



## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02186

MARY C. GORMLEY  
Superintendent of Schools  
617-696-4808/09

JOHN P. PHELAN  
Assistant Superintendent  
For Curriculum & Personnel  
617-696-4811/12

MATTHEW J. GILLIS  
School Business Administrator  
617-696-5041

To: Faculty, Staff, Parents and Guardians of Milton Public Schools  
From: Mary C. Gormley, Superintendent  
Re: E-Blast Newsletter  
Date: June 24, 2011

*From the Desk of the Superintendent:*

*Another school year has drawn to a close! We wish all our Milton Public School families a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer.*

*One of the joys of summer vacation is the prospect of additional free time to spend reading for pleasure. A day at the beach, a long drive, a plane or train ride are all excellent opportunities to enjoy reading materials. To view the summer reading lists for the different school levels please go to [www.miltonps.org](http://www.miltonps.org) and click on the appropriate level under the "NEWS" heading.*

*We look forward to seeing you all back in the Fall for the start of the 2011-12 school year! – Mary C. Gormley*

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The most recent school committee meeting was held on Wednesday, June 8th. The meeting was preceded by a Retiree Reception to honor the nine faculty members who are retiring this year. Thank you and best wishes to: Dr. John Drottar, Milton High School principal, who has served 31 years in Milton; Rebecca Warner, Glover teacher, who has served 24 years in Milton; Gracie Burke, World Language Director, who has served 21 years in Milton; Christine Shaw, instructional aide, who served 11 years in Milton; Hugh Bonner, Food Services assistant, who served 10 years in Milton; Joanne Bonner, teacher and Pierce Middle School librarian, who served 20 years in Milton; Dr. Susan Whalen, school psychologist, who served 8 years in Milton; Denise Doyle, instructional aide, who served 14 years in Milton; Phil Genatossio, Physical Education/Health teacher at Pierce Middle School and Athletic Trainer at Milton High School; Gerard Schultz, Collicot principal, who served 7 years in Milton; and Patricia McDonald, Tucker Elementary School secretary, who served 24 years in Milton.

The meeting opened with the introduction of Dr. Joseph Arangio, who will serve as Interim Principal of Milton High School for the 2011-2012 school year.

Dr. Arangio, a former MHS principal, has high standards for teachers and students and will be a great addition to the leadership team. While serving as principal at Milton High School, Dr. Arangio participated in the design of the new high school building. His experience includes leading successful, high-performing high schools, participating in NEASC, and working in the principals' program at the Harvard School of Education.

Next, we heard from Martha Sherman, Coordinator of English/Language Arts Grades K-5 and Title I Director, who reviewed for the committee the Title I portion of the state's Coordinated Program Review results.

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*

Title I funds provide academic support (e.g., tutoring and extended day programs) in reading and math. Milton receives roughly \$160,000 in Title I funds, which are currently spent on 1.5 designated Title I teachers who must give a full accounting of their time used to provide Title I services.

Ms. Sherman reported that the Title I review—which included 30 criteria used by the DESE to evaluate the compliance of the district in meeting state requirements—was generally positive. Of the 30 items, Milton has been asked to provide revisions to four, two of which are related to policy language, and two of which require better documentation of teacher time and effort spent in providing Title I services for payment of stipends from Title I funds. Ms. Sherman stated that although the deadline for the submission of corrective actions to the state is mid-October, she plans to complete the process by the end of the summer.

Steve Traister, Athletic Director and Matt Gillis, School Business Administrator, spoke next to report on the results of this year's fundraising activities for athletics and clubs.

Fundraising is a significant piece of the overall athletic budget. In the past year or two we have worked to consolidate a myriad of small fundraising initiatives into three main annual events and count on these events to fill the gap in the general fund. User fees provide the remaining needs of the programs. Mr. Gillis projected that the athletic program could sustain itself this coming fiscal year with the current level of fundraising most likely without touching the beginning balance of the revolving fund of roughly \$70,000.

It is also important to recognize the support of the Boosters in maintaining the athletic program. In addition, we are looking for a parent volunteer to chair the successful banner sponsorship program which is one of the significant fundraising efforts. Anyone interested in chairing this vital fundraising effort should contact Superintendent Mary Gormley at [mgormley@miltonps.org](mailto:mgormley@miltonps.org).

