



## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02186

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To: Faculty, Staff, Parent(s) and Guardian(s) of the Milton Public Schools  
From: Mary Gormley, Superintendent  
Re: E-Blast Newsletter  
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2011

From the Desk of the Superintendent

*I have often said that the most important time in a child's education is when they learn to read. When students learn to read, a foundation is built upon which their entire educational career is based.*

*For the 15th year, Governor Deval Patrick, along with Elementary & Secondary Education Commissioner Mitchell Chester, has issued a proclamation that the month of **November is Massachusetts Family Literacy Month**. For more information on this event please see the item below under "News Around Town".*

*Here in Milton each school will be hosting events or asking students and their families to participate in activities that promote literacy at all levels. I encourage everyone to check their school's Edline calendars for these opportunities.*

*Whether it is an article in a newspaper, a magazine, a book (on your iPad or in print), I hope that every student in the Milton Public Schools will make time for reading. Reading and promoting literacy is an important factor in helping all students to become lifelong learners. – Mary C. Gormley*

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE

*There have been two school committee meetings since my last E-blast, held on October 6th and 12th. The next meeting will be held on October 26, 2011. Following is a summary of those meetings:*

**October 6th:** This meeting started with the introduction of two Pierce Middle School art teachers, Stephanie Sherman and Robyn Thomson, who were recently recognized by the Juried Quincy Arts Fest. Ms. Thompson won "Best in Show" for a painting of her grandfather "Papa" and Ms. Sherman placed third for her untitled landscape painting.

Martha Sherman, Elementary Coordinator for English/Language Arts and Social Studies gave a detailed presentation on our most recent MCAS scores. This report detailed the great progress we have made at every school on our MCAS scores and reiterated that Collicot, Tucker and Glover elementary school were all commended by the state for this year's scores. The entire presentation has been posted on our website and can be viewed by clicking here:

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/MCAS10-6-11.pdf>. School based presentations will be made at each school for parents and guardians.

The Superintendent's Self-Reflection, an annual report on goals and accomplishments was reported. The School Committee will respond to the Self-Reflection at a future meeting.

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The School Committee was also informed that Assistant Superintendent John Phelan is organizing a panel to review our school's start times and whether it is feasible to alter the current transportation schedule and school starting times. The committee will research appropriate school start times for students at all ages and review start times for surrounding school districts. The results will be reported to the Superintendent of Schools in order to determine if the start times for the Milton Public Schools will be altered for the 2012-2013 School Year.

Chairman Glenn Pavlicek discussed the upcoming FY' 12 budget and timelines. The committee also voted to accept the \$60,000 raised by the Milton Foundation for Education during last spring's fundraiser. We were given an update on the financial issues with our Full Day Kindergarten program and the potential for reduced funding from the state.

**October 12th:** This meeting began with a presentation of Milton High's Advanced Placement data. Milton High School Principal Dr. Joseph Arangio, Vice Principal Yolanda Beech, Humanities Department Head Barbara Wright, Math/Business/Technology Department Head Michelle Kreuzer and Guidance Department Head Kenneth Aubert provided a very detailed picture of our AP course offerings and AP test results. Among the findings was the fact that Milton High School has seen a 23% increase in the number of tests that received a qualifying score. In addition, Milton has consistently enrolled a significantly higher number of students in AP classes than the state average. To view the entire report, please click here:

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/AP.10-12-11.pdf>

As part of the Superintendent's Report, the Diversity Report was presented, in accordance with the School Committee Diversity Policy. The most recent report outlined the Milton Public Schools' hiring efforts, our efforts towards embracing diversity in our school community, diversity within the schools, enrollment data, and MCAS scores for all subgroups. To view this report, please click here:

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/Diversityreport10-11.pdf>

Next, the SC reviewed a list of proposed field trip for middle- and high-school students. Rather than organizing eight overnight trips this school year, Assistant Superintendent John Phelan presented the committee with a total of five trips for both MHS and PMS.

Chairman Glenn Pavlicek reported about the policy subcommittee, which was reduced to three members. In addition, he deferred discussion of the Superintendent's Self-Reflection to a future meeting, when all SC members would be present. The public meeting ended by adjourning to executive session.

