritt Island and within our community. We would like to thank the following organizations for their support of our staff and students:
Grace United Church
First Baptist Church
Faith Lutheran Church
East Coast Christian Church
United Way
Dominos Pizza
These generous donations of school supplies and teacher supplies as well as back to school treats for staff have helped to alleviate some of the stress we are all experiencing during this challenging time.

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Dr. Dawna O’Brien, Principal
Obrien.Dawna@brevardschools.org
August 24, 2020
288 West Merritt Avenue
Merritt Island, FL 32953
321-454-1070

Stephanie White, Assistant Principal
White.Stephanie@brevardschools.org
Issue 1
Parents Right to Know
MILA is fortunate to have highly qualified teachers with experience in many fields. As a parent of a student at MILA, you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child’s teachers and paraprofessionals. You will also be notified if your child is assigned to or taught, for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Parent Input Needed
We would like your feedback as we update our Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) for the 2020-2021 school year. Please click on the following link to review last year's PFEP and fill out a brief survey to help us plan for 20-21. Thank You!
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeENTtnleQYmBD9IyjWuR3hBmLIVWHpq8nKSjUvUJa65aEPZw/viewform?usp=sf_link

2019-2020 School Report Card Released
The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and implementing regulations maintain requirements for state and local educational agencies to prepare and disseminate report cards that provide information on State, Local, and school performance and progress in an understandable and uniform format. The link provided will take you to MILA Elementary report card. A printed copy can be found in the Title I Parent Notebook located in the front office. If you would like a printed copy or need the document translated into another language, please notify the front office clerk for assistance.

Link: https://edudata.fldoe.org/ReportCards/Schools.html?school=4031&district=05

La Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria de 1965 (ESEA), enmendada por la Ley de éxito de todos los estudiantes (ESSA), y las regulaciones de implementación mantienen los requisitos para que las agencias educativas estatales y locales preparen y difundan las boletas de calificaciones que brindan información sobre el estado, el local y rendimiento escolar y progreso en un formato comprensible y uniforme. El enlace proporcionado lo llevará al boletín de calificaciones MILA Elementary. Se puede encontrar una copia impresa en el Cuaderno para padres del Título I ubicado en la oficina principal. Para traducir el informe al español, mire la parte superior de la primera página y verá una opción para “seleccionar el idioma”. Haga clic en la flecha y elija español. Si desea una copia impresa, notifique al secretario de recepción para obtener ayuda. Descargo de responsabilidad: este documento fue traducido para usted por Google Translate. Cualquier error en la traducción no es intencional.

Enlace: https://edudata.fldoe.org/ReportCards/Schools.html?school=4031&district=05

Code of Student Conduct
Brevard Public School’s Code of Student Conduct may be accessed online by visiting Brevard Public School’s website or follow the link from MILA’s homepage. If you do not have computer access and would like to request a paper copy, please contact the front office.

Attendance Counts!
Did you know that students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two every few weeks. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school-and themselves, and every day is important! School success goes hand in hand with attendance. Let’s help our students succeed! Kindergarten students must be in attendance for a minimum of 162 days and all students must be in attendance a minimum of (4) hours of instructional time to be considered present each day. Due to COVID, please communicate with your child’s teacher about any absences due to illness or quarantine.
A message from BREVARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Parents,

We have posted new information and created videos which will help our families and students understand the new safety measures that can be expected upon their return to school. The links are included below.

We have also created our COVID-19 Health and Safety plan as well as posted the updated re-opening plan with information regarding face coverings. This information changed based on the School Board vote on July 30, 2020 to require face coverings for grades 3-12 and strongly recommend for grades K-2. You will find the approved exceptions as well as other helpful information about this topic in the link below.

As always, we stand ready to serve our students and families with excellence as the standard. We will be here for you and your children as we chart these new waters together.

Thank you for your patience and support.

Re-Opening Plan
Re-Opening of BPS, COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan 2020-21
https://www.brevardschools.org/domain/10721

EParent Checklist Week Before School Fact Sheet.pdf

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Legislative changes have been made to “1003.44 Patriotic Programs” related to the recitation of the pledge of allegiance. The new language, which may be found in the Student Code of Conduct, states that upon written request submitted by his or her parent, a student must be excused from reciting the pledge of allegiance, including standing and placing the right hand over his or her heart. When the pledge is recited, unexcused students must show full respect to the flag by standing at attention, removing any headdress, except when such headdress is worn for religious purposes.

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**Annual Asbestos Notification**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires all accredited school districts to provide building occupants with a yearly correspondence describing any/all asbestos materials removed from each school during the past year. Please be advised that there has been no asbestos removal activities or any other type of asbestos response actions taken place at MILA Elementary School during the past year (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020).
Arrival:

**Gates will open at 7:45 am**

**Car:** Students will be dropped off in the car loop at the west end of the building. All parents will remain in their cars and drop the student off at the sidewalk.

**Walker/Biker:** Will enter campus on the east side of the campus and walk up the front sidewalk to enter the campus between the music building and the 200 building.

**Bus:** Bus riders will exit their bus between the music building and the 200 building.

Dismissal: **begins at 2:45 M-Th or 1:30 F**

**Car:** All gates will remain closed during the day. The car loop gate will be unlocked at 2:40 (1:25 on Friday). Please do not arrive early as you will not be able to wait on the road. Car riders will begin being dismissed at 2:50 (1:35 on Friday). Students will be dismissed from their classrooms as cars arrive. This will be a much slower process, please remain patient. There will be no students dismissed from the car loop to parents on foot. Do not park and walk up as you will be directed to go to the walker dismissal area or to come through the line in your vehicle.

**Walker/Biker:** We will begin walker/biker dismissal at 2:45. If you are meeting your child you may meet them on the south side of the road by the crossing guard or on the far east side of the property by the ball field. Staff will be out at the gates to let students through.

The beginning of the school year requires extra patience as parents and students become accustomed to new routines. Thank you for working with us in this effort! We appreciate your patience and understanding as we rework our systems to meet our increased safety guidelines.

Rainy day dismissal procedures for car and bus loop will remain the same. Walkers and bikers will not be dismissed during severe thunderstorms or lightning.

***IMPORTANT***

Dismissal changes should be communicated with your child’s teacher in writing. We will not accept dismissal changes over the phone per school board policy. Please complete your child’s dismissal form and return it to your child’s teacher.