

Millennium Charter Academy
Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA)



The objective of Millennium Charter Academy (MCA) is to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Should you wish to obtain paper copies of this document and its contents, you can make a request through your child's director.

State Requirements	Answers
<p>How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?</p>	<p>The decision to promote or retain is made carefully. Consideration includes input from educators, parents/guardians, and the student. The final decision rests with the headmaster.</p> <p>Promotion A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level if each of the following exists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the course requirements at the presently assigned grade. • Achieved the instructional objectives set for the present grade level. • Demonstrated the potential to be successful in the next grade. • Demonstrated the degree of social/emotional maturity necessary to be successful in the next grade. <p>Retention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention in kindergarten is based on the developmental level of the child measured by progress reports, screenings, teacher observations, and/or readiness assessments. • Before a second retention in the Lower School (K-5), careful consideration will be given to numerous factors, including chronological age, maturity, self-image, and academic growth. Social promotion and/or transferring of students to another grade should not occur in the primary grades (K-3), except in cases of second time retention or grossly extenuating circumstances. • In the middle school, a student who fails two or more core courses may be retained.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the high school, a student who fails a course may be required to retake the course. <p>Poor work habits, lack of completing homework/classwork, and/or excessive tardies/absences affect academic growth and achievement.</p> <p>By the end of January, the teacher submits to the headmaster an initial list of students whose promotion is in question, with a brief explanation of the reasons. The Headmaster and Lower School Director or the Upper School Director (as appropriate) review all necessary records. By the middle of March, you will be notified and invited to a conference if retention is a possibility. Teachers file documented records of their efforts to contact and involve parents/guardians.</p> <p>During the last grading period, grade level conferences will be held to discuss possible retentions. By the end of the eighth school month, the headmaster will make a final decision. If the decision is to retain, the school will conference with you before the end of the school year.</p> <p>Promotion/retention of students who transfer during the school year is made after all the student's records are reviewed.</p> <p>Parents' input is valuable when considering promotion and retention, but the headmaster makes the final decision. (G.S. 115-228)</p>
<p>What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?</p>	<p>Parents are encouraged to be an active part of their student's educational career. This can begin by attending parent info sessions such as open house and curriculum nights to learn about curriculum and expectations. Beyond that, MCA offers access to Google Classroom that provides access to upcoming assignments, classroom calendar, reminders of upcoming events, etc. Additionally, a weekly update that shares upcoming activities and topics so families can be plugged into their child's learning experiences. Course syllabi and the school website also provide additional information about your child's curriculum. Please contact the school if you ever have any questions about these materials.</p>

How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?

How can I support my student's learning?

At the end of each grading period, students will receive report cards. Scheduled parent/teacher conferences are built into the school calendar. Parents/guardians can monitor students' progress throughout the year by logging into PowerSchool. If you have trouble logging in or don't have access please contact the school.

Tips for Good Study Habits

1. Keep an assignment notebook. List what, when it's due, and estimate how long it will take to do. Tip: Don't leave assignments until the last minute.
2. Make a place to study. Face away from distractions like windows or televisions. Keep regular study hours. Have good light, a comfortable place to sit, and a place to write, and have what you need to work right there.
3. Develop your skills. Read your directions carefully. Learn how to take notes, ask teachers for resources you need, and learn how to write papers and take tests. Your teachers will help you. Review and practice are important.
4. Stay well. Every day, get plenty of sleep, exercise, take time to have fun, and eat good, nutritious meals. Make sure you can see well; so, get your eyes checked.

Reading Tips

Reading is a joy and a key to success. We use it not only at school, but also at work, at home, while we shop and go from place to place. It is one of the best ways to gain information or develop new ideas. Children become better readers when they read with a parent.

How can you help your children become interested in reading and enjoy doing it? Here are some suggestions:

- Give books as gifts. Show them you think books are important.
- Set an example. Your children will model what you do. Read!
- Show your children everyday examples of why reading is important. Look up names in the phone book, read traffic signs, follow recipes, or read maps and the newspaper. Ask them for reading help sometimes, too, so they can practice their skills.
- Limit screen time (TV, video, etc.) every day.
- Set aside time when your whole family reads.
- Read aloud to your children. For new readers, point to words as you read. Choose books you'll both enjoy.
- Because most children are proud of their reading skills, have them read to you. Don't focus on mistakes and offer lots of praise.
- Encourage your child to keep learning new words. Set a goal of one new word a day. Make flash cards with new or "difficult" words for your children and make it a game.
- Make regular visits to the libraries in your area. Check out books for yourself while you're there.
- Reading is a skill that gets better with practice.

Additional Tips

Establish a Consistent Routine:

Create a daily schedule that includes dedicated time for homework, reading, and other learning activities. Consistency helps children feel secure and develop good study habits.

Create a Quiet and Organized Study Space:

Designate a quiet area where your child can focus on their schoolwork without distractions. Keep essential supplies, such as pens, pencils, and notebooks, readily available.