Assistant Superintendent John Phelan gave the enrollment report. Mr. Phelan reported that the final amount of the state grant for full day kindergarten has not yet been determined and presented current enrollment figures for kindergarten and first grade.

We expect there to be a total of 14 kindergarten classes with 20-22 students per class next year. Only a few families opted for half-day kindergarten and those students will attend their district schools. The administration plans to have educational assistants in every kindergarten class for 80% of the school day. The fee for full day kindergarten for FY12 will be \$3,400.

For first grade there are a few small English classes at Glover and Cunningham. The administration anticipates that these numbers will increase over time with attrition from the French program and new students enrolling in the district who will be placed in these small classes. The administration is also currently reviewing the impact of the plan to cut a grade 5 teacher at Collicot/Cunningham on class size and proposals to address this concern are under discussion with the Finance Subcommittee.

## CURRICULUM NEWS

We have wonderful news from our friends at the French Consulate in Boston. Students from Cunningham, Collicot and Tucker school were all recognized as winners of the Carole Fredericks French Contest.

For elementary schools, Esra Buyakozer's classroom at **Collicot Elementary School** won second place. The students who participated were: Miwa Joiner, Liam Kelly, Shane Berry, Jack Delaney, Grady Stoodt, Isabella DeFilippo, D'laijha Cameron-Miller, Adrian Wright, Eva Hiller, Colleen Linehan, Lily Burke, Daniel Balerna, Haley O'Brien, Lara McNeely and Chae Diani.

**Tucker Elementary School** won honorable mention for the submission by fourth- grade teacher Alexandra Sewall, who submitted a video of her students performing one of Ms. Fredericks' songs.

At **Pierce Middle School**, Jeanne Roulleau's student, Julianna Chen won first place in the essay contest.

A native of Springfield, Mass., Carole Fredericks's vocal talent was particularly cherished in France. To honor and continue her legacy, the Carole D. Fredericks Foundation, Inc. and the Consulate General of France in Boston offered this contest to all New England students who study French from elementary to middle school, high school, and college.

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*

\* \* \*

We are pleased to inform the community about a new software system we will be implementing in September to help our school administrators, parents, guardians and students properly report, track and keep records of inappropriate behavior either anonymously or with contact information.

The system was designed by Earshot Technologies to empower parents, guardians and students to report instances of bullying, illegal behavior and other instances of inappropriate behavior. It was also designed to do the heavy lifting by streamlining the administrative process of proper follow up and reporting without having to draw significant time and resources away from our main goal, which is to provide a quality education.

While our schools have been at the forefront of the issue of bullying and peer aggression, this is one more tool to have at our disposal to help with anonymous reporting. I will be sending out a letter to all parents and guardians with more information about this new software and how best to integrate it into our existing structure, but in the meantime, more information can be found at the company website:

<http://www.earshottechnologies.com/>

\* \* \*

We have an exciting collaboration with the Milton Public Library this summer. By participating in the Summer Reading Club, students ages 3 to 12 (entering grade 7 in September) can use an online tool to keep track of their reading hours.

The goal is to log 100,000 reading minutes town-wide, which will earn a donation to Heifer International. Registration starts June 13th.

The summer reading club is a club without meetings. Children are welcome to attend summer programs whether they are club members or not. Club members do not have to be at the library at special times. It's an "on your own" reading program

Children register on-line from home or at the library at [www.miltonlibrary.org](http://www.miltonlibrary.org). Look for the Summer Reading Club link on the Children's Room page and follow the directions there.

Club members are eligible for special prize drawings during the program. Many types of reading materials qualify for the log -- stories, information books, magazines, graphic novels, audio books, even books from required reading lists can be counted.

For more information, call the Children's Room at 617-898-4957. Library summer hours are Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday 9am to 9pm, Thursday 1pm to 9pm, Friday 9am to 5:30pm, and Saturday 9am to 5pm.

