

Purple Press

Southern Local Schools/ 740-721-0520

The Mission of Southern Local Schools is to provide a quality, child centered education where all students can succeed.

New Staff

Brody Dutiel – 7th/8th Grade Teacher
Kera Hill – Falcons Fly Site Coordinator
Alaina Mohler – AMESC Aide
Shelly Marcum – SPED Director
Chloe Wilson – Falcons Fly Family Liaison

New Coaches

Josie Crabtree– Assistant AD
Josie Crabtree – Head Volleyball
Emma Joseph – Jr High Girls Basketball
Charles Knopp – Athletic Director
Angie Plant – Jr High Volleyball
Monica Post – Jr High Volleyball

"Those experiencing a mental health crisis, and their loved ones, can reach out to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline through call or text to 988 or chat online at [988Lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org). This easy-to-remember three-digit number ensures confidential, cost-free, 24/7 support for Ohioans experiencing mental health crises. 988 establishes a direct link to empathetic, easily accessible care and support for individuals facing emotional distress, such as thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or concern for a friend or family member. Ohio's 988 plan is an integral component of the state's broader commitment to delivering high-quality, person-centered crisis aid in communities statewide. Remember, there is hope, and the lifeline is effective. You're not alone during times of crisis."

REMINDERS ON STUDENT DROP-OFF/PICK-UP

At the high school, parents will be permitted to use the student parking lot entrance nearest the high school building, drop off their child at the curbside nearest the SIDE DOOR that opens to the student parking lot, and then exit through the student parking lot at the exit nearest the stadium. Parents picking up high school students in the afternoon will have to park in the top row of the student parking lot

nearest State Route 155, and wait for their child to walk to their vehicle.

DISTRICT-WIDE CALLING AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

For those who are new to our District, a system was implemented a few years ago which the District uses to notify all staff and the parents of students who are enrolled in Southern Local Schools of 2-hour delays, school closings, emergencies, sporting event cancellations, and general information. 2-hour delays and closings will still be announced on local television channels. This system provides a much quicker relay of information to you. If you are not receiving these calls, NEED TO CHANGE OR REMOVE A NUMBER, or you wish to have your name and number removed, call Keista Wickham in the

District Office @ (740) 721-0520.

Available Non-Certified Opportunities

Southern Local Schools is in need of substitute cooks, custodians, and bus drivers for the 2025-2026 school year. If you are interested, please contact the following supervisors:

Cooks: Kimberly Lee, Director of Food Services, nutrition@southernlocal.org 740-721-0520 ext. 4100

Custodians: John Arkley, Building and Grounds Supervisor, john.arkley@southernlocal.org 740-721-0520 ext. 4004

Bus Drivers: Charlie Hoops, Transportation Supervisor, 740-721-0520 ext.4005

SAFE SCHOOLS HELPLINE

There are occasionally times when students or parents would like to provide information to a school but hesitate because they do not want their identities known. Providing open, direct communication with the community has long been a basic practice for Southern Local. The Board of Education now offers The Safe School Helpline, another method to allow parents and the community to provide input for our school.

Whether it is a student who fears being called a “snitch” or “narc” by peers, or a resident who worries about vandalism in retaliation for reporting a crime, possession or use of drugs or alcohol, reckless driving, or any other illegal activity, Safe School Helpline provides a solution.

The Safe School Helpline utilizes a unique, automated telephone service that allows callers to report an allegation, concern, or suggestion confidentially and anonymously. He or she is never asked to give a name. The voice message is typed then faxed to school officials. In this way, no one except an operator hears the voice. Calls are made through a tollfree number.

Each call is assigned a case number. The caller can then call back to the Helpline to check the school’s progress on the call or to provide more information. A caller may make a report 24 hours a day and the schools will be notified the next school day. Ordinarily, the principal of the school, where the alleged offense occurred, will investigate. Should a crime such as drug trafficking or possession of a weapon be reported, the superintendent will be notified immediately, day or night, and he can contact the police department. As with any allegation against a student or staff member, no public action would be taken until guilt is proven.

Safer Ohio School Tip Line

The Safer Ohio School Tip Line is a free safety resource available to all Ohio schools. The tip line is an anonymous reporting system that accepts tips via call, text, web form, and mobile app 24 hours a day. Anyone can download the Safer Ohio School Tip Line app or use this link to access the web form.

