



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02186

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To: Milton Public Schools Parents, Guardians, Faculty & Staff
From: Mary C. Gormley, Superintendent of Schools
Re: E-Update, Monday, May 3, 2010

It appears that the water emergency occurring in the Boston area may continue for at least the next 48 hours. I want to reassure parents of Milton Public School students that we are doing everything possible to keep our students safe.

Under the direction of William Ritchie, Director of Facilities & Grounds and Jason Scherer, Milton High School Senior Custodian, our custodians went into each of our schools to cover and seal all drinking fountains and sinks and placed hand sanitizer in each bathroom. Next, we checked in with our Food Service director, Jackie Morgan, to ensure that food operations in our cafeterias would be able to safely function and we were assured that this was the case. She and her staff will be following all the proper food-handling guidelines released by Mass. DPH.

Next, we sent an ALERT-NOW message to you, our parents, asking to send your children to school with bottled water. We also stocked our schools with additional supplies of hand sanitizer and instructed our teachers and administrators to review waterless hand-washing procedures, and other consequences of the water emergency with their students.

We will be sending home some literature from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health with additional guidelines for dealing with this situation. In the meantime, here are some helpful links: For more information regarding "Boil Orders", please visit: www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/boilordr.htm For Boil Water Order Frequently Asked Questions, please visit: www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/boilfaq.htm For information regarding food establishments and general food and beverage preparation, please visit: www.mass.gov/dph

If you have any further questions about the Milton Public Schools' response to the water emergency, please contact our Central Office at 617-696-4808/9 or email me at mgormley@miltonps.org. – Mary C. Gormley

School Committee Update

The last school committee meeting was held on April 28. This was the first meeting after the recent election. New member Denis Keohane was unable to attend the meeting, but newly-reelected member Glen Pavlicek was present. Lynda-Lee Sheridan was elected Chairman of the School Committee.

During the Superintendent's Report, the members of the Cunningham Principal Screening Committee were thanked. Again, this committee consists of Superintendent Mary Gormley, Assistant Superintendent John Phelan, School Committee Vice-chairman Glen Pavlicek, along with leadership team members Tucker Principal Marcia Uretsky, Milton High School Vice Principal Yolanda Beech and Elementray Mathematics and K-8 Technology Coordinator Holly Concannon. Teachers Natalie Lang, Amanda LeFort and Nurse Allison Joyce are also on the committee, along with Cunningham PTO members Jean Conley, Steve Finnegan, Drew Flanagan and Patty Hoff. Committee members have had their first meeting and are currently in the process of reviewing 23 applications for this position.

25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186

The Finance Subcommittee discussed the recent recommendation of the Warrant Committee to appropriate \$416,000 above level funding to the Milton Public Schools. While this amount will not prevent all of the planned reductions, it will reduce the impact on our budget. There was some discussion about the elimination of the Guidance Director position by several School Committee members. For a complete list of FY11 budget documents, including the list of proposed reductions, click here:

<http://www.miltonps.org/committee-budget.php>

Finally, the School Committee agreed on what type of presentation to make at the upcoming Town Meeting and gave an update on the Consolidated Facilities subcommittee. The next meeting will be held **May 18, 2010** at 7pm at the Mary Grassa O'Neill Library.

Curriculum News

We would like to welcome Michelle Kreuzer to the Milton High School Leadership Team. Ms. Kreuzer will be Milton High's new Math, Business and Technology Department Head. Ms. Kreuzer has been named to replace Paul Ajemian, who will be retiring at the end of the school year. She has been a math teacher at MHS since 2002, where she also serves as a very capable coach for our field hockey team. We are very pleased to welcome Ms. Kreuzer to this position.

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Kindergarten parents should have chosen either full-day or half day kindergarten and submitted registration papers by the **April 30, 2010** deadline. If you have a child entering kindergarten in the fall and have not yet registered with us, please contact Denise Kelly at 617-696-4470 x5510 and visit the following link:

http://www.miltonps.org/documents/MicrosoftWord-KindergartenRegistrationFlyer2010_003.pdf

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First grade parents should have chosen a World Language Program for their child by the **April 30, 2010** deadline. If you have not yet done so, please contact Denise Kelly at 617-696-4470 x5510 and click here for the form:

http://www.miltonps.org/documents/Grade_1_Choice_Form.pdf

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Parents of students entering sixth grade who are interested in registering their child for "Welcome to Middle School Camp," should be aware that the deadline is **Friday, May 7, 2010**. Tuition for camp is \$100 and two sessions will be held. The first is June 28th to July 2nd and the second session will be August 23rd to 27th. For more information, click below:

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/WTMSflyer.pdf>

<http://www.miltonps.org/documents/WTMS-Registration.pdf>

MFE News

Every spring, the Milton Foundation for Education accepts nominations from parents and high school students to honor educators in the Milton Public Schools. Now in its 10th year, these Outstanding Teacher Awards are highly competitive awards which are a great honor to help bestow.

Along with several MFE board members, I helped to make surprise visits to the winning teachers last week. This event is one of the highlights of my school year. The Outstanding Teacher program is a wonderful tribute and winning this award is a memory that each recipient will cherish for the rest of their lives.

We are very grateful to the MFE for organizing this event and recognizing our fantastic teachers.

Congratulations to the following teachers: Thuy Nguyen (Tucker); Deborah Sinrich (Glover); Fatima Bourass-Elzein (Collicot); Janis Powell (Cunningham); Noa Lai (Pierce); Gary Good (Milton High School); and Christine Charbonneau of Pierce, who won the Mary Grassa O'Neil Leadership Award.

