February 2020

Dear Miller Families:

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all incoming Miller families! Frank Augustus Miller Middle School is a wonderful school where students thrive. The next two years will be years filled with opportunities for your child to grow socially, academically, physically and emotionally. It is the goal of every Miller staff member to support your child during these two very significant years. You will find that our school not only offers a rigorous academic program; we also have electives that provide students with enrichment options. In addition, we maintain a safe campus where the following three school rules are consistently promoted:

1. Take care of yourself
2. Take care of each other
3. Take care of our school

Please review the attached materials regarding seventh grade course selection. Our seventh grade students have already made their elective class selection with their counselor. Please review the copy of the selection handout that was given to your student to take home. If changes are needed, the registration card at the end of this packet may be returned to Miller by May 1st to request a different elective or class level.

I look forward to welcoming our incoming students and families to the Miller Magic!

Mark Shaw, Principal
mshaw@riversideunified.org
Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

We would like to welcome you to Frank Augustus Miller Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year. Seventh grade is a time when students grow a lot as they learn to balance new privileges with new responsibilities. We look forward to helping both parents and students adjust to the different rigors that middle school brings.

The first privilege that most 7th graders enjoy is to select their elective. A few students will be placed in an elective class based on academic performance, but the vast majority will be able to select from our FAMMtastic elective choices. In this handbook you will find a flyer explaining each of our elective choices along with other information about Miller Middle School. Students should have already selected and turned in their top three elective choices. A copy of their selection should be marked in the back of this packet. Parents, we would love your input! If you wish to make an elective or class level change, please indicate those changes on the registration card at the back of this packet and return to Miller by March 6th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Students will be placed in their core academic classes according to district guidelines. Student schedules will be completed over the summer and ready for families to pick up on Macaw Night. You will receive more information about this in a summer email scheduled to go during summer vacation.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Perales-Sanchez
951-789-8181 Ext. 57034
School Counselor, 7th Grade
Dear Macaw Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to our incoming 7th graders and parents/guardians! We are looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some information about the mathematics program at Frank Augustus Miller Middle School. Specifically, there are two possible course placements for seventh grade. Course placement in seventh grade is extremely important, as it can influence a student’s subsequent course-taking pathway throughout middle and high school. We strive to make the best possible placement, in the best interest of each student, so his/her future success is highly likely.

What are the possible courses for general education seventh graders?
- **7th Grade Math**: Grade level course, majority of students are usually enrolled in this course.
- **Accelerated 7th Grade Math**: The purpose of this course is to create a pathway for students wanting to take two years of college level mathematics in high school. Students will learn all 7th grade math content plus half the year of standards from 8th Grade Math. Therefore, students will learn a year and a half worth of mathematical content in a single school year. Students must take this course in order to enroll in Accelerated 8th Grade Math 1, which also covers 1 ½ years of curriculum. Students who take Advanced 8th Grade Math 1 will have their grade posted on the high school transcript. If the course is passed with a D grade or above, the student will earn five credits per semester.

How will placement be determined?
Multiple pieces of data are reviewed to determine best placement for incoming seventh graders including:
- District test results
- Math scores from state assessments given in April and May
- Teacher recommendation
- Parent recommendation
- Student input

How do I know if Accelerated 7th Grade Math will be a good fit for my child?
Accelerated Math classes cover 1 ½ years of curriculum in one year. For this reason, Accelerated Math candidates are students who pick up new concepts quickly and do not need a lot of practice time to gain a solid understanding of lessons taught. Accelerated Math students should have a strong grasp of 6th grade math as there is not time to review previously taught concepts throughout the year. Parents can review their child’s previous math performance to look for mostly advanced marks (A’s or 4’s) on their report cards and Standard Met or Standard Exceeded on state assessments.

If I would like my student to have the option to take Accelerated Math as a 7th grader, what do I need to do?
- Between now and March 6th return the yellow class request form, which is the back cover of this packet.

What does the new RUSD Common Core Math pathway look like for middle and high school students?
Please see the following page for current RUSD Secondary Math Pathways.

What if I have further questions?
Please contact your child’s school counselor.