## CURRICULUM NEWS

Caeleigh MacNeil, a junior at Milton High School, was recently named a Semi-finalist in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program and three of her classmates were named Commended Students.

Ms. MacNeil, along with the other semifinalists nationwide, represent less than one percent of students who took the PSAT. More than 1.5 million students nationwide took this exam, which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

To become a finalist, she must maintain an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by her principal, Dr. Joseph Arangio, earn SAT scores that confirm the earlier performance and submit a detailed application to the National Merit Scholarship Program.

In addition, Milton High School students David Collins, Laura Hess, and Elizabeth Mahon were named Commended Students by the National Merit Program. These three students placed in the top five percent of the 1.5 million test-takers.

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## NCLB Report Cards

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has published the most recent set of data from the No Child Left Behind report cards. This information, which gives a comprehensive breakdown of MCAS

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data, can be found on our website. The information on the report is divided into three parts: teacher qualifications, student achievement and school accountability. These findings are an important part of your right to know how well our schools are helping all students to reach proficiency in English language arts and mathematics. Schools receiving federal Title I funds that do not make AYP for two consecutive years must allow parents the opportunity to transfer their child to another school in the district that is performing satisfactorily. To see the district report card or the report card for your child's school click here: <http://www.miltonps.org/about-report-cards.php>.

\* \* \*

The Office of Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley recently forwarded us a guide for our students about reaching age 18. This new guide, entitled: "When You Turn 18," can be accessed at: <http://www.mass.gov/Cago/docs/Community/turn-18-pdf-final.pdf>. It is designed for high school seniors who will soon reach the important milestone of the age of legal adulthood.

This is an exciting time, opening the door to new rights and new responsibilities and perhaps, of unanticipated challenges. This guide gives an overview of some of these new opportunities to participate as an adult and gives some tips for handling money and finances, understanding the legal obligations involved when signing a contract, fully participating in our civic life, and much more.

\* \* \*

We are happy to share the details of a wonderful art enrichment event taking place in our schools. *The Visiting Mexican Artists Program: The Dancing Chickens of Ventura Fabian* presents master Oaxacan woodcarver Ventura Fabian and his son Norberto in a series of presentations about the art and craft of Oaxacan woodcarving at the four Milton public elementary schools for four days during the month of November.

Thanks to a generous grant from ¡CelebrateMilton! and the efforts of the Milton Visual Arts Alliance (MVAA), Project Director and Jamaica Plain resident Nina Hasin will bring these Mexican artisans to the Milton schools in a program that will enchant and educate. Ventura and Norberto carve and paint as Hasin gives a brief talk and presents a short video about their craft and their life in the small rural village of San Martín Tilcajete, Oaxaca, Mexico.

There is a question and answer period at the end of each session and audience members can get a closer look at and handle some of the carvings and tools. Hasin has been bringing the well-received Fabians to Boston for several years to participate in educational presentations and exhibits at local schools and museums.

The project touches upon numerous themes aside from woodcarving, such as the daily life of a rural artisan family; how children participate in helping the family survive economically; and how family members create a balance between subsistence agriculture and craft work.

The presentation will feature five 45-minute sessions throughout the day on **November 4th** at Cunningham; **November 14th** at Collicot; **November 17th** at Tucker and **November 18th** at Glover.

\* \* \*

We have a very exciting update from our Debate Team. Four pairs of students recently competed at a "Novice" tournament at Sacred Heart High School in Kingston. This tournament was open to students who had never competed before. Milton High School was represented by eight new students, four of whom take the debate elective. The topic was on whether the U.S. should privatize space exploration. After three rounds of competition, the results were as follows: Junior Lilly Kasuba and Sophomore Jack Caljouw were undefeated. Senior Leone Quach and Junior Isabell Smith were 2-1; Sophomore Tess Deaibes and Sophomore Corina Delerme were 2-1; Freshmen Colman Lydon and Meredith Clarke were 1-2, but gained valuable experience

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against much older students. Students are now preparing for a two-day tournament at Manchester-Essex at the end of the month. Very good news!

\* \* \*

In my last Eblast, I thanked all the PTO presidents. At that time, Milton High had not yet elected the head of its PTFSO. I am pleased to announce that Dawn Hayes and Kathy Peltier are the new co-presidents of this group. Thank you to them -- and all the other PTO heads -- for stepping up for these very important positions.

