



Parent Newsletter - September, 2026

Welcome back to the 2026/2027 School! Welcome to the newcomers also!! Looking forward to a great school year! Giddy Up!

Marshall - Principal

Parents!

It's been a great start of the year and we are enjoying our little cowboys and cowgirls at Miller. Thank you to those who were able to make it to our "ranch" during Open House to meet all of our ranch hands (teachers and staff). It was a great success! As we continue to ride the trails this year, please remember to be a partner with us. Check your Parent Square, check in with your child's Skyward account, and always keep in communication with your child's teacher. Be a part of our PTO and get involved. We have a few exciting things planned this year around our theme where we need YOU to help support and participate.

Now that our students are settling in and working on their academic success, check their backpacks to see what they are learning and help reinforce skills at home. Remember, YOU are their first teachers and we are here to support you. Let's work together this year and ride these trails to success. Let's Saddle Up!

-

Mrs. Jennifer Griffin
Miller School Principal

Sheriff - Dean of Students

Welcome new and returning families to the 2026/2027 school year! My name is Nina Gavric and my role as Dean is to support students both behaviorally and academically in collaboration with their teachers and home. Students are most successful when schools and caregivers work together. When students understand that school and home will hold them accountable, they will more likely make positive choices while here at school. Students also need to understand that there are consequences when expectations are not met. Please emphasize at home what being respectful, responsible, and safe looks like. I look forward to partnering with you this year!

Nina Gavric
Dean of Students



Wanted Staff.....



Wagons on the Track - Car Riders



MILLER PARENTS, LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

FOLLOW THE WHITE ARROWS FOR A SMOOTH & SAFE PICKUP

CAR RIDER PICKUP PROCEDURES

★★★★

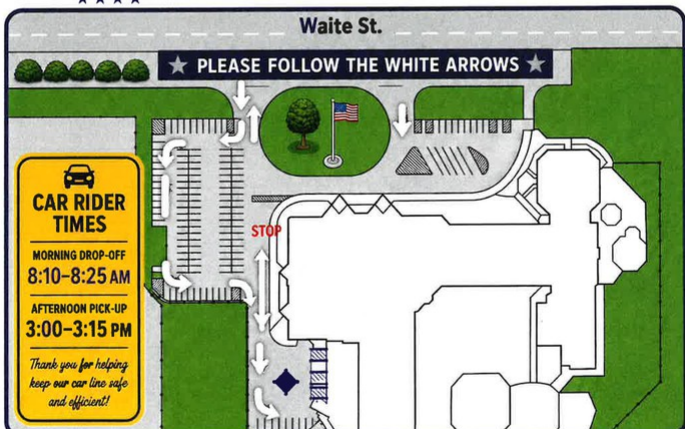
Thank you for helping us
keep our students safe
and our car line moving!

Go Pirates! ★



Waite St.