Elisabeth Perales-Sanchez
951-789-8181 ext.57034

Sincerely,

Mark Shaw
Principal
What Math Class Should I Take?
Advice from FAMMS Math Teachers

YOU MAY WANT TO REGISTER FOR **ACCELERATED MATH 7 IF:**

1) You **LOVE** math and may be interested in pursuing a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) career later in life for instance as an engineer, computer programmer, scientist, or doctor.

2) You have all 3s and 4s with mostly 4s in math on your report card.

3) You earned all 3s and 4s on your California Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium tests in mathematics.

4) You learn math **VERY QUICKLY** (Accelerated Math 7 covers 1 ½ years of content in one year – it is not deeper it’s faster) and enjoy doing challenging work.

5) You are self-motivated, do all your homework without your parent reminding you, and will ask questions when you do not understand something.

If the statements above do not describe you, you should register for Math 7. **YOU CAN STILL COMPLETE** a-g college entrance REQUIREMENTS AND **CAN STILL MAKE IT TO CALCULUS AS A SENIOR IF YOU TAKE MATH 7.**
Join us Thursday, February 27th, from 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. in the Staff Lounge for information about Miller’s AVID program.

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
17925 Krameria Ave.
Riverside, CA 92504

If you have any questions contact Jackie Zigmund at jcrowder@riversideunified.org

Essay Questions for Applicants:
1. Why do you feel AVID is the best elective for you?
2. What strategies have you used in the past to help you become successful?
3. Turn in answers at the student interviews on 3/5/20, 3:00 - 6:30 pm

AVID is an elective class focused on teaching college preparatory strategies.
Band at FAMMS

Learn to Play an Instrument
- Advanced Music
- Performances
- Fun with Friends
- Field Trips
- Music Theory

Join the Band FAMMily
- Beginning Band
- Intermediate Band
- Advanced Band
- Jazz (by audition)

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School

17925 Krameria Ave, Riverside, CA 92504, 951-789-8181

Band Director: Mrs. Susan E. Olsen, seolsen@riversideunified.org

RUSD
Choir

Vocal Workshop
• Learn about FAMMS Choir Program
• Learn the FAMMS Warm Ups
• Optional Vocal Range Assessment
• Optional Audition Video to show vocal range & ability due in Google Classroom (xtpu8j5) by April 24th.

Choir
• Choir is open to all Students
• Students learn to read music and perform!

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
17925 Krameria Ave, Riverside, CA 92504, 951-789-8181
Contact: Miss Elizabeth Wickham, ewickham@riversideunified.org

*Audition video: upload a video of you singing a song (1 to 2 min. in length). Appropriate choices are: Disney, Folk Song, Classical. Please no pop, rock, etc. music. Be sure to introduce yourself, with your name and what song you will be singing. Submit video to Google Classroom: xtpu8j5
Color Guard Try-outs

Parent Meeting
- May 11th, 5:00 PM

Clinic
- May 11th, 3:30-5:30 PM
- May 12th, 3:30-5:30 PM

Try-Outs
- May 13th, 3:30-5:30 PM

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
17925 Krameria Ave, Riverside, CA 92504, 951-789-8181

Contact Person: Mrs. Beth Salyers, cloverzeus@yahoo.com
Color Guard Clinic: May 11th & 12th, 3:30-5:30 PM
Try-outs on May 13th: 3:30-5:30 PM
Miller Middle School Dance Team 2020-2021 Try Outs

This is a competition dance team that performs at school events, community functions, as well as dance competitions against other middle school dance teams.

All interested applicants need to attend the mandatory 3-day dance clinics where students will learn the process of auditions as well as a choreographed routine to be performed in front of a panel of judges. Please see dates below.

** Parent Info Meeting: **
Wednesday, April 1st, 2020 @ 3:30pm

**Clinic Dates:**
- Monday, April 6th - 3:30-5pm
- Tuesday, April 7th - 3:30-5pm
- Wednesday, April 8th - 3:30-5pm

**Try Out Date:**
Thursday, April 9th 3:30-6pm

Miller Dance Team Try Outs

All interested students need to have the following forms on the 1st Clinic Day:
- Completed student and parent registration form
- Completed Teacher evaluation form
- Completed RUSD Emergency and Medical Clearance form
  - NEED TO HAVE A PHYSICAL!
- Parent Consent/Hold Harmless Form

**This is for liability reasons & there will be NO exceptions.**
Explore Elective Wheel

Explore elective class options MAY include:
- Explore Spanish
- Explore Piano
- Explore Art
- Explore Tech
- Explore Wellness

Students rotate each week between two Explore classes.
- An example of a rotation class is: Music & Intro to Spanish

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
17925 Krameria Ave, Riverside, CA 92504, 951-789-8181
Dept. Chair: Mrs. Balice, sbalice@riversideunified.org

RUSD
Publications
School
Newspaper, Projects, Presentations

- Write short articles
- Take pictures of school events
- Design layouts
- Interview staff & students

Help create the FAMMS yearbook.