This tip line allows students and adults to anonymously share information with school officials and law enforcement about threats to student safety — whether that involves a threatened mass incident or harm to a single student.

Things to report to the tip line include (but are not limited to):

- Bullying incidents;
- Withdrawn student behaviors;
- Verbal or written threats observed toward students, faculty or schools;
- Hazing;
- Weapon/suspicious devices on or near school grounds;
- Gang-related activities;
- Unusual/suspicious behavior of students or staff;
- Self-harm or suicidal sentiments; and • Any other school safety-related concerns.

Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Southern Local Schools would like to thank The Ohio Society Daughters of the American Revolution for their generous donation of school supplies for our students.



Meet Your Miller High School Support Team

At Miller High School, we're committed to ensuring every student thrives both academically and personally. Our Support Team is here to guide, encourage, and empower students throughout their high school journey. Whether you need help navigating challenges, planning your future, or just someone to talk to — we’re here for you.



From Coffee to Chemistry: A Distilled Lesson ☕🧪

Today, we brewed up some fun in the chemistry lab! My students got hands-on by making coffee and then using distillation to "unmake" it. It's not every day you get to turn your morning brew into a science experiment! 😊

The process of distillation allowed them to separate the different components of coffee, learning about evaporation, condensation, and the role of boiling points in a real-world context. Not only did they get a taste of chemistry, but they also got a glimpse of how science plays a part in everyday life.

Safe to say, everyone had a blast—and walked away a little wiser (and maybe a little less caffeinated!). ☕
🌟-Mr. Hook

[#ChemistryClass](#) [#ScienceExperiment](#) [#Distillation](#)
[#MakingAndUnmaking](#) [#CoffeeScience](#) [#STEM](#)
[#HandsOnLearning](#)



Donations



School supplies donated by the Ohio Adult Parole Authority, Hocking Unit (Ashlee Jones, Krista Vermillion). This unit is comprised of parole officers in Perry, Muskingum, Guernsey, Hocking, and Vinton counties.



Columbus Zoo Visits Millcreek Elementary

Thanks to the generous grant provided by the Community Foundation for Perry County, things got wild at Millcreek Elementary. The Columbus Zoo paid a visit to our Pre-K through 6th graders on Friday September 12. The zoo keepers showcased 5 animals including a penguin, a tortoise, a snake, an opossum and a sloth. The students were able to participate in the presentation and ask questions. Thank you again to the Community Foundation for Perry County for providing the funds for this amazing opportunity.



MILLER HIGH SCHOOL / KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM

Kera Hill

Miller High School has partnered with Kroger's Community Rewards. A portion of each sale made at Kroger will be donated to our school to help with the cost of paying for yearbooks.

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into their Kroger account you can search for MILLER HIGH SCHOOL either by name or LT512 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account

which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

*Customers must have a registered Kroger rewards card account to link to your organization.

*If you do not yet have a Kroger rewards card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.

Driver’s Ed

Southern Local Schools now offers driver's Ed through the Muskingum Ohio Valley Educational Service Center (MOV ESC) Driving School. Follow this link below for more information.

If you have any questions please email me at keista.wickham@southernlocal.org.

<https://www.southernlocal.org/muskingum-ohio-valley-educational-service-center-mov-esc-driving-school>

The 2025 Fall Homecoming Parade was a huge success!

We are so proud of our MYL athletes, Junior High athletes, JV/Varsity athletes, and our Homecoming Court for their participation. A special shoutout goes to our incredible Marching Band for their outstanding performance in the heat—you were amazing!

We also want to thank our parents, staff, and first responders for helping make this parade a success. And of course, a HUGE thank you to Ms. Bice for planning the parade, along with everyone who worked behind the scenes to make it all happen. Finally, thank you to everyone who came out to show your support for our students. Your encouragement means so much! 

Fifth and Sixth Grade Field Trip

Fifth and sixth grade students at Millcreek attended a special entertaining and educational performance of "Janet’s Planet : A Tour Through the Solar System" on Tuesday, September 23, at the Templeton-Blackburn Memorial Auditorium on the campus of Ohio University.