\* \* \*

*Members of the Tucker PTO wrote the following item to share some wonderful news:*

Some years back, when the Tucker School held its Annual Fair, a significant fundraising surplus was set aside in an account to be used in the future to support a capital improvement that would benefit current and future Tucker children. After a great deal of consideration, the Tucker School PTO Board has decided that the time is right to spend this money.

As many Milton families know, there has been a district wide push to install SMART Board technology in all classrooms. The School Department, Milton Foundation for Education, and the PTOs at each school have supported this effort. We are thrilled to tell you that the remaining seven classrooms at Tucker will be equipped with this technology by Thanksgiving using the combined MFE money donated to the schools and our fundraising contributions.

Tucker will be the FIRST elementary school in the town to be 100% equipped with SMART Boards and the corresponding projectors. This is a remarkable accomplishment that will immediately enhance the classroom instruction for our children.

We want to thank the Tucker community for their contributions over the years as well as the MFE. We would not be in this position if it were not for their combined efforts.

\* \* \*

The Milton Rotary Club recently held its Youth Programs informational meeting for students who are interested in participating in a cultural exchange. If you are a Milton resident between the ages of 15 and 19, in the upper one third of your academic class and want to be a world traveler, the Rotary Club of Milton could help to fund a life-changing exchange experience.

The club offers two exchanges -- a long term and a short term. The former involves the Milton student attending secondary school overseas for one year for a minimal cost. In the short-term exchange, the Milton student would live overseas with a teenager from a Rotary family for about three weeks during the summer vacation and would then, in turn, host that high school student in their own home.

Milton families have hosted students from Bolivia, Chile, Ukraine, France, Thailand and Brazil over the past ten years. Having foreign students in Milton makes a richer educational experience for all our children, and teaches them about the world as no other way can.

For those who were unable to attend the meeting, but are interested in learning more about the Rotary programs, please contact Michael Maholchic at 617-698-3990 or [michael.maholchic@gmail.com](mailto:michael.maholchic@gmail.com) for an application.

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As mentioned above in the School Committee update, Assistant Superintendent John Phelan is organizing a panel to review our school's start times and whether it is feasible to alter the current transportation

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schedule and school starting times. This committee will study the research on appropriate school start times for students at different ages of school children. The group will review the recent research on the topic, review surrounding towns on their start times and summarize the results for the superintendent as the district prepares to investigate whether Milton Public Schools may change its starting times for the 2012-2013 School Year. If you are interested in participating on the committee please email Assistant Superintendent at [jphelan@miltonps.org](mailto:jphelan@miltonps.org).

\* \* \*

A second Flu Shot clinic will be held for Milton students on **Thursday, October 27th** from 3 to 6 pm at Pierce Middle School. Please bring health insurance cards or relevant medical documentation. This is for ages 9 and older.

#### PAC/SPECIAL ED NEWS

The Milton Parent Advisory Council (Milton PAC) invites you for a night of information and experience sharing with fellow parents of children receiving special education services on **Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** from 7 to 9pm at the Pierce Middle School library. This is a chance to meet Karen Clasby, our new Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services. Please come for an introduction, to hear about Karen's background and her vision for Special Education in the town of Milton, followed by a member discussion of PAC business and of future educational programs, and activities. This will be your chance to influence the direction of the PAC. Any questions or concerns, please respond to the PAC president, Mr. Jerry Vitti at [gvitti@hfihealthcare.com](mailto:gvitti@hfihealthcare.com).

#### GRANT/FUNDRAISING NEWS

Did you know that the average teacher spends about \$350 of their own money on school supplies and instructional materials? According to a national survey conducted by Kelton Research, 97% of teachers frequently dip into their own pockets to purchase necessary classroom supplies. While we strive here in Milton to provide the necessary tools for our teachers, the fact remains that many of them do use personal funds to pay for classroom extras.

Donors Choose is a new fundraising effort our teachers have been using to help fund different supplies and materials that are needed to enhance their classroom activities. This website, at [www.DonorsChoose.org](http://www.DonorsChoose.org), allows individual donors to funnel money directly into classroom supplies.

Led by K-5 Mathematics/K-8 Technology coordinator Holly Concannon, our teachers have been encouraged to post classroom projects that need additional funding. Through the website, individual donors can make small or large contributions towards the individual project until it is fully funded.

