

Grade 1 Information Night



February 2, 2012

Milton Public Schools

www.miltonps.org

Agenda

- **Welcome & Introductions**
- **Common Curriculum**
 - English w/ Spanish
 - French Immersion
- **Student Assignment**
- **Next Steps**



Elementary Program Offerings

Current Structure

- English

- Including Spanish instruction in Grades 1-5

- French Immersion

- Grades 1-5



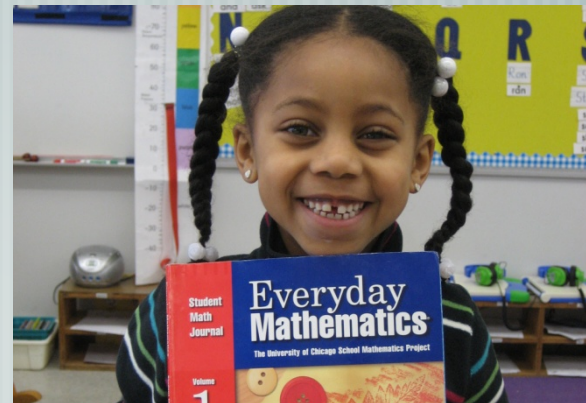
All Grade One Programs

All programs provide content instruction based on the standards set forth by the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in the following areas:

- ❖ Language Arts
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Science, Technology/Engineering
- ❖ Social Studies
- ❖ The Arts
- ❖ Physical Education



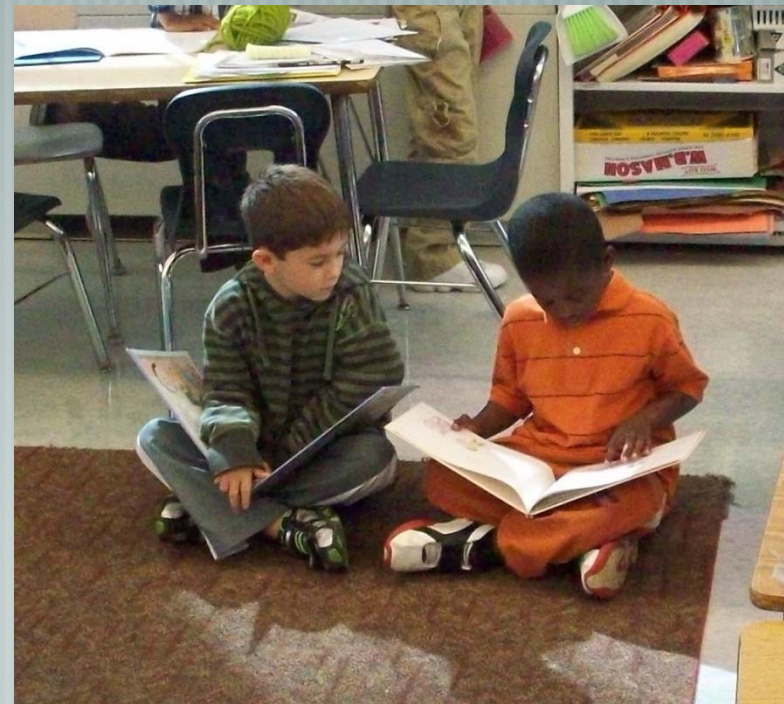
Common Curriculum In English and French



Common Curriculum In English and French

Language Arts

- Intensive instructional program consisting of:
 - ❖ reading
 - ❖ writing
 - ❖ listening
 - ❖ speaking
 - ❖ language



Reading Program: A Balanced Literacy Approach English w/ Spanish and French Immersion

- Reading Materials

- ❖ Open Court anthology (English)
- ❖ Gafi text (French Immersion)
- ❖ Leveled readers, big books, decodable books

- Explicit phonics instruction



- Reader's Workshop

- ❖ Whole group instruction
- ❖ Independent reading
- ❖ Small group guided instruction
- ❖ Read alouds
- ❖ Center activities