Janet's Planet: A Tour Through the Solar System travels at the "speed of thought," introducing the wonders of the galaxy to families and young audiences throughout the country. The interactive presentation engages and challenges students and is designed to inspire STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) potential in elementary school age kids. This presentation was designed to integrate with Next Generation Science Standards, based on a curriculum endorsed by NASA and Space Florida. We would like to thank Ohio University Chaddock + Morrow College of Fine Arts for providing funding for our buses to see this presentation.



National School Bus Safety Week is October 20-24

This year’s theme is Driving Safely in the Future. Here are tips to keep our children safe.

Getting Ready for School:

- Have your children put everything they carry in a backpack or school bag so that they won’t drop things along the way.
- Encourage them to wear bright, contrasting colors so they will be more easily seen by drivers.
- Make sure children leave home on time so they can arrive at the bus stop before it is due, ideally at least five minutes early. Running after or in front of a bus is dangerous.

Walking to the Bus Stop:

- Walk young children to the bus stop or encourage children to walk in groups. There is safety in numbers; groups are easier for drivers to see.
- Practice good pedestrian behavior: walk on the sidewalk, and if there is no sidewalk stay out of the street. If you must walk in the street, walk single file, face traffic, and stay as close to the edge of the road as you can.
- Stop and look left, right, and then left again if you must cross the street. Do the same thing on driveways and alleys. Exaggerate your head turns and narrate your actions so your child knows you are looking left, right, and left.

At the Bus Stop:

- Have children wait in a location where the driver can see them while driving down the street. Try to avoid waiting in a house or car.
- Do not let children play in the street. Playing with balls or other toys that could roll into the street is also dangerous.

Getting On and Off the Bus

- Warn children that if they drop something getting on and off the bus, they should never pick it up. Instead, they should tell the driver and follow the driver’s instructions.
- Remind children to look to the right before they step off the bus.
- If you meet your child at the bus stop after school, wait on the side where the child will be dropped off, not across the street. Children can be so excited to see you after school that they dash across the street and forget the safety rules.

Mobile Devices - Cell phones and other electronic devices are often permitted on the school bus as long as:

- They are in backpacks or other holders, keeping hands free to use handrails while boarding and departing the bus.
- Sound is muted or headphones, earbuds, or similar devices are used.
- Content does not violate the law or school district policy and procedures.
- Use does not create a distraction for the driver.



Emergency School Bus Evacuation Drills

Dates: Monday, October 13 – Wednesday, October 15

In compliance with Ohio regulations, all students who ride a school bus will participate in three annual emergency bus exit drills. These will take place on school property under the supervision of transportation staff and building principals.

Required Drill Types

Each student must practice the following evacuation methods:

Front Door Exit: All students exit through the front door.

Rear Door Exit: All students exit through the rear emergency door.

Split Exit: Students in the front half exit through the front door; those in the back half exit through the rear door.

Drill Protocols

Drivers remain on the bus and ensure it is secure (brake on, ignition off, in park) before beginning.

Students must:

Walk (not run)

Leave personal items behind

Move at least 100 feet from the bus and stay in a group

Special Needs Modifications: Procedures may be adjusted for preschool and special needs students.

 Miller High School Candle Fundraiser
 October 2–10, 2025

Miller High School students will be participating in a Candle Fundraiser from October 2 through October 10, 2025!

Funds raised from this event directly support a variety of student-focused programs and activities throughout the school year, including (but not limited to):

 Student of the Month gift cards

 Student awards

 Top 10 Banquet

 Student agendas

...and much more!

Your continued support plays a vital role in making these opportunities possible for our students. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our community.

Thank you for helping make a difference!

If you're not local and would like to support our Fundraiser, you can have the candles shipped directly to you.

Online Order link:

<https://www.chestnuthillcandlefundraising.com/order.html>

Fundraising Group Number: 10190

Millcreek Data Days

Millcreek Elementary will continue with our data days for teacher professional development. The following days Millcreek students will not have class. These are additional days that are not on the original school calendar.

December 5th

January 30th

Annual Ticket Auction

Millcreek PTO will hold their annual ticket auction on Sunday, April 12th. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date.