Items as small as magnifying glasses or as large as a classroom rug have all been funded through this program and more of our teachers are learning to use this valuable resource. Please consider visiting the site to see how it works or to make a donation.

\* \* \*

*Please take note of the following event, submitted by the Collicot PTO and The Jennifer Kelly Project:*

**On November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** we will be holding our annual fundraiser, "One School, One Night - An Evening to Benefit the Collicot PTO & The Jennifer Kelly Project" at Abby Park, 550 Adams Street in Milton.

As most of you know, we lost our dear friend and Collicot parent, Jennifer Kelly suddenly two years ago. In honor of her and all that she did for Collicot School, we are raising money for the PTO and a project that was dear to Jenn's heart - One Book, One School - which provides every student with the same book to read (or

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be read to). The school community then comes together to participate in fun, shared events that build unity and understanding.

The students have read "Who was Helen Keller?" and "The Hundred Dresses" and we have held a fabulous "Adventure Night" filled with activities for both students and their families to enjoy. More than 300 people attended each year. We have many teachers, students and parents voice their tremendous support and enthusiasm for this educational and community building event. We were lucky enough to have some of you join us for this powerful event last year, sponsored by the PTO and the Collicot Diversity Committee.

We will be revealing this year's book title soon and are planning the book's theme around immigration. The book will be a vehicle for our Diversity Committee initiatives and our desire to bring the Collicot Community together as one. The fundraiser on November 15 is a step toward making the One Book, One School project come to fruition. We hope you will be able to join us in support of our PTO and the initiatives of the Diversity Committee to bring understanding and acceptance of all people. Please click on the link for more information. <http://www.collicotpto.com/?p=45>. We hope to see you on Nov 15th!

\* \* \*

It is that time of year when the very colorful banners on display in our Copeland Field House and at Brooks Field at Milton High School go on sale. The sale of these banners is a major source of funding for our athletics program, and is also a highly visible way for sponsors to display their support for Milton High.

At this time, we have three different sizes and prices for a total of 39 spots inside the Field House. We have two sizes/prices for the 14 spots available outdoors. Banners start at \$1,500 and go up according to size and placement.

If you are interested in purchasing a banner, or if you have a lead on a corporate sponsor who may be interested, please contact Karen DeLuca at 617-429-9504 or [kdeluca@miltonps.org](mailto:kdeluca@miltonps.org)

\* \* \*

The Milton High School Robotics team has been selected as a recipient of a 2011-2012 PTC/FTC Grant in the amount of \$1,000. Our Milton High Robotics team currently has 15 members and is being led by Jon Maher, President, Pat Kelly, Vice President, Jamaal Grant, Treasurer and Pete Eberhardt, Secretary. The team is being coached by Marilyn Decker, Director of Science. Meetings are held each week in the Science Department office in room 129 of the high school.

Our Pierce Middle School is running a Lego Robotics Club after school on Wednesdays, as well, coached by David Romeo. They also plan to attend several Robotics competitions this school year.

The grant was given by PTC, one of the world's largest and fastest-growing software companies and is a proud sponsor of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) – [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org). Reaching more than 150,000 students in grades K-12 annually, FIRST has designed accessible, innovative mentor-based robotics programs that build science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills. These programs not only inspire young people to pursue STEM education and career opportunities, they help build self-confidence, communication and leadership.

MFE

Milton teachers are reminded that the MFE grants applications for the Fall Grant Cycle are due on **Friday, October 28th**. The MFE is pleased to provide tools to support creative ideas and innovative teaching. Download an application here:

<http://www.miltonfoundationforeducation.org/grants.php>

All applications should be electronically submitted to me at [mfeqrants@gmail.com](mailto:mfeqrants@gmail.com) by Friday, October 28th by 5pm. Please note that this is a new email address for grants. If you have any questions about an idea or the application, feel free to contact Leslie Collins, grant coordinator at [mfeqrants@gmail.com](mailto:mfeqrants@gmail.com).

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Lace up your running shoes and unpack your Halloween costume! The 13th annual Milton Monster Dash takes place on **Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>** from 11:30am - 2pm at Cunningham Hall/Park.