\* \* \*

We recently held a small reception in the courtyard of Milton High School for the many different volunteer groups who help to enhance school system each and every day. We are very grateful to every group and individual who donates their time to make our students' lives more fulfilling. Some examples of the organizations and volunteer groups involved in the Milton Public Schools include:

FAVA (Friends and Advocates for the Visual Arts); FAME (Friends and Advocates for Music Education); Art Docent Volunteers/Meet the Artists Program; MVAA (Milton Visual Arts Alliance); Fuller Village Volunteers; Library Volunteers; Fuller Village "Salute the Arts" event volunteers; Milton Foundation for Education; CATZ Program; Outdoor Classroom Project volunteers; Milton Special Education Parent Advisory Group; PTOs from each school; PTFSO at Milton High; Site Councils; Milton High Boosters; Indoor/Outdoor Concessions; Sporting Event volunteers; Fundraising Event volunteers; School Diversity Committees; School Committee Subcommittees; Screening Committees; Landscapers; and special committees, such as Facilities Subcommittee, Health & Wellness Subcommittee, M-PACE (Milton Partnership for Arts & Cultural Enrichment), School Choice Committee, Citizens for a Diverse Milton and the MHS Athletic Hall of Fame.

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*

\* \* \*

The Forbes House Museum in Milton is offering a three-day workshop from **July 12th to 14th** for history buffs, educators and anyone else interested in the life of Thomas Hutchinson, the last civilian colonial governor of Massachusetts.

The lecture series: "Investigate the Case of a Man Caught Up in Turbulent Times: Three Days, Three Viewpoints: The Worlds of Thomas Hutchinson," is scheduled in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the Governor's birth.

This opportunity is being offered by the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Forbes House Museum, and will feature a walking tour of historic Boston by Bill Fowler, along with presentations in Milton by Norma Jane Langford and Nina Graves. Educators can also receive PDP points!

To register, please contact Kathleen Barker, Mass. Historical Society's Education Coordinator at [kbarker@masshist.org](mailto:kbarker@masshist.org) or Robin Tagliaferri at [r.tagliaferri@forbeshousemuseum.org](mailto:r.tagliaferri@forbeshousemuseum.org)

\* \* \*

For planning purposes, we would like our parents to know that the NEASC visiting team will be in the Milton Public Schools from **November 6th to 9th**. We are asking PTOs and others to refrain from booking any special events during this time.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges is a regional accrediting association which establishes standards for all levels of education, from pre-K to doctoral levels. As part of the accreditation process, we host an on-site visit every 10 years and 2011 is the year for this visit.

\* \* \*

Our Milton Public Schools Summer Enrichment Program has enrolled over 600 students this summer. MSE begins **Monday June 27th**, and runs thru **July 29th** at Milton High School from 8am-12pm. Again this year students from Pre-K through High School will enjoy the enrichment program, with great classes from reading, to sewing, cooking, Greek mythology and sports classes.

In addition, we have enrolled approximately 200 students in special education programs, and 60 students in the Title I program. This means that roughly 900 total students will be participating in educational activities through the Milton Public Schools this summer.

\* \* \*

Incoming sixth graders who are signed up for Pierce Camp should be aware that the first session starts on **June 27th** and runs to **July 1st**. Drop-off is at 8:00 am and pick-up is at 1:00pm at the front doors of Pierce. Students eat snack & lunch at the school, so campers need to bring both. The next session will be held August 22 - 26. If you have any questions regarding Pierce Camp, please contact Genevieve Martland at [gmartland@miltonps.org](mailto:gmartland@miltonps.org).

\* \* \*

Our friends at FAVA (Friends and Advocates for the Visual Arts) are also holding summer programs. The camp is held from 9:00am – 12:00pm at Milton High School and open to elementary age school students. There are 4 camp sessions during month of July:  
Week 1 / July 05-08 :: Film School (Tuesday 9-12, Wed – Friday 8-12)  
Week 2 / July 11-15 :: Mixed Up Crazy Mixed Media Play Shop  
Week 3 / July 18-22 :: Modern Marvels

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*

For more information or do download an application, visit their website at:

<http://miltonfava.wordpress.com/>

\*\*\*

To view the NCLB Report Cards for the Milton Public Schools please go to <http://www.miltonps.org/about-report-cards.php>. Report cards are critical tools for promoting accountability for schools, districts, and states by publicizing data about student performance and program effectiveness for parents, policy makers, and other stakeholders. Report cards help parents and the general public see where schools and districts are succeeding and where there is still work to do. States and districts receiving Title I funds must prepare and disseminate annual report cards.

### PAC/SPECIAL ED NEWS

Karen Clasby, the new Administrator of Pupil Personnel Services, was welcomed to the Milton Public Schools by a small gathering of parents recently. Ms. Clasby was appointed to the position in March, replacing Dr. Patricia DelVal.