Millcreek Elementary Yearbook Pre-K through 6th grade (Millcreek students only)

We are asking for your help with photos for our yearbook. Things that we would like to have are: - Bid league photos - Pictures that you may have taken on the first day of school - School Dance or Extra activities at the School - Spirit Week or Right to Read Week Photos - Fall Festival at the School - Christmas Parties - Valentines Parties - Christmas Spirit Week Photos - Morning Club Photos - After School Club Photos - All Pictures that are school related Things we DO NOT Want are: - Family Photos -

Home Photos - Vacation Photos - Children who are not

Students at Millcreek

All Pictures can be emailed to millcreekyearbook@southernlocal.org. Any questions or concerns can be addressed to Amy Starlin or Cherie Irwin. Attention: All Submissions may not be included in the yearbook but we appreciate you sending them in for consideration.

Washington DC Trip

The Washington DC Trip is from November 11th to November 14th. Lillian Palmer, Gunner Harper, and Marlee Mclaughlin will be presenting a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. A huge thank you needs to go out to Family Tree Florist in Nelsonville for donating the wreath. Snacks for the students are being donated by Smurfit Westrock.

🦅 **Now Enrolling – Falcons F.L.Y. After-School Program!** 🦅

Falcons F.L.Y. (Fun, Functions, Fundamental Learning for Youth) is open for enrollment! Students will enjoy academic support, enrichment activities, and fun opportunities to learn and grow after school in a safe, supportive environment.

- ✅ Homework help
- ✅ Hands-on projects & enrichment
- ✅ Leadership & teamwork opportunities

Spots are limited—don’t miss out!
👉 Register today to help your child soar with Falcons F.L.Y.

FALCONS F.L.Y.

2025-2026

Miller High School, Falcons F.L.Y. (Fun, Functional, Fundamental Learning for Youth) offers students engaging activities, academic support, and enrichment after school in a safe and welcoming space.

Falcons F.L.Y. is in partnership with the MVESC and funded by the 21st Century Grant

When?

Monday - Thursday 2:10PM-5:30PM
Programming begins Monday, October 6

How to enroll?
Scan the QR code to enroll

Questions?
Contact Kera Hill, Site Coordinator
740-721-0521
kera.hill@southernlocal.org
Chloe Wilson, Family Community Liaison
740-721-0521
chloe.wilson@southernlocal.org

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

For more details, please email kera.hill@southernlocal.org

MONDAY

- Dungeons & Dragons RPG Game
- Cooking/ Baking STEM

TUESDAY

- Barn Stable Root/ Board Games

WEDNESDAY

- Welding
- Never Going Home World War 1 RPG Game
- Playing Card Games

THURSDAY

- Crafts
- Root/ Board Games
- Archery

JOIN US!

Why Join Falcons F.L.Y.?

- 📖 Homework help
- 🎮 Fun activities
- 👯 Friends & teamwork
- 🌟 A safe place to learn and grow

Falcons F.L.Y.~where students soar after school!

Meet our club teachers!

- Ms. Wilson
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Weis
- Mr. Dutiel
- Ms. Nilsen

Scan QR code to enroll!

Falcons F.L.Y.

Kera Hill - Site Coordinator
Chloe Wilson - Family/ Community Liaison

MHS Financial Aid Night

Important Information

Financial Aid Night

Wednesday, October 15
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm F.A. Overview
7:00pm-7:30pm FAFSA Completion

Congratulations to our Elementary Students of the Month! Keep up the good work!

Front row left to right with grade level in parenthesis: Phoenix Lloyd (2), Everly Blosser(4), Amyrah Ghee(6), Katlyn Ash(5), Violet Coleman(1), and Madison Boring (K); back row left to right with grade level in parenthesis: Sasha Gambill (6), Leona Crawford (3)

🏈 **Ohio’s Top High School Running Backs – Division VII (2025)** 🏈

We’re proud to announce that Zander Bice, Senior RB from Corning Miller, has been named one of the top Division VII running backs in the state of Ohio! 🔥

Your hard work, leadership, and grit on the field have earned this incredible honor.

Congratulations, Zander! 🎉🏆

[#AllOhio](#) [#MillerFalcons](#) [#RB1](#) [#ZanderBice](#) [#OHSAA](#) [#HighSchoolFootball](#)

Millcreek Elementary School Store



Hello Parents,

I want to personally thank all the families who have already participated in our SchoolStore program! We are on our way to reaching our goal, but we need everyone's help to make sure our teachers get the essential tools they need to help our students succeed.