★ PLEASE FOLLOW THE WHITE ARROWS ★



**CAR RIDER
TIMES**

MORNING DROP-OFF
8:10-8:25 AM

AFTERNOON PICK-UP
3:00-3:15 PM

*Thank you for helping
keep our car line safe
and efficient!*

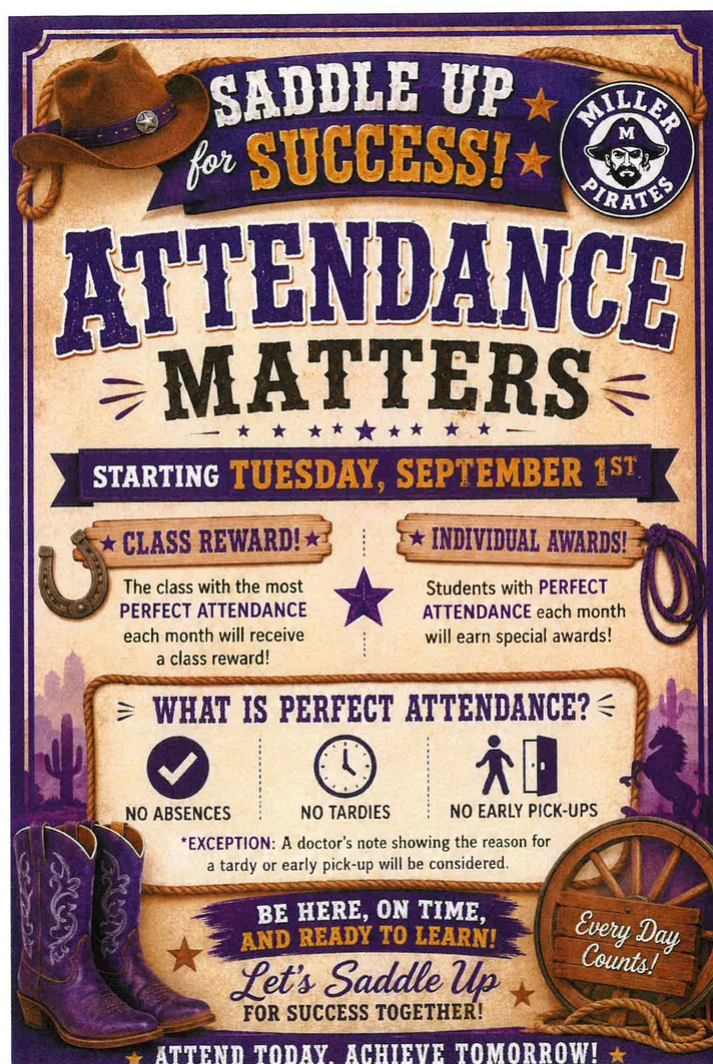
 ENTER & STAY IN LINE Enter the car line and stay in line. Do not pass other vehicles.	 FOLLOW THE WHITE ARROWS Please follow the route as shown to keep traffic moving safely.	 STOP AT THE STOP SIGN For the safety of our students, please stop and follow directions.	 STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE Students will be called to your car. Please stay in your vehicle.	 BE PATIENT & BE KIND A little patience makes a big difference! Thank you!
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**THANK YOU FOR
HELPING US KEEP
OUR PIRATES
SAFE!**

♥
*We appreciate
you!*

★ SAFE STUDENTS. SMOOTH CAR LINE. STRONG SCHOOL COMMUNITY. ★

Thank You!



Doc - School Nurse

Welcome to a new school year Miller families. I'm Mrs. Wroblewski, the school nurse at Miller Elementary School. In order to assist me caring for the health and safety of your child at school please be familiar with the Merrillville Community School Corporation health policies. Our school health policies can be found in the school handbook and on the Merrillville schools website. Here are a few important things to note for the start of the school year.

I am currently reviewing immunization records to make sure all students are compliant with Indiana State law (I.C. 20-34-4-2) immunization requirements. Notifications have been sent home with students with incomplete records. Those students that still have incomplete vaccine records will be excluded from school. Vaccines prevent missed days from school due to illness and keep students healthy, safe, in class, and ready to learn.

If your child has a medical condition that requires medication at school please contact me for the proper forms. Forms are also available on the Merrillville School website. Medicine is not allowed at school or administered unless I have a written doctor order. Medicine should not be sent to school with a student, it needs to be brought to the school nurse by an adult.

If your child ever has a need for a splint, cast, crutches or wheelchair during the year please let me know before returning to school. Parents must provide a physician's note releasing them to return to school with any orthopedic device. The physician should write what restrictions are needed at

school (ex: physical education, recess). A release from the physician is also required to return to normal activity.

Parents and caregivers should monitor their children for symptoms of illness every day before they leave for school. Anyone ill with fever of 100°F or higher, vomiting, diarrhea, or other new or unusual symptoms of illness should stay home.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. I am here Monday – Friday from 7:30am – 3:30pm.

Christine Wroblewski RN,BSN

Miller School Nurse

Nurse's direct line (219)756-5743

cwroblewsk@mvsc.k12.in.us

F.A.C.E.S.

Here to Support
OUR
PIRATE FAMILIES!