This family oriented event, organized in loving memory of Sam Cichello, raises money for science enrichment in all four elementary schools. The schedule will be:

11:30am	Registration begins
12:00pm	Kids' Fun Run
1:00pm	5K Start
1:15pm	Kids' activities
2:00pm	Award Ceremony

We are very excited about the exciting kids' activities planned for this year's Monster Dash (after all, it's ALL about the kids)! In addition to the costumed Fun Run for kids 10 and under where every child wins a medal, there will be a fun, kid friendly DJ to keep the children moving and shaking!

Also, the Toy Box is generously donating materials for a "science station" featuring a sun printing activity and superball creation, as well as an arts and crafts tent, rocket launchers, blast pads and bean bags; CATZ will be on hand to keep the kids busy with relay races and other activities; and the Trailside Museum will conduct an Owl Program from 1-2pm and the Trailside Museum will also set up other items with which the kids can interact.

Register online ahead of time...only \$20 per runner up to 10/25, \$7 per child for kids activities (maximum of \$15 per family)

[www.active.com/running/milton-ma/13th-annual-milton-monster-dash-2011](http://www.active.com/running/milton-ma/13th-annual-milton-monster-dash-2011)

To learn more, visit [www.miltonfoundationforeducation.org](http://www.miltonfoundationforeducation.org)

#### NEWS AROUND TOWN

This **Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6pm, the Milton Library Foundation is hosting its annual Literary Gala at the Seaport Hotel in Boston. This very special event benefits the Milton Public Library, and in particular this year, will help provide children's literacy programs.

Award-winning author Ben Mezrich will be the guest of honor and speaker at this event, which will also feature live and silent auctions and a book-signing reception. For more information, please contact Creative Events at 617-267-2244.

\* \* \*

The Milton Historical Society's November meeting will be a "post Halloween" celebration in the Keys Community Room at Milton Public Library on **Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>** from 7-8:30pm. The Haunted History of New England, a media presentation, will be given by Historian Christopher Daley. He will give a slide presentation that melds historical facts together with legend and myth to produce an interesting and fascinating new look at events that really happened – and the stories of haunting that followed them.

The topics addressed in the lecture will include Mercy Brown "The Vampire" of Exeter, RI, the Cursed Freetown State Forest, the Ghosts of the Lizzie Borden House in Fall River MA, the Lady in Black at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor, Giles Corey and the Curse of Salem, Annawon Rock in Rehoboth MA, Burial Hill in Plymouth, the John Alden House in Duxbury and many other stories of "haunting, ghosts and vampires". Join us for a "post" Halloween celebration. For more information, visit [www.miltonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.org)

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The Town of Milton Parks and Recreation department has several upcoming events, including the popular Middle School ID program and winter basketball. Please visit their link below:  
[http://www.townofmilton.org/Public\\_Documents/MiltonMA\\_Recreation/News](http://www.townofmilton.org/Public_Documents/MiltonMA_Recreation/News)

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*For the 15th year, Governor Deval Patrick, along with Elementary & Secondary Education Commissioner Mitchell Chester, has issued a proclamation that the month of **November is Massachusetts Family Literacy Month.***

*As part of this special month, the Massachusetts Family Literacy Consortium is conducting a local event. On **November 4<sup>th</sup>** at the Boston Children's Museum, from 6 to 8:30pm, Commissioner Chester, EEC Commissioner Killins and Secretary of Education Paul Reville will each read a story to families at this event.*

*The Boston Children's Museum event will feature fun family activities, take-home resources and more. The cost is minimal, due to the special Target \$1 Friday Night program. For more information on this event, contact Kacy Hughes, Boston Children's Museum, 617-426-6500. The notice is located at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/familylit/month/announcement.html>*

\* \* \*

*The following item was submitted by Jen Tegan, Community Captain for the local Cradles to Crayons Drive.*

I am very proud to announce that Milton is hosting it's sixth annual town wide donation drive and family volunteer day for Cradles to Crayons. Now that the weather seems to be turning more towards fall maybe we can finally start putting the summer stuff away. As you are going through what doesn't fit the kids anymore, please consider donating any clothing, books, toys or baby items during the drive. Milton is one of the founding towns in Massachusetts that has supported this great non-profit from the beginning. Each year we manage to fill two 20'x20' storage units with donations, but I need your help in getting the word out

The event will be held **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** from 10am to 2pm at Cunningham Hall. All ages are welcome to volunteer and families are encouraged to come together. Please send an email to [milton@cradlestocrayons.org](mailto:milton@cradlestocrayons.org) if you would like to sign up to volunteer (we will offer community service hours, which is a great opportunity for Boy Scout/Girl Scout or religious groups.) Most of our schools, pre-schools, and churches will be hosting a collection during the week of Nov 4<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>, with the sorting taking place at Cunningham Hall.