Encourage Regular Reading:

Foster a love for reading by providing a variety of age-appropriate books. Set aside time for family reading, and discuss the stories with your child to enhance comprehension and critical thinking skills.

Engage in Conversations:

Regularly talk with your child about their school day. Ask open-ended questions to encourage them to share their experiences, challenges, and successes. This helps build strong communication skills.

Support Homework Efforts:

Be available to assist with homework when needed. Offer guidance, but allow your child to work independently as much as possible. This helps build self-confidence and problem-solving skills.

Embrace Technology as a Learning Tool, but Cultivate Balance:

Utilize educational apps, online resources, and interactive tools to enhance your child's learning experience. Be involved in exploring these tools together.

Promote a Healthy Lifestyle:

Encourage regular exercise, a balanced diet, and adequate sleep. Physical well-being directly impacts cognitive function and concentration.

Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Stay informed about your child's progress by attending parent-teacher conferences. Collaborate with teachers to address any concerns and explore ways to further support your child's learning.

Foster a Growth Mindset:

Encourage a positive attitude toward challenges and learning from mistakes. Emphasize the importance of perseverance and resilience in the face of difficulties.

Cultivate Curiosity:

Explore your child's interests and engage in activities that spark their curiosity. This helps create a passion for learning and broadens their educational horizons.

<p>What are the qualifications of my child’s teachers?</p>	<p>Parents may look up your child’s teacher licensure status at this website: licensure website.</p> <p>The licensure look up webpage does not include current employment information. Parents may need additional information (i.e., middle name or license number) to identify the teacher accurately. Substitute teachers (either short or long term) may not hold a NC teaching license.</p> <p>Parents may request the following information about their child’s teacher: professional qualifications, degrees held and certifications in the area that they are teaching to ensure the teacher is “Highly Qualified”.</p>
<p>What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?</p>	<p>Enrollment</p> <p>To enroll in kindergarten a child must be five years of age on or before August 31 of that school year. The Academy receives applications for the rising kindergarten on or after August 1, one school year in advance of desired enrollment. If the total number of applications received exceeds the established capacity of the Academy or grade level for the upcoming year by 3:30pm on February 20 (the lottery eligibility deadline), then a fair, impartial, public lottery will be held the following day, February 21 (or the first business day thereafter). If multiple birth siblings are applying for admission, MCA will enter one surname into the lottery to represent all of the multiple birth siblings. If that surname is drawn, then all multiple birth siblings are admitted. If a lottery is held, those students not accepted by the lottery will be placed on a priority waiting list in the order drawn. Siblings of currently enrolled students receive admission priority and typically do not participate in the lottery, but must submit an application prior to the lottery deadline. After February 20, additional students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the capacity is realized.</p> <p>MCA has open enrollment throughout the year, except March 1 through the end of the school year, for any student whose primary residence is in North Carolina.</p> <p>MCA gives enrollment preference to siblings of students enrolled the previous year, employee’s children, and siblings of students who completed the highest grade offered by MCA and were enrolled at least four years (legacy preference). MCA defines siblings as biological siblings, step-siblings, half-siblings, and children residing in a family foster home.</p> <p>MCA accepts applications throughout the year for first grade and all older</p>

	<p>grades. In accordance with state regulations, MCA gives preference to siblings “of currently enrolled students who were admitted in a previous year.” For MCA, “siblings” includes any of the following who reside in the same household: biological siblings, half siblings, step-siblings, and foster children. Should a waiting list be necessary, applicants are placed in order of application date.</p> <p>Immunization Requirements</p> <p>Those who do not have both the immunizations and examination completed by the thirtieth day of school will be suspended from school until they have been completed unless the child is exempted by North Carolina law. (G.S. 11 5C-364) Vaccination requirements for K-12 school children can be found using this link: https://immunization.dph.ncdhhs.gov/schools/k-12.htm</p>
<p>How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?</p>	<p>At Millennium Charter Academy, we believe that true success and freedom is impossible without good character. That is why we expect our students to exhibit the core virtues posted in every classroom throughout the school. These expectations and habits of MCA serve as a challenge to both students and staff, showing us what is required to achieve true success in all aspects of life. These core virtues are infused into our curriculum and discipline and serve as the foundation for our character development program. Parents can use this common language when working with their children:</p> <p>Expectations and Habits</p> <p>The school expects a high standard of being from all our students. Specifically, we expect students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be Respectful of yourself, others, and proper authority, obeying the first time with a good attitude; • Be Honest with yourself and others; • Be Compassionate toward people and humane toward other living things; • Be Responsible personally, privately, and publicly; • Be Courageous doing the right thing, even when it is difficult or unpopular. <p>Directly supporting these five Expectations of being, we have ten Habits of behaving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obedience (doing what I am told the first time with a good attitude) • courtesy (being polite and showing good manners) • truthfulness (being honest in all matters, even when it is not easy) • integrity (doing what is morally right) • service (doing for others) • awareness (recognizing the thoughts and feelings of others) • thinking (using my mind and all that I know, diligently and creatively) • excellence (unwilling to do less than my best) • perseverance (continuing to work through difficulties) • leading (showing the way by going first)