MILLER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
★ **PIRATES** ★

STRONG ROOTS. ★ BRIGHT FUTURES. ★ TOGETHER AT MILLER!



JaeLenn Johnson
FACES
(FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST)

WHO I AM

I am here to support our Miller families and ensure every student has what they need to succeed—at school and in life.

219-650-5303 ext 6357
jaelenn.johnson@mvsc.k12.in.us

WHAT I DO

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
I build positive relationships with families and help you stay connected and engaged in your child's education and school community.

INCREASE INVOLVEMENT
I encourage and support families to get involved in school activities, events, and decision-making opportunities.

COMMUNICATION & SUPPORT
I am a resource and a listener—here to help you navigate challenges and connect you to what you need.

CONNECTING FAMILIES TO RESOURCES
I connect families to community resources that support academic success, wellness, and overall well-being.

BUILDING STRONG PARTNERSHIPS
Together, we can remove barriers and support your child's success in and out of the classroom.

I CAN HELP WITH

TRUANCY
I work with families to address truancy concerns and create plans that support consistent school attendance.

TARDINESS
Let's work together to build habits that promote being on time, every time!

ABSENCES
Too many absences can impact learning. I help families understand the importance of daily attendance.

ENGAGEMENT
I help families get more involved in school activities and support their child's success.

SUPPORT
I'm here to listen, encourage, and support you and your family every step of the way.

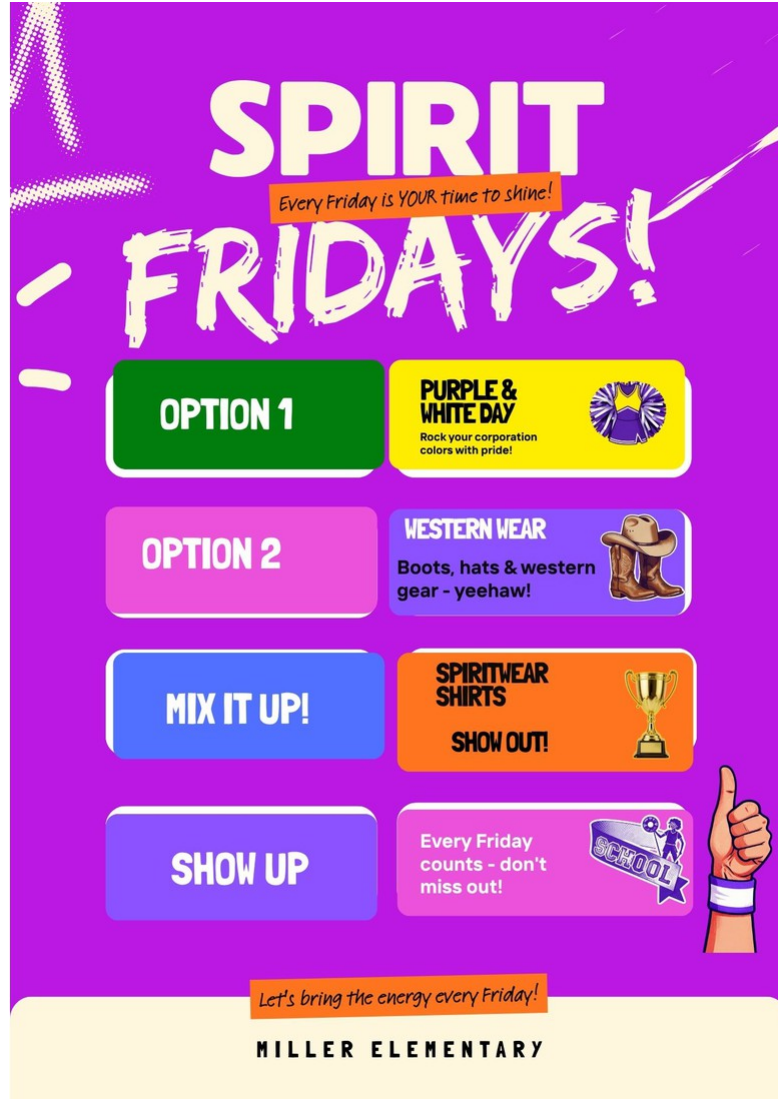
WHEN FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS WORK TOGETHER, Students Thrive!

LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

- ♥ Attend school events
- ♥ Participate in PTO, volunteers, and activities
- ♥ Check in, ask questions, and stay involved
- ♥ Your involvement makes a BIG difference!

M PIRATES

TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP EVERY PIRATE REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL!



Student Dress Code



MERRILLVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

DR. DEXTER SUGGS, SUPERINTENDENT

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Dressing inappropriately can lead to consequences
as outlined in the MHS Student Handbook.

NOT ALLOWED

NO LOUNGE/ PAJAMA PANTS



No pajamas at all,
no house shoes.

NO TIGHTS/ 1-PIECE CAT SUIT



*Can be worn with a jacket,
cardigan, and/or outer
garment that covers both
front & back and must be
knee length.

NO HEAD SCARVES OR SKULL CAPS, DOO RAGS, LOC SCARVES, BONNETS, OR CAPS/HATS



Head coverings of any kind are not
allowed.
*Except for religious reasons

NO HEELYS



No Heelys.

NO CLOTHING WITH OFFENSIVE, VULGAR LANGUAGE



No clothing with offensive,
vulgar language.

NO HOODS ON IN BUILDING



No coats, no blankets.

NO SWEATBANDS/ HEADBANDS, HEADPHONES/EARBUDS



No bandanas, sweatbands,
headbands, headphones/
earbuds in hallways.

NO SUNGLASSES



No sunglasses.

NO DRUG AND GANG SIGNS & REPRESENTATION



No drug and gang signs
& representation.

NO MIDRIFF/OFF THE SHOULDER SHIRTS, SHORT SHIRTS/TANKS



*No skin exposed!

NO BODYCON/ FITTED DRESSES, SHORTS/SKIRTS



Dresses/shorts/
skirts should be
appropriate length.

NO JEANS WITH HOLES/RIPS ABOVE THE KNEES



*May be worn ONLY with
tights underneath.
No skin exposed!

WATER BOTTLES



WATER BOTTLES

Staying hydrated helps
you learn and succeed!
Bring a water bottle
to school every day.



NOT ALLOWED

No metal
water bottles
(like Stanley
or Owala)
or glass
water bottles.



ALLOWED

Plastic
water bottles
are
acceptable.



Our goal is to promote a safe, respectful, and
focused learning environment. Students are
expected to dress appropriately and follow
these guidelines every day.



When in doubt,
choose respectful,
school-ready apparel.

6701 DELAWARE ST.
MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410

219-650-5300

EVERY CHILD,
EVERY DAY, WHATEVER IT TAKES

Dates to Remember

Event Information

No School - Labor Day

When?

Monday, Sep 7, 2026, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Early Dismissal

When?

Tuesday, Sep 8, 2026, 12:30 PM

Event Information

Picture Day

When?

Thursday, Sep 17, 2026, 09:00 AM

Event Information

Early Dismissal

When?

Tuesday, Sep 22, 2026, 12:30 PM

MERRILLVILLE PIRATES WRESTLING CLUB



Merrillville Pirates Wrestling Club is a non-for-profit youth wrestling club sanctioned through USA Wrestling, competing in the Indiana State Wrestling Association (ISWA). We have educated and mentored thousands of athletes from preschool to high school over the past 20 years. We have coached State Champs, All-Americans, and National Champs at various age levels in multiple wrestling styles.

REGISTRATION INFO

REGISTRATION/PARENT MEETING: November 2 @ 6pm
Enter through Door P of Merrillville HS. Walk up stairs to wrestling room.