FAVA

After several months of preparation and renovation, Artspace Milton is opening its doors, offering classes, workshops and events in art and design for young and old alike. There are two inaugural events-- a reading by Boston area novelist K.C. Frederick on Tuesday evening, **November 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm.** A longtime professor in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Massachusetts Boston, Frederick is the author of five acclaimed novels, including *Country of Memory* (1998), *The Fourteenth Day* (2000), and *Accomplices* (2003). His novel *Inland* won the 2007 PEN/L.L. Winship Award for Fiction. Mr. Frederick will read from his most recent novel, *After Lyletown*, published this past summer. A Q & A and a book signing will follow the reading. All are welcome. For more information please email [info@artsmilton.org](mailto:info@artsmilton.org) or [frank.schroth@gmail.com](mailto:frank.schroth@gmail.com).

Also, on **Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** and every first Friday of the month thereafter, there will be a kids movie night. This drop-off event (parent's night out) costs \$30 and features pizza, a movie, and an art project. Children ages 7-10 can come explore African art, followed by a film about an animated lion prince in Africa. To register please email [leeshahaley@hotmail.com](mailto:leeshahaley@hotmail.com)

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Artspace Milton grew out of FAVA, the after school arts enrichment program, with the goal of providing the same level of fun, creative, art instruction to the entire community. The organization has taken up residence at the former East Milton Library at 334 Edge Hill Road with classes starting in early November.

Initial classes and workshops include handmade bookbinding, collage, painting, a boot camp on camera basics, story time art for preK children and "Art& a Movie" on Friday nights. In addition Artspace will be hosting themed birthday pARTies!

## FAME

Please save the date. Milton High School will be presenting the musical, "Footloose," at the Charles C. Winchester Auditorium on the weekend of **November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**. Stay tuned for more information, including times and ticket prices.

## ATHLETICS

*The following "Fall Sports Tidbits" items were written by our Athletic Director, Steve Traister. For a complete listing of athletic schedules, visit [www.miltonps.org](http://www.miltonps.org) and click on "Athletics."*

### CHEERLEADING

The Milton High School cheerleaders are led by the senior captains Danielle Kavey and Alexis Marathas. Coach Jessica Parson's squad is busy preparing for their competition season. They will be competing at several invitational competitions and will be competing in their league competition on November 1<sup>st</sup> at Braintree High School, as well as at football games.

### CROSS COUNTRY

The boys' team has a record of 2-6; the girls' team has a 3-5 record. They have a meet this week at Wellesley High school vs. Wellesley and Brookline. The top boy runner is Jon Maher and top girl's runner is Molly Madden. The teams will also compete this Saturday in Barnstable.

### FIELD HOCKEY

Coach Jamie Donovan's team has a record of 5-6-3 with 3 games left and is battling to make the tournament. They need to win 2 of their last 3 games. The team is led by senior captains, Bridget Renehan, Hana Ditullio and Isabel Andrews. The team's high scorer is junior Olivia Bligh with 7 goals and 3 assists.

### FOOTBALL

The Football team is 0-6 but Coach Bowes and his staff are optimistic because the team is getting better, and working harder every week. There is reason for optimism due to the promise and performances of a bevy of tenth grade talent, a small but committed junior class, and seniors who are displaying poise, dedication and intensity during this difficult season. Captain Terrance Walsh has played tough two ways, Captain Jamal Grant has become an explosive defensive player, and Captain Casey Collier and Matt Donahue anchor a young Offensive Line. Senior Matt Lezama has been an explosive player on offense in the last two games. The team hosts Framingham on Friday night.

### GIRLS SOCCER

Coach Brian Borde's team is doing well despite several injuries to key players. They are currently 1-9-2. Captains Julia LeBlanc, Caroline Ware, and Molly McDonough have been awesome leaders. Molly McDonough leads the team with 3 goals and one assist, followed by Claire Mahoney with 2 goals. They have a very young team with only four seniors on the roster.