Application Required

- Online Application: https://tinyurl.com/FAMMSyearbook
- Applications due on March 18, 2020

Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
17925 Krameria Ave, Riverside, CA 92504, 951-789-8181
Contact: Mrs. Holli Reese, hreese@riversideunified.org
Applications Due by: March 18, 2020
Frank Augustus Miller Middle School Presents...

Transition to Middle School 7th GRADE PROGRAM

ORIENTATION ▪ MEET TEACHERS ▪ TOUR CAMPUS

All About FAMMS:
✓ Policies/Procedures
✓ Miller Magic
✓ C4
✓ Teacher Websites
✓ Aeries Student Portal
✓ PE: Dressing-out, Lockers
✓ FAMMS Website
✓ Meet Teachers
✓ Campus/Classroom Tours

Attend One 3 Hour Session:

Saturday, May 9
Time: 8am - 11am
or
12pm - 3pm

Saturday, May 16
Time: 8am - 11am
or
12pm - 3pm

RSVP on the FAMMS Website
http://miller.riversideunified.org
Frank Augustus Miller Middle School Presents...

Transition to Middle School PARENT WORKSHOP

ORIENTATION • SOCIAL MEDIA • GRADING PRACTICES

All About FAMMS:

- Policies/Procedures
- Miller Magic
- C4
- Teacher Websites
- Aeries Student Portal
- PE: Dressing-out, Lockers
- FAMMS Website
- Social/Emotional Changes
- Social Media Wellness

Attend One 3 Hour Session:

Saturday, May 9
Time: 8am - 11am
or
12pm - 3pm

Saturday, May 16
Time: 8am - 11am
or
12pm - 3pm

RSVP on the FAMMS Website
http://miller.riversideunified.org
February 20th - Open House at Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
- 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Transition to Middle School presentation- Gym
- 6:30 -7:30 p.m. Classroom visitations

February 27th - FAMMS AVID Parent Night
- 6:00-6:45 p.m. Information meeting in Miller’s Staff Lounge
- Contact Person: Jackie Zigmund, jcrowder@riversideunified.org

March 5th – AVID interviews
- 3:00- 6:30 p.m.- first come first served, no appointment needed, interviews last approximately 15 minutes

March 18th – Yearbook Applications Due
- Students applying for the Yearbook elective must submit applications by today at https://tinyurl.com/FAMMSyearbook

April 1st – Dance Team Parent Meeting
- Mandatory parent meeting in Miller gym on Wednesday, April 1st at 3:30 p.m.

April 6th – 9th - Dance Clinic & Tryouts
- Mandatory parent meeting in Miller gym on Wednesday, April 1st at 3:30 p.m.
- Dance clinic is April 6th – April 8th, 3:30 – 5:00 pm
- Tryouts are Thursday, April 9th, 3:30-6:00 p.m.
- Contact Person: Mrs. Jenny Aguirre millerdanceteam@gmail.com

May 11th-13th – Color Guard Clinic & Tryouts
- Mandatory parent meeting on Monday May 11th at 5:00 p.m.
- Clinic Hours are May 11th – May 12th from 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- Tryouts are Wednesday, May 13th 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- Contact Person: Mrs. Beth Salyers, cloverzeus@yahoo.com

August 6th – Macaw Night
- Macaw Night at Miller Middle School…..Watch for details arriving by email in summer
- Pick up class schedule, optional purchases of: PE clothes, yearbooks, ASB packages, etc.
- 3:30 – 7:30 pm

2020-2021
Frank Augustus Miller Middle School
Dates to Remember – 6th Grade Students

7TH GRADE
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
FRIDAY - AUGUST 7th, 2020
7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.