Valid USA Wrestling card membership is REQUIRED (and MUST be presented) for participation. This can be purchased at usawmembership.com.
Cost: \$120 for all ages

**FINAL
PAYMENTS
DUE NOV 24**

PRACTICE INFO

November 10 - December 10

PRE-K - 2ND GRADE "BABY BUCS"
Tuesdays & Thursdays 6-7pm

3RD - 5TH GRADE "PIRATE CREW"
Tuesdays & Thursdays 7-8:30pm

**FREE
TOURNAMENT
ENTRY**

All registrations receive free MPWC shirt and free entry into the Merrillville Folkstyle Open tournament

CONTACT INFO & SOCIAL MEDIA

Andrew Vander Woude Club Coach Head MS Boys Coach/Asst. MS Girls Coach andrew.vanderwoude@mvsc.k12.in.us	Paul Maldonado Club Director Head HS Girls Coach/Asst. HS Boys Coach paulmaldonado@mvsc.k12.in.us
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 **Merrillville Pirates Wrestling Club**

 **@merrillvillepirateswc**

By clicking on the arrows next to the pictures, they will enlarge

Miller students learned about weather safety today and practiced their tornado drill to calm any storm anxiety. Thanks meteorologists Adam White and Leanne for an excellent presentation.



TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
DEC. 30 1971

ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST
5:30PM - 7:30PM

DECORATED TRUNK CONTEST!

COSTUME CONTEST!

FREE ENTRANCE!

DEAN AND BARBARA WHITE COMMUNITY CENTER
6600 BROADWAY, MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410

TRICK OR TREAT ON THE TRACK

THURSDAY OCTOBER 29
5:30 - 7:00 PM

MERRILLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
OUTSIDE AT THE TRACK STADIUM

YOUNGSTERS TO 6TH GRADE

\$5 ADMISSION PER CHILD (ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS)

ALL TRICK OR TREATERS MUST BE IN SOME KIND OF COSTUME AND ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

CONCESSION STAND OPEN | MUSIC AND FUN

SPONSORED BY:
MERRILLVILLE STUDENT ATHLETES



Deputy - Social Worker

Each new school year is a great opportunity to begin a routine for the whole family. Having a routine reduces stress and anxiety for everyone. This is especially true for elementary students. It helps set the tone for a good day. Your child's good days actually begin the night before with an established bed time routine. Parents this is so critical in order for your child, our students, to be able to focus, and function to the best of their abilities. Having a set bed time for your child helps everyone. Kids will learn what to expect and parents will appreciate less tears and arguments. The best way for this to work is to stick to the routine. Let's not forget the most important part of a good night sleep for your child is to limit access to their devices. I've heard several stories over the years where students come to school very tired and when asked why they said they were playing their video games or on their devices after the parents fell asleep. Collecting their devices or controllers and securing them until the morning might be something to consider. An important part to a restful night's sleep is turning off our devices, even for adults. The little ones should not have as much screen time as they do but we already know that. The other important part of a good day is proper nutrition and luckily, we have taken care of that by offering free breakfast and lunch to every student, every day. The breakfast/lunch menus are available on line.

Your child may want to take a sack lunch on the days they don't like what's being served. Implementing a bed time routine and cutting down on screen time will help us all out, students, parents and schools. Let's all have a great 2026/2027 school year!!!

Remember if education is important to you it will be important to them.

Ms. Fleming
Social Worker
650-5432

Deputy - Title 1

Howdy Partners!

The Title 1 and FACES staff invited families into our school on September 3, 2026 to inform them about how our Title 1 program works. In addition to the information, we called the students who had a parent or guardian in attendance to learn about numeracy. Numeracy is the ability to understand, use, and reason with numbers in daily life. It is the numerical counterpart to literacy, meaning it goes beyond just doing basic math to applying logic, interpreting data, and making smart choices based on numbers. To practice this skill, the attendees were given several ideas of how to use cards and dice to sharpen the skill of numeracy.

Our next family gathering is the Family Fun Night which will be on November 5, 2026. Families will be able to take part in many different learning activities. It will be fun for all ages. We can't wait to see you then! Keep your eyes open in mid-October for your invitations.

Looking forward to rustling up a great year!

Mrs. Terri White

Title 1 Teacher

By clicking on the arrows next to the pictures, they will enlarge





Jennifer Griffin

Jennifer is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

