

# Students

Dear Students of Millwood Middle School:

This agenda planner is an important source of information for each of you. We have attempted to anticipate your needs in order to make this a hassle free, successful year at Millwood Public School. We urge you to read this planner and take it to class everyday for future reference. Your planner also contains the official hall pass record sheet. Students will be issued one planner and for each additional book, there will be a \$5.00 printing fee. If you have any questions about the information it contains or would like to discuss some aspect of it, please see one of us.

Our job is to help you learn. Learning is something you must actively participate in if you are to benefit from it. The role of a teacher and administrator is to guide you in that effort. All of us have responsibilities in this school. We promise to make a good-faith effort to accept ours and in return ask each of you to do the following:

- Set high standards/goals for yourself
- Be willing to accept responsibility for your actions and decisions.
- Conduct yourselves as ladies and gentlemen.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.

We sincerely hope that each of you experience an enjoyable and successful year. Please let us know how we can help you.

## **District Mission Statement**

The mission of the Millwood Public School District is to prepare all students academically and socially for lifelong learning achievement.

## **District Vision Statement**

The vision of the Millwood Public School District is a well-defined curriculum, taught by a core of competent, caring teachers with a high degree of active involvement by students, parents, staff, and community. The educational program will create decision makers capable of shaping their own futures. The school will be a place where students can and want to learn. The district will increase the quality of educational offerings to students by hiring excellent employees who will be maintained at a high level because our students will demonstrate a very high level of achievement. Additionally, facilities will be of high quality, well maintained, and equipped with the state of the art educational equipment.

## **District Philosophy**

The philosophy of the Millwood Public School District is to utilize the best, research based teaching and learning strategies to provide effective instruction in basic skills, to develop the potential of all students, to develop the aesthetic values of good health, environment, culture, and country, to nurture a sense of individual worth and help students understand learning is a process that builds a foundation of lifelong achievement in a changing world. The district, in partnership with the community, is committed to serve all students with academic, cultural, vocational, technical and extra-curricular programs that meet the highest standards of educational excellence.

## **District=s Beliefs**

We Believe:

1. All children can learn and succeed.
2. Instructional leadership is essential.
3. Each student has unique and unlimited potential.
4. Quality education must be focused at the classroom level.
5. Curriculum must be organized, current, and sequential.
6. All students and staff should become technologically fluent.
7. The school is constantly in a state of development and change.
8. All students need and want the effects of rules and regulations, the results of which are: structure, fairness, and consistency.
9. All students need positive reinforcement.
10. Teaching skills to children should be application and performances based and provide for carryover into life-long learning.

## **History of Millwood School District**

The Millwood Public School District is located within the boundaries of Oklahoma City property, between Lincoln Boulevard and Sunnyslane/Coltrane Roads on the west and east; and between Northeast 48th and 82nd on the south and north. The district consists of nine square miles. The boundaries are still the same

as they were shown in 1900.

The advalorem tax base is primarily residential property and Remington Park. It contains such nontaxable properties as the Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City Zoo, Kirkpatrick Center, National Softball Hall of Fame, Fireman=s Museum, the proposed National Marshall=s Museum, National Clown Museum, and the land on which Remington Park is built.

The Millwood Public School District is an outgrowth of Deep Fork School which was started before 1900, a block away from Northeast 63rd and Martin Luther King on land donated by Mr. J. M. Cramer. Mr. Cramer reportedly had sold 168 acres to a firm from South Carolina which planned to build a cotton mill on the site, along with homes and a school for mill workers. Foundations for the mill, 400' x 200', were built on the property, but it was never completed.

Business conditions worsened during the panic of 1910 and the entire project was dropped. The only work completed was the platted 160 acres for a housing project and the one-room school house historically known as Deep Fork School. The teacher, Bessie Glickle, taught a total of 140 days at \$30.00 per month. School value was \$500.00 with equipment value of \$100.00.

In 1918, the school board traded the original site for another 2 2 acre tract (which is located near the present spot of the Millwood Middle School) and a new three (3) room, two (2) story rock building was built.

In 1935, with W.P.A. labor, a large two (2) story rock building was built, complete with a principal=s office, classrooms, cafeteria and auditorium.

Up until 1971, the school supported grades K-9. Kindergarten was started in 1949 on a tuition basis at \$10.00 per month with Mrs. Evelyn Douglas as teacher. A group of parents, along with the school board, recognized the need for this early training. In 1951, kindergarten was included in the regular school program of K-8. The ninth grade was added in the middle of the 1960's.

During the spring of 1971, a special election was held for the purpose of establishing an independent school district with the addition of a new high school, grade 10-12. The first high school graduation was in 1972 with 16 students. The high school was accredited the year of operation.

