Milton Public Schools Grade One Programs Information Night

March 9, 2021









Agenda

- Welcome
- Grade One Programs
 - English Innovation Pathway Program
 - French Immersion Program
- Assignment Plan
- Lottery
- Timeline/Next Steps
- Questions



Grade One Programs

The English Innovation Pathway (with STEM & Spanish) and French Immersion programs provide content instruction to meet the Learning Standards set forth by the MA DESE Curriculum Frameworks in the following areas:

- Language Arts and Literacy
- Mathematics
- Science, Technology/Engineering
- History and Social Science
- World Languages
- The Arts
- Comprehensive Health (Phys. Ed.)



Common Curriculum and Assessments: English and French





English Innovation Pathway with STEM and Spanish Program

English Innovation Pathway: STEM Enrichment - First Grade

Lego Engineering Curriculum (Developed at Tufts University)

- Students solve real-world problems
- Engineering lessons are integrated into other content areas
- Lessons promote collaboration, critical thinking, perseverance
- Students engage in the Engineering Design Process



Snow plow test in action

Snow plow test needing redesign in action

English Innovation Pathway: STEM Enrichment - Second Grade

LEGO WeDo 2.0 Robotics Curriculum

- Students integrate robotics, engineering and computer programming skills
- Students collaborate and persist while problem-solving
- Students learn about gears, pulleys,
 3D models, motion sensors,
 motors, coding, and more
- Students build simple robots and program them using drag-and-drop computer programming software





English Innovation Pathway: STEM Enrichment - Third Grade

Creative Computing Curriculum

- Students use Itch programming language in a secure interface to create interactive media projects
- Students develop personal connections to computing
- Students learn how to be producers of technology rather than just consumers
- Students apply computational thinking skills to control robots and build games





English Innovation Pathway: STEM Enrichment - Fourth Grade

Project Lead the Way – Launch Curriculum

 Includes two engineering modules, one biomedical module and one computer science module



 Students use touch technology, robotics, and everyday materials to explore topics such as energy, light and sound, motion and

stability and gravity

 Design problems encourage collaboration, analysis, problem solving, and computational thinking

English Innovation Pathway: STEM Enrichment - Fifth Grade

Project Lead the Way-Launch Curriculum

- Includes two robotics modules, one biomedical module and one computer science module
- Students explore mechanical design and computer programming to design robots and automatic guided vehicles

 Students investigate models and simulations to program a model that simulates the spread of

disease

English Innovation Pathway: Spanish

Content-based Instruction in Spanish:

- Language Arts (reading, writing, listening, speaking, language)- Using IXL (Grammar and Vocab)
- Math (numbers, counting, colors, shapes, patterns, place value)
- Science (calendar, seasons, weathe comparisons, nature, senses)
- Social Studies (Hispanic cultures and traditions)



English Innovation Pathway: Spanish

• **Grades 1-2**:

Students receive one 30-minute period of Spanish instruction per week.

Grades 3-5:

Students receive two 45-minute periods of Spanish instruction per week.

Spanish in Action

Spanish: Grades 1-12

 Students who have successfully completed all five years at the elementary level are placed in an Advanced Spanish class in Middle School.

(Spanish B)

By the end of 8th grade, students will have completed the equivalent of two years of High School Spanish for an entry in *Spanish 3* at the High School.



French Immersion Program

French Immersion

- Instructional model where the general school curriculum is taught through the medium of a target language.
- The program continues with advanced instruction through Middle School and High School.
- The Elementary French Immersion Program is a five-year commitment.





French Immersion

 Grades 1-2: All subjects (except Art, Music, Physical Education) are taught in French.

• <u>Grades 3-4:</u> 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.



French Immersion: Grade 3 Transition to Bilingual Education

- Formal English instruction is introduced in Grade 3.
- Temporary lags in English Language Arts acquisition early in the program are often observed. (English-specific elements: spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar)
- Students will typically make up these delays thanks to formal and targeted English instruction.

French Immersion: Process

- During the first months, the teacher addresses the class in French and students respond in English.
- Classroom instruction is in French unless safety concerns require the teacher to speak English.
- In a matter of weeks, students will increasingly participate in French.
- Starting in January, students will <u>transition</u> to speaking French only.