If your family has not participated, there's still time!

This safe and easy program is 100% online so there is no face-to-face selling, collecting money, or delivering products. Your child will receive a prize just for participating, and more prizes will be awarded when goals are reached.

Please help now. It really will make a difference.

Go to <https://www.schoolstore.net/sid.t?0000171309> to show our valued teachers your support.

Thanks
Millcreek Elementary School

P.S. Family participation is the key to our success, and we are counting on you!

You're Invited to Join Us! 🍁

Miller High School FFA is excited to host our 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat event, and we're inviting local businesses and organizations to participate!

 Date: Sunday, October 19, 2025

 Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

 Location: Miller High School Student Parking Lot

This is a great opportunity to engage with the community, promote your organization, and help provide a safe and fun Halloween experience for local families.

If you are interested in setting up, please contact Ms. Wilson at:

 chloe.wilson@southernlocal.org

We hope to see you there!



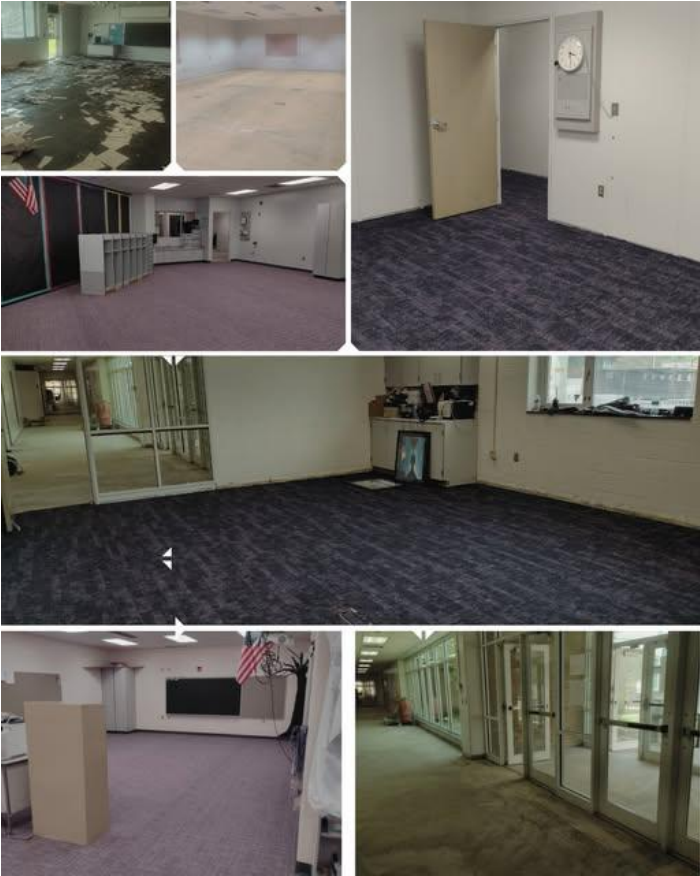
Millcreek Elementary Undergoes Major Flooring Renovation This Summer

This summer, Millcreek Elementary School has been undergoing a significant renovation project to replace approximately 35,000 square feet of carpet and vinyl tile throughout the building.

Crews began work in early June and are nearing completion of the carpet replacement phase. Later this week, installation of Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) in the hallways will begin, bringing a fresh and modern look to the school's interior.

The original flooring, which dated back to the school's opening in 1992, had served the school community for over three decades. The total cost of the renovation is \$450,000, funded through the district's capital improvement fund.

We look forward to welcoming students and staff back in the fall to a refreshed and updated learning environment.



