

# For Immediate Release

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## Miriam School Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Miriam School will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at a special event on Wednesday, May 16, 2007 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the school in Webster Groves. A program celebrating the historic school's past and unveiling new concepts for the future will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Miriam School, a private, independent elementary school, serves students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 with multiple learning disabilities including attention deficits, speech and language delays, fine and gross motor delays, and autism spectrum disorder.

The school encourages children with learning disabilities to recognize and successfully meet their potential. This is accomplished through an individualized curriculum designed to meet the unique social, emotional, physical and academic needs of each student.

The first Miriam School classroom opened in October 1956 and the school moved into its current state-of-the-art facility in 1993. Thousands of students have successfully met their potential because of the school's unique educational environment. The Miriam School is the only independent school in the St. Louis metropolitan region that educates children with an on-staff team of certified

special education teachers, speech and language pathologists, and occupational therapists.

Many students stay at the Miriam School for two to three years and acquire the tools they need to succeed in a more traditional classroom setting. These students then transition to their neighborhood public school or to a local private school that may provide special assistance. Other families elect to keep their children enrolled at the Miriam School until they transition to high school. In the past decade, the Miriam School has experienced particularly strong growth. Enrollment has expanded to 96 students. Each year the graduating class has increased in number, from five in 2002-2003 to twelve this past academic year.

*The Miriam School is operated by the Miriam Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to improving the quality of life for families challenged by disability or illness. In addition to the Miriam School, the foundation also directs Miriam Cancer Services, which provides aid to financially needy cancer patients to purchase medically related items that are **not** covered by insurance. For additional information, visit the Miriam Foundation Web site: [www.miriamfoundation.org](http://www.miriamfoundation.org)*

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