French Immersion: At home

- Parents/guardians may not always understand the material used in class.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to read stories in any language at home.



French Immersion: Grade Five and Beyond

 By Grade Five, French Immersion students are expected to acquire an acceptable level of functional fluency in French.

 The development of writing skills in French and English will continue in Middle School and High

School.

 Immersion students remain stronger in English than in French.

Special Education

- As with all students, special education services are based on the needs of each student, regardless of participation in either program.
- All students have the same rights to a special education evaluation.
- Special Education services focus on disability remediation needed for students to derive educational benefit.



Special Education

 All students who qualify for special education services must be found eligible through the Team Process.

 The Team creates the Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Special Education

Continuum of Services:

- Co-taught strand for students with language-based learning deficits
- STEP therapeutic/behavioral support program
- Collaborative Classrooms: k-5 classrooms for children with moderate needs across cognition and communication with special ed and general ed teachers
- NECC (New England Center for Children) and Partners classrooms
- Direct and related services

All schools also offer push in and pull out services via the learning center model.

Grade One Assignment Plan

Kindergarten families select one of two programs:

- 1) English Innovation Pathway Program, which includes Spanish instruction and STEM enrichment
- 2) French Immersion Program



Grade One Assignment Plan

- Each Elementary school will have a minimum of two English Innovation Pathway classes.
- French Immersion classes will be determined equitably across the Elementary Schools, given the constraints of the number of classrooms available, enrollment numbers, and funding.
- If enrollment numbers require that an additional Grade 1 section is needed, the Superintendent will determine whether that section will be English or French and in which school the section will be located based on the needs and resources of the district.

www.miltonps.org (MPS Policy- JGA)

Grade One Assignment Plan

- The Superintendent will create additional sections based on the needs of the district.
- The Superintendent will determine class size for English Innovation Pathway and French Immersion.
- English Innovation Pathway classes are typically smaller in the primary grades.

Grade One Assignment Plan: Grade One Program Lotteries

- In the event that the demand for a program exceeds the number of available seats, the Superintendent will assign students based on the lottery results.
- If Grade One Program Lotteries are required, they will take place the week of March 22.

Grade One Program Lotteries

- Students who have selected French
 Immersion will be assigned to open seats in
 their home school according to their lottery
 order number until all seats are filled.
- All students assigned to English Innovation Pathway will receive priority placement in their home school.
- A waitlist for each home school will be established based on lottery order.

- If a seat in French Immersion opens up in the home school, the next student on the waitlist will be offered the seat.
- There will be a district-wide lottery for Kindergarten students (attending the MPS as of March 1st) who have been waitlisted at their home school and would voluntarily leave their home school for available French Immersion seats at another school.
- Students who opt to change schools remain on the waitlist for their home school.

Please Note:

Parents/guardians who choose French Immersion relinquish their child's seat in the English Innovation Pathway program in their home school. Parents/guardians should not choose French Immersion merely to "hold a place" in the program.

- If seats still exist at one or more schools at the end of June, there will be a school-based lottery for Kindergarten students who began attending the MPS after March 1st through the end of the school year.
- If seats still exist in August, there will be a school-based lottery for students new to the MPS in Grade One.

- Twins/Triplets are treated as one entry in all lotteries.
- Students who opt to change schools will be provided with free transportation.
- Students who opt to change schools give up their seat in the English Innovation Pathway at their home school.

Timeline/Next Steps

- Grade One Information Night Tuesday, March 9, 6:30
 PM
- Grade One Program Selection Forms distributed electronically to families – Wednesday, March 10.
- Grade One Program Selection Forms submitted electronically – Friday, March 19 by 3:30 PM.
- School-based and District-wide lotteries for French Immersion (if necessary) – Week of March 22
- Program assignments communicated to families Week of April 12

Timeline/Next Steps

- If French seats are still available, a lottery for students who entered MPS after March 1 but before June 30 will take place after July 15, 2021.
- If French seats are still available, a lottery for students new to MPS after June 30 will take place August 2021.
- Teacher assignments are communicated to families late August 2021
- There will be no entry into French Immersion after the 10th day of school.

Still Wondering about What to Select?

- You know your child better than anyone.
- You know what is important to you and your family.
- All students, regardless of program, can acquire a second language by the end of high school.

Questions