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## BOYS SOCCER

Coach Mike Madden's team has a 4-6-3 record, and with a 2-0-1 against division 2 opponents and have already qualified for the MIAA Division 2 state tournament. Senior captains Ryan Madden, Luke Pugsley, Connor Keating and Richkaard Verrier are all playing well. They have 3 players on the league leading scorers board, those players are Joseph Cardoso, Roy Butlin and Richkaard Verrier

## VOLLEYBALL

After a slow start (2-6) the team has won their last 5 games improving their record to 7 – 6 and have already qualified for the MIAA State Tournament. Tri Captains Samantha Curley, Ellie Taber and Katie Krauss are leading the way statistically. Samantha to date is # 10 in the state in kill percentages, Katie # 3 in digs (defensive) and Ellie # 2 in assists.

## GOLF

The Golf team is 7-6 with one match left to play. First year coach Ben Kelly's team has already qualified for the MIAA State Tournament. The team also took second place honors at the Bay State Conference Tournament. Senior Sam Taugher won the individual event at the Bay State Conference Tournament shooting a 77, with Taugher and senior Brian Higgins earning first team all-star honors. Sam and Brian have been the most consistent performers all season, winning many of their matches and maintaining a scoring average of under 40 per 9 holes.

## MPS HISTORY

*The following item was written by Lori Ferrante as part of a series to help celebrate the Town of Milton's upcoming 350th Anniversary. We will be presenting each of our schools over the next several newsletters with relevant history on the buildings and for whom they were named.*

**Charles S. Pierce Middle School:** Who in the world was Charles Sumner Pierce (1874-1949), and why is our Middle School named after him? In 1952, the Pierce School was built as an elementary school, in honor of the Pierce family. Colonel Henry Pierce was a war hero and owner of the Walter Baker Chocolate Company (purchased from the original owners in 1854). His son, Edward Pierce, was an attorney, Town Moderator, founder of Milton's public library, abolitionist and author of a biography on the famed abolitionist, Charles Sumner. Edward's son, Charles S. Pierce (named after Sumner), was a Harvard educated attorney. In 1909, he was appointed by the Selectmen of Milton as our first Town Counsel and he served as Town Moderator from 1920 until his death in 1949. In 1958 a junior high wing was added to the Pierce School. In response to the changing needs of the community, in 1981, it became the Charles S. Pierce Middle School and it is currently located on Central Avenue.

## AMBASSADOR PAGE

*As part of our E-blast, we highlight students, teachers and members of the community whose hard work deserves recognition. Please read about some of their outstanding accomplishments below:*

**Teacher:** We are very proud of our Girl's Volleyball coach, Robin Lee, who was recently inducted into the 2011 Class of the Massachusetts Girls Volleyball Coaches Association's Coaches Hall of Fame. Mrs. Lee, a speech therapist for the Milton Public Schools, started her career as the assistant coach at Milton High School in 1989. In 1990, she took over the head coaching position, where she has remained for the last 21 seasons. During her tenure with the Lady Wildcats, she has recorded 145 wins. In 1999 she led her team to the South Sectional finals and in 2001 she was named Boston Globe Division 2 Coach of the year. Coach Lee has

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four Bay State League Herget Division Championships in the years 1999, 2001, 2002 and 2003. This recognition is well-deserved. Great job!

**Students:** We are very proud of a group of Pierce students who have voluntarily given up their Saturdays to attend a science program at MIT. Hats off to seventh-graders Darshelle Jean Pierre, Olivia Kelly, and Allison Reed as well as eighth-grader Kaitlin Reed.

The program is called Keys to Empowering Youth (KEYs) and is held on Saturdays in the fall and spring at MIT. These girls are very enthusiastic about the program and have shared their learning experiences with their classmates in Mrs. McEvoy's class. It is sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and it is free of charge.

**Volunteers:** We are fortunate to have so many wonderful parent volunteers who help out in the school cafeterias during lunchtime. Elementary lunches run more smoothly because of these wonderful parents, guardians, and even a few grandparents who give up their free time to make sure our students have a safe, healthy and fun lunch and recess. We are very grateful.

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