

Miller PTO Sponsored Programs

- Bend Science Station Visits: The Bend Science Station is an inquiry-based science facility that is dedicated to empowering local citizens to improve their community through scientific education and research. Miller students make several visits to this facility through the course of the school year. The visits are primarily funded by grants but cannot occur without the continued support of the Miller PTO. Last year, the PTO contributed \$3000 towards these enriching visits and has \$3500 budgeted for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Technology Support: Miller strives to provide every student access to technology through the purchase of Mac Lap Tops, iPads and Smart Boards. This can only happen through yearly purchases. The Miller PTO would like to budget \$10,000 towards these purchases for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Green Initiative Projects: Our Green Initiative Projects help each student understand and support the concepts of sustainability, renewable resources and environmental awareness through projects such as Earth Week, Weed Pull, Bike to School Week, composting materials, “No Waste Lunches” and using a washable tray instead of disposable dishware.
- Fine Art Enrichment: Art is not included in the curriculum dictated by our school district. Miller is fortunate to have such creative volunteers who design a wonderful art program to ensure art exposure to every student by providing numerous fine art projects throughout the school year. We are also hoping to add a music workshop for this upcoming school year.
- STEM: STEM Night is an evening to promote areas of innovation that improve our health, environment, and everyday quality of life. The interactive exhibits representing the four areas (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) are designed to be educational, user-driven and fun! The intended outcome is a greater sense of knowledge and wonder about how the world works and what we can do to make it better.
- Teacher Grant Fund: During these challenging economic times, our district only provided each teacher with \$225 per classroom for supplies for the entire school year. To make it possible for our children to experience hands-on project based lessons and activities, we provided each teacher with an additional \$300 last year and plan to do the same in 2011-2012.
- Running Club: Running club is a multiple week six running program held during the lunch recess in which students keep track of their laps (miles) they run. Participants receive awards for each miles completed. This past school year, numerous students ran half marathons and even 26 miles during this short 6 -week span. A Fun Run is also planned for the upcoming school year. This program gives our children a sense of accomplishment and a chance to work towards a goal. It also builds self-esteem while exposing them to running and walking.
- Other programs: Direct Classroom Support, Field Trips, Physical Education Enrichment, Miller Magic, and other Miller Family Events.