MCE Fire Prevention Day



Sick Guideline

I NEED TO STAY HOME IF						
I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100.0 or higher	I have been vomiting in the last 24 hours	I have had diarrhea in the last 24 hours	Itchy head, active head lice	Body rash, with itching or fever	Redness itching and/or "crusty" drainage from the eye	Hospital stay and/or ER visit
I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM						
Fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication i.e. Tylenol, Motrin	Free from vomiting for at least two solid meals	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	I have been treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and evaluated by school nurse before returning to class	Free from rash, itching or fever. I have been evaluated by a doctor if needed	Evaluated by a doctor and have a note to return to school	Released by a medical provider to return to school
If you have any questions regarding whether or not you should send your child to school please feel free to contact me directly at 740-721-0535- Courtney Bolyard, RN, District Nurse						

Become an OHSAA Certified Sports Official!
For Students Grades 9–12

Interested in basketball, baseball, or softball?
Join our **free OHSAA Certification Program** and get started in sports officiating!



When: Monday–Thursday, 2:15–3:45 PM



Basketball (Fall Session)



Baseball/Softball Umpiring (Spring Session)

Program Benefits:

- Earn a **4-point, industry-recognized credential**
- **Meet and shadow professional and collegiate officials**
- Receive **free officiating equipment**
- Great opportunity for leadership, teamwork, and earning potential!

Title I Notices

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Southern Local School District is dedicated to the success of every student. It is our responsibility to partner with parents, and the community. We also work to empower each child to achieve his or her fullest potential to become a lifelong learner. We make the commitment to motivate, to challenge, and to inspire each other to become the best we possibly can be. To accomplish this, parents, teachers, and students need to work together. We ask that you to read over this partnership agreement with your child.

STUDENT CHECKLIST

As a student, I will strive to:

Follow bus rules;

Return my homework completed on time;

Follow school rules; Believe that I can learn;

Always try to do my best in my work and my behavior;

Show respect for myself, my school, and other people;
Come to school prepared with my homework and supplies; and Attend school regularly.

TEACHER CHECKLIST

As a teacher, I will strive to:

Provide a safe and caring environment where your child will be encouraged to become an active learner;

Follow the curriculum designed for your child;

Believe that each child can learn;

Attend school functions;

Maintain open lines of communication with students and parents;

Keep you informed of your child’s progress on a frequent basis; Help you with ways to help your child at home;

Document on going assessment of your child’s academic progress; Help your child follow the school and classroom rules; and Seek ways to involve parents in the school program.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CHECKLIST

As a Parent/Guardian, I will strive to:

Believe my child can learn;

Attend at least one (1) parent / teacher conference;

Show respect and support for my child, the staff, and the school;

Read with my child at home;

Check my child’s book bag daily for information from school; See that my child attends school regularly and is on time;

Talk with my child about his/her school activities each day;

Choose at least two (2) of the following Attend at least two (2) school functions;

Volunteer as a classroom helper (We suggest 30 minutes at least two (2) times a year)

Every Child Succeeds Act

The Every Child Succeeds Act (ESEA) is a federal law that enforces ongoing changes in teaching and learning that will help increase academic achievement in our schools. All schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask for and receive information about the qualifications of their child's teachers, academic achievement and growth, and information about participation in state mandated assessments.

Millcreek Elementary and Miller High School receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you at your request. We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education than having a highly qualified teacher and ongoing knowledge of their academic achievement and growth.

The law requires that all teachers must meet a specific legal definition in order to teach in schools that receive Title I funding. These professional qualifications include:

- 1. Whether the teacher has met the Ohio teacher licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides your child instruction.
- 2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status that waives state licensing requirements.
- 3. The undergraduate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate degree or certification (such as

National Board Certification) held by the teacher and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

- 4. Whether your child is provided services by instructional paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Ongoing information on the level of achievement and academic growth of each student will be provided and if applicable and available, for each state mandated academic assessment. Also, as required under this part, timely notice will be given when a student has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

Southern Local is extremely proud of the quality of its teaching staff. All of our teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities. Our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level. Southern Local will continue to make every effort possible to hire teachers (including substitutes) that are "highly qualified".

How to Request Information about Teacher Qualifications and/or Assessment Data If you would like to receive information, please write a letter/ email to the principal requesting the information you seek. Be sure to provide the following information with your request: Child's Full Name and, Parent/ Guardian Full Name, Address, and Phone Number.

Southern Local School District – 2025 State Report Card Overview

The Ohio Department of Education has released the 2025 State Report Card, and Southern Local School District received an overall rating of 3.5 out of 5 stars. This rating reflects the many successes happening across our district, while also identifying areas for continued focus and growth.