A discovery in 1987 added seven years to history of Millwood. For many years patrons in the district believed the school was started with Statehood in 1907. Searching through some archives, a district map was found outlining Millwood=s area. It was dated June 8, 1900 and marked ATerritory of Oklahoma, Oklahoma County, District 37.@

Further research has uncovered an enumeration report dated January 15, 1898. This report reads: AEnumeration of all persons between the ages of 6 and 21 years residing in School District No. 37 in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma on the 15th day of January, 1898. (51 names are listed.)@

The annual Report of the Clerk of School District 37 is dated June 30, 1898 and listed daily attendance, teacher, and financial report.

In 1929, Miss Eva Clifford, the principal who was salaried at \$110.00 per month, initiated the first hot lunches to be served at Millwood. The charge was .10 cents for meat, two vegetables, milk, and dessert, if the child could pay. If not, the child was served anyway, free of charge. If the children were found to be underweight, they were given extra milk and required to take a 30 minute rest in the afternoon. Cots were

donated to the three rooms by the P.T.A.

In 1960, a new building, which included 11 classrooms, library, new offices, kitchen, lounge, and cafeteria, was added at a cost of \$275,000.

In 1963, the Millwood School Board originated another plan to expand the existing facilities and to add a ninth grade. The curriculum required additional facilities, including a home economics room, drafting and manual arts room, and two classrooms. Architectural plans were developed to tie a new addition onto the existing building. The estimated construction time was fifty-five days. Other additions have been the Administrative office, high school gym, jr. High complex (east campus), band room, auditorium, Stadium, Middle School, and Phase I and II of Middle School.

Until 1963, the District contracted buses by the year from an individual. Six new 72 passenger buses were purchased at a total cost of \$50,000.

The preschool program was added in 1980 with a \$10,000 grant and has been a self sustaining program since the beginning.

In 1982, a grant in the amount of \$70,000 was received for the computer programs.

Millwood has been recognized (locally, statewide and nationally) for creating innovative, progressive and results-oriented educational programs. Millwood was evaluated and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in 1984 as one of the 44 best high schools in the Nation with AExcellence in Education. @

Millwood has educated many outstanding students who continue to make significant and worthwhile contributions to our city, state and nation, such as Joe Carter, professional major league baseball star; Susie Maxwell Berning, Ellis Edwards, former state Treasurer, and Cleta Deatherage-Mitchell, former State Senator. The district has a track record of success in maintaining academic excellence and being highly competitive in athletics.

In 1994, the Millwood School Board hired its first female superintendent, Dr. Gloria Griffin.

The prekindergarten program was added to the primary school in 1995. In 1996 the fifth grade was moved from the middle school to the primary school. The primary school was changed to an elementary school with grades prekindergarten through five.

Millwood High School had its first Academic All Stater in 1996, Annelle Johnson. In 1997 Keith Lewis was selected by the Oklahoma Foundation of Excellence to be of one hundred (100) Academic All Staters.

### **Millwood has Grown:**

In 1928 student enrollment was 40 - PTA membership 11. In 1967 student enrollment was 800 - PTA membership 650. By 1991 student enrollment was 1,100. PTA membership was 105, and growing again.

The Millwood Public School District has developed from a dependent rural school to an independent progressive suburban school system.

Community pride and purpose of yesteryear still prevails today. It is the tradition of the Millwood District that links the past with the present and will project into the future.

Patrons have been actively committed to the principle that children of the district are the best investment in the future.

## The Millwood Mascot

### The Falcon

The Peregrine Falcon is nature=s swiftest hunter and one of the fiercest. It reaches a top speed of 100 miles per hour in level flight and attacks with clenched talons in a power dive at a speed that may attain 180 miles per hour.

The falcon is the most beautiful, dashing, and courageous of all birds of prey. Falcons unhesitatingly attack prey more than twice their size.

Its fierce alertness in large, dark eyes, which are eight times more keen than those of a human being, and its lofty bearing mark this species as a **Bird of Nobility**.

## The Millwood School Song

Chorus: O= Millwood High, O=Millwood High our greatest

Inspiration, it=s you we love, our blue and white,

The greatest in the nation,

First Verse: In Falcon land we proudly stand, it=s unity we treasure. Our loyalty to Millwood High, you never

Can measure.

Repeat Chorus

Second verse: How sweet the name of Millwood

High, the sweetest sound you=ll ever hear, out loyalty we hold so dear

We'll cherish through the years.