Common Curriculum In English and French

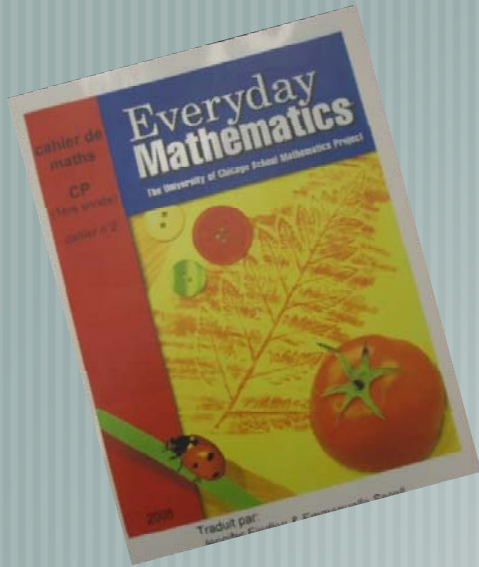
Writing

- Follows a Process Approach to Writing
 - Varied writing experiences
 - ❖ Journals
 - ❖ Writing across the curriculum
 - ❖ Open response
 - ❖ Genre
 - Targeted grammar activities
 - ❖ Sentence structure
 - ❖ Types of sentences
 - ❖ Build to writing paragraphs



Common Curriculum In Math

Everyday Mathematics



- ❖ Emphasizes conceptual understanding
- ❖ Builds mastery of basic skills
- ❖ Incorporates daily routines, activities, and games
- ❖ Engages students in exploration
- ❖ Provides relevance to the world with authentic problem solving skills

Language Programs

The Milton Public School system has a long standing commitment to early language acquisition.

French Immersion

Definition: A method of foreign language instruction in which the regular school curriculum is taught through the medium of the language.



English with Spanish

Definition: A second language program that begins in grade one and continues through grade twelve.

Language Programs

French Immersion Trajectory

Grades 1 & 2: All subjects (except art, music, library, physical education) are taught in French.

Grades 3 & 4: 50% of the curriculum is taught in French and 50% is taught in English.

Grade 5: 30% of the curriculum is taught in French and 70% is taught in English.

Program continues through middle school and high school.

English with Spanish Trajectory

Grades 1 & 2: Students receive one 30-minute period of Spanish instruction each week.

Grades 3-5: Students receive 3 30-minute periods of Spanish instruction per week.

Spanish classes continue through middle school and high school.

Language Programs

Staffing and Class Size of Grade One Language Programs

French Immersion

- Native/near native fluency required and appropriate certification
- In 2011-2012 average class size was 25 students

English with Spanish

- Native/near native fluency required and appropriate certification
- In 2011-2012 average class size was 19 students



Grade 1 Information Night

Program Choice

School Assignment



Grade 1 Information Night

Program Choice and School Assignment Timeline

- February 2nd - Grade 1 Classroom visit schedule and Program Choice form sent home to all Kindergarten parents/guardians.
- February 9th - Grade 1 Classroom visits will be held at Collicot & Glover.
 - Each school will communicate the timeframe for visits.
- February 10th - Grade 1 Classroom visits will be held at Cunningham & Tucker.
 - Each school will communicate the timeframe for visits.
- February 29th - Program choice forms are due to the school offices.
- March 16th - Parents/guardians will be notified if their child has been assigned to a school/program or if their child's name will be entered into a tiered lottery system.



Grade 1 Information Night

Program Choice and School Assignment Timeline

- Week of March 19th - If necessary, any school based tiered lottery will be held.
- Week of March 26th - Parents/guardians whose child is not selected in the tiered lottery will be notified of their options.
- March 30th - Parents/guardians must make their decision as to which option they are selecting.
- After March 30th - All students new to the district in Grade 1 will be assigned to the remaining available seats.
- August - Teacher assignments will be made by the school principal and will be sent to parents/guardians.



Grade 1 Information Night – Student Assignment

Below is the fixed number of English and French Immersion classes in each school that is consistent year to year.

Collicot School
2 classes of English
2 classes of French Immersion

Glover School
2 classes of English
2 classes of French Immersion

Cunningham School
2 classes of English
1 class of French Immersion

Tucker School
2 classes of English
1 class of French Immersion

A fixed number of Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes allows for the maximum number of students to attend Grade 1 in their home school.

Grade 1 Information Night – Student Assignment

- Grade 1 class size limits are fixed for each program.*
 - English class size maximum will be 22 students.
 - French Immersion class size maximum will be 26 students.
- No Elementary classes will have “class size” educational assistants.
- Reading Teachers are on the budget reduction cut list for FY 13.
 - 1.0 French Reading Teacher reduction for FY 13
 - 1.0 English Reading Teacher reduction for FY 13

* Superintendent’s discretion to
adjust class size maximum

Criteria for Oversubscription of French Immersion

- If more parents/guardians choose French Immersion than the number of seats available in a particular school the district will assign the students based on the Elementary Student Assignment Plan.
- Preference for open seats will be as follows:
 - First tier will include MPS kindergartners with older siblings (Grades 1-4) in the school.
 - Second tier will include MPS kindergartners without sibling.
 - Third tier will include all students new to the Milton Public Schools.
- Students not selected for French Immersion in their home school will be given the choice of:
 - English in their home school
 - An open seat in another school's French Immersion program or **if necessary** an Auxiliary French Immersion Class