District Results

- **Achievement – 2 Stars**
Achievement scores show progress but remain below state expectations. This area will continue to be a district priority.
- **Progress – 2 Stars**
Students are making some academic growth, but we are committed to accelerating that growth through focused instruction and support.
- **Gap Closing – 3 Stars**
The district is improving in narrowing achievement gaps among student groups, ensuring greater equity in student outcomes.
- **Graduation – 5 Stars (High School only)**
Southern Local is proud of its high graduation rate. Nearly all students are successfully completing their education prepared for their next steps.
- **Early Literacy – 3 Stars (Millcreek only)**
Young learners are building foundational reading skills. Continued focus on early literacy will help strengthen long-term achievement.
- **College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness – 5 Stars (High School only)**
Students are leaving high school with the preparation needed to succeed in college, the workplace, or the military.

Millcreek Elementary Results

Millcreek Elementary also received an **overall rating of 3.5 out of 5 stars**, with strong ratings in key areas:

- **Progress – 4 Stars**
Students are making strong academic growth compared to peers statewide, reflecting effective teaching and learning strategies.
- **Gap Closing – 4 Stars**
Millcreek is making important strides in narrowing achievement gaps, ensuring that all learners are supported to succeed.

Looking Ahead

As a district, we are proud of our 5-star ratings in Graduation and Readiness as well as Millcreek’s strong results in Progress and Gap Closing. These accomplishments highlight the dedication of our students, staff, and families. At the same time, we recognize the need to strengthen Achievement and Progress at the district level. Moving forward, we are committed to refining instruction, expanding supports, and ensuring that every student at Southern Local continues to grow and thrive.

Miller High School will be holding a Veterans Day Assembly

 **Tuesday, November 11, 2025**

 **9:00 AM**

 **High School Gym**

We would like to **honor the Veterans in our community** for their service and sacrifice.

To help us recognize these heroes, we are creating a slideshow that will be presented during the assembly and shared with the community.
If you know a Veteran you would like us to honor, please fill out the form below.

→ **Please submit a separate form for each Veteran.**
 **All forms must be submitted by October 31, 2025.**

<https://forms.gle/WVwypoRGs83bSwgz9>

Thank you for helping us honor those who served!

For questions, please contact Keista Wickham at keista.wickham@southernlocal.org

SOUTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUG 18 - AUG 20		STAFF IN-SERVICE/TEACHER ORIENTATION
AUG 21	THURSDAY	FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS
SEPT 1	MONDAY	LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL
OCT 24	FRIDAY	STAFF INSERVICE DAY - NO SCHOOL
NOV 26	WEDNESDAY	PARENT-TEACHER CONF. NO SCHOOL
NOV 27 - DEC 1		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL
DEC 2	TUESDAY	SCHOOL RESUMES
DEC 22 - JAN 2		WINTER HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL
JAN 5	MONDAY	STAFF INSERVICE DAY - NO SCHOOL
JAN 6	TUESDAY	SCHOOL RESUMES
JAN 19	MONDAY	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - NO SCHOOL
FEB 16	MONDAY	PRESIDENT'S DAY - NO SCHOOL
MAR 13	FRIDAY	STAFF INSERVICE DAY - NO SCHOOL
APRIL 3	FRIDAY	GOOD FRIDAY - NO SCHOOL
APR 6	MONDAY	PARENT-TEACHER CONF. - NO SCHOOL
MAY 21	THURSDAY	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS
MAY 22	FRIDAY	LAST DAY FOR TEACHERS

Evening Conferences - First Semester - November 6 and November 13
Second Semester - February 19 and February 26

MAKEUP DAYS AS FOLLOWS: MAKEUP DAYS AS FOLLOWS: Shall be added at the end of the school year unless otherwise determined by the mutual agreement, per SLEA contract.

Day #1 -
Day #2 -
Day #3 -
Day #4 -
Day #5 -

Last day for students May 21
Last day for teachers May 22

PERIOD	BEGINS	ENDS	DAYS	PROF. DAYS
1	AUG. 18	OCT. 23	46	4
2	OCT. 27	JAN. 5	43	1
3	JAN. 6	MAR. 13	47	1
4	MAR. 16	MAY 21	47	1
			183	7