Repeat Chorus Revised 4-97

**Note:**

*Students are encouraged to research and reflect on their heritage. In the course of these studies students often find documents from the past that may be pertinent or relevant to times in which they live.*

*Approximately three years ago during a cultural awareness instructional unit, Millwood Middle School students discussed the "Black Pledge of Allegiance," that had been found in their research or study. From their discussion, they recognized the struggles of their ancestors and the need for students to practice self love; to appreciate the freedoms that are an outcome of the Black struggle; and to demonstrate self-determination by performing well academically.*

*They recommended to the middle school administration that the pledge be placed in the middle school planner as a reminder to all students of the struggles and the importance of love, freedom and self-determination.*

*The author is unknown. It is unknown, also, what the author meant by nation. There are four (4) definitions of nation in the standard edition of the American Heritage Dictionary:*

- 1. A relatively large group of people organized under a single, usually independent government; a country.*
- 2. The government of a sovereign state.*
- 3. A people who share common customs, origins, history, and frequently language; a nationality.*
- 4. a. A federation or tribe, especially one composed of Native Americans.  
b. The territory occupied by such a federation or tribe.*

*The Black Pledge of Allegiance is **NOT** recited within the district. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag is recited in many of the classrooms and during all assemblies.*

### **The Pledge Of Allegiance**

**I Pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.**

### **The Black Pledge of Allegiance**

(author & source unknown)

We pledge allegiance of the red, black and green

Our flag, the symbol of our eternal struggle,

and to the land we must obtain.



One nation of Black people,

with one God for us all,

Totally united in the struggle for Black Love,

Black Freedom, and Black determination.

## **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

James Weldon Johnson

Lift every voice and sing, till Earth and Heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has taught us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.  
Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet,  
come to the place for which our fathers signed?  
We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,  
We have some, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Our from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last, where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
God of our weary years, God of our Silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by the might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,  
Where we meet Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

## Students= Responsibilities

In a century that has seen great progress in the definition of human rights as well as many threats to these rights, public institutions are called upon to clarify their own definitions. Many secondary school students have rights which are increasingly judged to be congruent with those of adults. Some limitations of these rights which have been accepted in the past are now being carefully reviewed.

A public school must be an orderly environment in which learning is not jeopardized by disruptions. Within the limitations of the discipline code, students must be given opportunities to bear responsibilities, to accept the reasonable exercise of authority and to resist both oppression and license.

One of the most important student responsibilities is to obey school rule or policy until such a rule or policy is revoked. No written document can guarantee that authority will be used unreasonably or that rights will never be abused; therefore, the intent of this statement is to provide guidance in areas which have been sources of staff-student conflict and to create an atmosphere of academic freedom in which a student may develop intellectual integrity and economic self-sufficiency. A necessary assumption is that students will accept the responsibilities inherent in their rights and that school staff members will use their authority with respect for the integrity and human dignity of their students.

### ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to conduct themselves as young ladies and young gentlemen while on the campus, in transit to and from school, and while representing your school in activities away from the school. A school's reputation can be greatly damaged by the misbehavior of one student. All students should be courteous toward all visitors. The impression of the school which a visitor takes away with him is the reason for good etiquette. Show your pride for yourself and your school at all times.

### AM I DOING ALL THAT

### I CAN DO?

#### Checklist for the Excellent Student

- \_\_\_ Is on time for classes
- \_\_\_ Exercises to keep mentally/physically fit
- \_\_\_ Maintains a good attendance records
- \_\_\_ Maintains a positive attitude
- \_\_\_ Has necessary supplies and equipment
- \_\_\_ Views assignments as challenges, not burdens
- \_\_\_ Sets realistic goals for academic achievement \_\_\_ Studies daily and reviews for tests

- \_\_\_ Exhibits enthusiasm for schoolwork
- \_\_\_ Adapts to school rules and policies
- \_\_\_ Organizes notes and materials for classes
- \_\_\_ Eats nutritional meals and snacks to maintain a healthy body
- \_\_\_ Puts self on a schedule and organizes time
- \_\_\_ Carefully listens to points stressed in class
- \_\_\_ Has respect for teachers, peers, supplies to stay awake during class.
- \_\_\_ Has strong personal motivation to achieve
- \_\_\_ Becomes involved in class discussions
- \_\_\_ Receives adequate sleep in order and equipment

**To determine your rating count the number of checks.**

- \_\_\_ 16 to 18 Excellent Student      \*\*\*\*\*
- \_\_\_ 12 to 15 Good Student
- \_\_\_ 8 to 11 Fair Student      \*\*\*\*\*
- \_\_\_ 7 and Below Non-Involved Student

**Written by Elaine Alexander, home economics teacher, John Overton High School and published in the September 1984 issue of Tennessee Teacher.**