Special thanks to the members of MFE's Outstanding Teacher committee who helped to make this day such a success: Barbara Avitable, Erika Donahue, Roxanne Musto, Annellen Lydon, and Angie Van Allen.

The awards ceremony will be held **May 19th at 7 pm** in the Charles Winchester Auditorium at Milton High.

News Around Town

The Friends of the Milton Public Library will be hosting author Anita Silvey on Thursday **May 13, 2010** at 7pm in the Keys room. Ms. Silvey will talk about her book "*Everything I Need to Know I Learned from a Children's Book.*"

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There will be an excellent local opportunity to support our troops on Saturday, **May 15, 2010** at Heritage Hall in Milton.

Both Milton and Quincy Republican Committees, along with CarePacks of Weymouth will be sponsoring an event to collect and organize supplies to send to soldiers who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The folks from CarePacks will be at Heritage Hall (114 Granite Ave.) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and are looking for volunteers to help out.

CarePacks is a non-profit organization dedicated to sending care packages to our troops. The packages contain high-calorie food products, undergarments, personal care items, books, magazines, and more. Each package also contains at least one letter or card from a child so that the soldier who receives the package has a personal connection to someone back in the United States.

Students in the Milton Public Schools have written many of these letters, which will be included in the packages. If you would like to help with this effort, please contact Murray Regan at jmrre@comcast.net.

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The folks from Sustainable Milton are working to help make Milton "greener" than ever! Monthly meetings now held at the Milton Public Library, on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. New members are welcome. Their next meeting will be Wednesday, **May 19, 2010 from 7 to 8:30pm**.

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Milton Hospital will be hosting its "Community Health Walk" on **June 12th at 10am**. This 5K walk will begin and end at Milton Hospital. The entrance fee for the walk is \$15, and kids 12 and under are free. In addition to the walk, Milton Hospital will also host its Third Annual Community Health Day on the hospital grounds. The fair will include "behind the scenes" tours of the operating rooms, ER and other departments. All are welcome. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.miltonhospital.org/pdfs/schoolreg.pdf>

Ambassador Page

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

Teacher: Congratulations to MHS History Teacher Jonathon Turrisi. Mr. Turrisi recently was notified that he has been selected as a participant in a summer workshop sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

He was chosen from more than 400 applicants to attend this professional development opportunity, sponsored by the Massachusetts Historical Society.

The course is entitled "At the Crossroads of Revolution: Lexington and Concord in 1775." This is great news for both Mr. Turrisi and his future students!

Students: The following students recently won a Science Poetry Contest sponsored by Boston College's Lynch School of Education. Prizes range from gift certificates, to plaques and certificates. The Milton Public Schools are proud to announce that we had a total of 37 winners this year. Congratulation to all!

First Graders: **Foreign Language Poem** 1st place: Jocelyn Ridge from Cunningham Elementary; 2nd place: Mahina Paneiro Langer from Cunningham School; 3rd place: Eliza Callahan from Cunningham School; Honorable Mention: Cecily Wambold from Cunningham Elementary. **Third Graders:** **Humorous:** "Untitled" by Stephen Donnelly from Cunningham School; "Planets" by Mark Guerra, Thomas Newell, John Raftery from Cunningham School. **Foreign Language Poem:** "L'hiver" by Alison Brink and Caroline Buckley from Glover School; "Arc-en Ciel" by Meghan Kelly and Katherine Kates from Cunningham Elementary; "Les dessins dans le ciel" by Eliza C. O'Donnell from Glover School; "Les fleurs" by Bridget Kelly from Cunningham School. **Fourth Graders:** **Original:** "The Tiny Guest" Hue-Ninh Nguyen from Glover School; "The Sun" by Shorlee Banerjee from the Glover School; "Tornadoes" by Seanna Sullivan from Glover School; "Rocks, Minerals," by Zamirah Luc from Glover School. **Expressive:** "King Cobra" by Lucas Kery from Glover School. **Long:** "H2O" by Timothy Karoff from Glover School. **Fifth Graders:** **Original:** "Rain Fall" by Allegra Giddings from Tucker School; "The water cycle" by Maiya McGeachy from Tucker School; "I belong to space" by Omolade Gbolade, Tucker School. **Cooperative:** "Just 8 minutes" by Rachel Tomaszewski, Lashmi Dowds, Christine Bourdeau, and Sydney Barros from Tucker School **Foreign Language:** "Le tremblement de terre" by Carine Haijjar and Michael Corcoran from Cunningham School; "Les tortues" by Jack Andresino and Liam Donelan from Cunningham School. **Sixth Graders:** **Cooperative:** "Mount Everest" by Carlos Rosado and Brendan White from Pierce Middle School. **Eighth Graders:** **Long:** "Taste Buds" by Jack Radley from Pierce Middle School; "Autumn" by Shanaz Mahmood and Zharina Rodriguez from Charles S. Pierce Middle School. **Cooperative:** No title by Haley Jepson from Pierce Middle School.

Volunteer: After nearly 25 years of involvement with the Milton Public Schools, our long-time friend and supporter Beirne Lovely retired from the School Committee last month. Mr. Lovely served three terms on the School Committee and has been an active volunteer in many other school and town related organizations. Mr. Lovely was a strong advocate for the new school buildings and a tireless fundraiser, especially with the "Swing for Sports" golf tournament, which benefits the MHS athletics program. In addition, Mr. Lovely was also involved in developing the School Committee first Diversity Policy. We would like to thank Mr. Lovely for all his years of hard work and dedication and wish him all the best in the future.