Criteria for Oversubscription of French Immersion

- A tiered lottery system will be implemented to determine which students will fill the available seats in the oversubscribed school.
- Auxiliary Class – each year the Superintendent of Schools will determine which school houses the auxiliary class if needed (French or English). This is determined by budget, enrollment, space, and the overall needs of the district.
- **If necessary** the auxiliary class will be housed at a school to be determined by the Superintendent based on classroom availability.
- When a student is assigned to the auxiliary class, the student remains at that school for the duration of his/her Elementary career.
- Parents/guardians of students who select the auxiliary class will have the option to have their subsequent children enter the assignment process for Kindergarten in the same school as their older sibling or at their original home school per the street/school listing.

Grade 1 Information Night

- Thank you
- Questions



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- Q – Was there a tiered lottery last year (2011-12)?
- A – No. All students were placed according to the student assignment plan and a tiered lottery was not necessary.
- Q – Can I return to my home school after being placed in the auxiliary class?
- A – When a student is assigned to the auxiliary class, the student remains at that school for the duration of his/her Elementary career.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- **Q** - What happens if I choose French, but I am not selected to attend it at my home school?
- **A** – Your child will be offered an open seat in a French Immersion class in another elementary school. If all of the First Grade French Immersion classes are enrolled to capacity, your child will be offered a seat in the French Immersion program at the Auxiliary class. (TBA in FY 13). You can select this option or you may select the English program in your home school and follow the Student Assignment Plan.
- **Q** – If I choose French and my child goes to the auxiliary class, do my other children get “grandfathered” into that same school?
- **A** – Parents/guardians of students who select the auxiliary class will have the option to have their subsequent children enter the assignment process in the same school as their older sibling or at their original home school per the street/school listing and student assignment process.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- Q – How will the students who select the auxiliary class be assigned to a classroom?
- A – The students who select the auxiliary class will be heterogeneously assigned.
- Q – If my child attends a school that is not our “neighborhood school” do we receive transportation?
- A – Your child will receive transportation based on the District's Transportation policy.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- **Q** – How can you sustain the numbers/structure of the current program?
- **A** - Sustainability will be achieved by tracking enrollment projections and aligning the number of Kindergarten classes offered with Grade 1 classes offered.
- **Q** – What is the history of the idea of an auxiliary class?
- **A** – In 2010 the World Language Committee studied the Grade 1 Student Assignment process at the request of the Superintendent. A plan was proposed and accepted that assigned a fixed number of classes of English and French Immersion per school with a maximum number students per class. In order to offer every student a seat in the French Immersion Program the process of creating an auxiliary class was developed in order to offer additional seats within the district if necessary so as to not exclude students from the program.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- Q – Will English class size increase to 24-26?
- A - The Superintendent has set the class size maximum to 22 students for Grade 1 English classes. Barring any unforeseen budget shortfalls or unanticipated enrollment surges the district is prepared to maintain this maximum.
- Q – Do you have enough seats for all of the current K's, given that new students will enroll from private K?
- A – Yes, our enrollment projections and tracking of enrollment trends has contributed to our planning for the Grade 1 classes offered and we will offer seats to all students of age for Grade 1 who live in Milton.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- Q – If multiple schools have a lottery, how do you decide the order of selecting new placement options?
- A - Students would first be given the option of choosing English at their home school or French Immersion at another school. Once the number of French Immersion students are determined they would either be assigned to open seats within the district or an auxiliary class.
- Q – If your child selects the auxiliary class at another school would you consider moving an older sibling currently enrolled in their "home" school?
- A – No, older students would not be moved to the school that houses the auxiliary class.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- **Q** – If there are multiple schools in town with openings in the program you selected (and your home school was full) are you given a choice as to which school to attend?
- **A** - Openings in other schools will be filled based on the student assignment plan which includes: siblings, volunteers, and geographic proximity.
- **Q** – If your child is in the auxiliary class does your second child call that your home school or is your district the home school?
- **A** – Parents/guardians of students who select the auxiliary class will have the option to have their subsequent children enter the assignment process in the same school as their older sibling or at their original home school per the street/school listing.



Student Assignment FAQ's

FAQ's

- Q – What happens if English Is oversubscribed?
- A – An oversubscription in English would result in a similar process as with an oversubscription in French Immersion.