<p>How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?</p>	<p>Read communications, regularly check emails, attend school events, info nights, and Parent Teacher Conferences</p>
<p>What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?</p>	<p>We believe that parent involvement plays a crucial role in fostering a positive and supportive educational environment for our students. Your participation not only enhances your child's learning experience but also strengthens the school community as a whole. Here are some exciting ways you can get involved at your child's school:</p> <p><u>MPACT</u> Join Millennium Parents and Concerned Teachers (MPACT), where parents and teachers collaborate in meetings, events, and fundraisers that contribute to the enrichment and overall well-being of our school.</p> <p><u>Athletic Boosters</u> Join Athletic Boosters, where parents and staff band together in meetings, events, and fundraisers to further healthy athletic competition, promote sportsmanship, and develop the student-athlete.</p> <p>Performing Arts Please consider lending your talents to our performing arts program whether that be working concessions, helping set up for a band or choir concert, or assisting with supervision, tech, costuming, makeup, or props for theater.</p> <p>Volunteer Opportunities: We welcome your assistance in various school activities and events. Whether it's chaperoning field trips, organizing school functions, offering to supervise lunch or recess, or contributing your skills in the classroom, your involvement is valued and appreciated.</p> <p>School Events: Join us in celebrating special occasions and achievements. Your active participation in school events creates a vibrant and familial atmosphere for our students.</p>

<p>What services are available for parents and their children?</p>	<p>The following services are available on campus for those students that qualify: Speech, Occupational Therapy, English Language Learners (ELL). To learn more, please reach out to the school.</p> <p>MCA maintains relationships with local organizations such as Surry Friends of Youth that provide social-emotional support to students and families both on or off campus. Please contact the school if you are interested.</p> <p>School staff can direct families to resources regarding academic and community resources at the school website here: https://www.mcademy.com/current-families/</p> <p>Student Support Services webpage College Counseling webpage College Foundation of NC</p>
<p>What school choices are available for my child?</p>	<p>Millennium Charter Academy is a school of choice, so by applying for enrollment, families are committing to the mission, vision, and expectations of the school.</p> <p><i>The mission of Millennium Charter Academy is to form intelligent, virtuous citizens through classical education.</i></p> <p>Charter Schools</p> <p>Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system. Visit NC charter school for more information.</p>

What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child?

Millennium Charter Academy is committed to providing each child with an appropriately challenging academic program from kindergarten to twelfth grade. If students need additional challenges, teachers will work with parents and students to provide supplemental opportunities for academic growth.

Our students receive a solid foundation in every subject which prepares them for success in all of life, including college, trade school, military, missions, work, or entrepreneurship. Ultimately, we want our students to become good citizens who work hard, support their families, and contribute to their communities.

Millennium high school students have taken advantage of the following programs:

Honors and AP Level Courses:

At Millennium Charter Academy students take a variety of honors and AP level courses in high school.

Career and College Promise (CCP):

Millennium Charter Academy partners with [Surry Community College](#) to offer dual enrollment opportunities through the [CCP](#) program. Academically qualified high school students earn high school credit by completing community college coursework. CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway. These courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families.

[North Carolina Virtual Public School \(NCVPS\)](#)

[North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Online](#)

NC School of Science and Mathematics Online is a supplemental, sequenced honors program for eleventh and twelfth grade NC students who remain enrolled at their local schools.

<p>What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?</p>	<p>Section 504 defines a person with a disability as anyone who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working; 2. has a record of such impairment; or is regarded as having such an impairment <p>For students that may require them to have specialized instruction due to suspected disabilities, parents can learn more about MCA's Exceptional Children's (EC) department and resources by contacting the school and speaking with our EC Coordinator.</p> <p>For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education.</p> <p>Exceptional Children Programs/Rights of Students With Disabilities</p> <p>Parents Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education: Notice of Procedural Safeguards</p> <p>Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish)</p>
<p>8) Contact information for the school and unit offices.</p>	<p>Millennium Charter Academy 500 Old Springs Rd. Mt. Airy, NC 27030</p> <p>Phone: 336.789.7570</p> <p>Email: mca@mcacademy.com</p>

9) What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?

NC student-required immunizations and the schedule of the recommended times to administer can be found by clicking the link below:
<https://immunization.dph.ncdhhs.gov/schools/k-12.htm>

MCA offers the following services to support student health and well being:

- First Responders on every campus (First Aid, CPR, AED and NARCAN)
- AED's on campus
- EpiPens on campus
- Narcan on campus
- Collaborate with Surry County Health Department to stay up to date with community health issues and resources
- Open, approachable, confidential communication with families regarding health needs, medication management.

If you have any questions regarding immunizations and/or health questions, please contact the school.