As I mentioned in a previous E-blast, Ms. Clasby comes to Milton from the Randolph Public Schools, where she served as director of student services.

Her appointment was the result of the hard work of the Screening Committee for the Administrator of Pupil Personnel Services. This committee was comprised of parents, teachers and administrators who reviewed several applications and interviewed semi-finalists. This committee included: School Committee member Denis Keohane, Assistant Superintendent John Phelan, Principal Dr. John Drottar, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Dr. Patricia DelVal, Teacher Representatives Tara Kostek, Kelli Horton and Sally Rush, Director of Nurses and Milton Educators Association Representative Margaret Gibbons, Parent Representatives Nicque Bradshaw, Kathy Fagan Bauer, Kevin Lenane and Dr. Marius M. Solomon.

### NEWS AROUND TOWN

The Milton Library regularly donates books to a non-profit organization called "Reading Tree." They collect and donate gently used books of all types (including textbooks, books-on-tape, CDs and DVDs), to schools and libraries around the country to help underserved children enhance their literacy and learn to enjoy reading. They do not accept encyclopedias, magazines, newspapers or catalogs.

The organization will pick up large donations as long as there is a minimum of 20 boxes. To schedule a large pick up, please call Jane at 781-438-4051.

If you have a smaller donation, there are bins located around the local area including the Stop and Shop parking lot on Newport Avenue in Quincy.

To find other locations for drop off of books, please check the website <http://www.readingtree.org/content.aspx?id=2> and click on GET INVOLVED, then DONATE BOOKS.

\* \* \*

Members of the Milton community are cordially invited for tea on the porch of Forbes House Museum on **July 10th**. Tea and pastry will be served from 2-4pm. Join the staff of the Forbes House Museum for lawn bowling (bocce), croquet and badminton. a docent-led tour of the Museum will also be offered. Tickets are \$15 a piece with a family discount available. Since this is the museum's "Family Tea," they will also offer children's activities, games, Victorian crafts and origami.

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*

\* \* \*

Also, the folks at ¡CelebrateMilton! are looking for nominations for an “Unsung Hero/Heroine” award. Do you know someone who has made Milton a better place to live? A member of your church or synagogue, school group, neighborhood association, town service provider, town official, coach, teacher, co-worker, fellow student, or neighbor?

Nominate them for the 18th Annual Community Builder Award, presented by the ¡CelebrateMilton! Working Group.

Awards will be presented during ¡CelebrateMilton!, **Sunday, October 2nd** at Milton High School. The deadline for nominations is September 9, 2011. Please mail nominations to René Taber, Community Builder Awards, 615 Blue Hills Parkway, Milton, MA 02186 or e-mail to [reneofcambridge@vzw.blackberry.net](mailto:reneofcambridge@vzw.blackberry.net).

\* \* \*

We recently discussed plans for the schools’ involvement of the celebration of Milton’s 350th anniversary. There are a number of subcommittees working on this year-long event, culminating in a celebration **June 9th to 11th, 2012**. Lynda-Lee Sheridan is seeking volunteers from the community to participate in the planning and hopes to involve everyone. A link to the 350th committee can be found on the Town of Milton Web site:

[http://www.townofmilton.org/Public\\_Documents/MiltonMA\\_BComm/350th/350thevents](http://www.townofmilton.org/Public_Documents/MiltonMA_BComm/350th/350thevents)

## ATHLETICS

The Milton High School Varsity Girls Tennis team advanced to the second round in the MIAA state tournament. The girls beat Middleboro but lost to Medfield in the second round. Congratulations to Senior Bay State Conference MVP Ariana Launie who made it to the semi-finals in the south sectional individual tournament.

The Milton High School Varsity Baseball team made it to the South Sectional Div 2 Tournament. The team beat higher seeded teams Oliver Ames and Hingham, before losing to Somerset. Congratulations on a great year!

## 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:*

**Student:** I would like to personally thank John Savino and Michelle Nabi, this year’s student representatives to the School Committee. These two students have done an outstanding job by diligently attending and participating in our school committee meetings. We admire their involvement in promoting civic awareness and leadership at Milton High School and wish them well in their college careers. A special thank you to Milton High School’s student government advisor, Ms. Dyanne Crowley.

**Teachers:** As I mentioned in the School Committee item above, the following educators have retired in the 2010-2011 school year. We will miss them all and wish them well in their retirement:

Dr. John Drottar, Milton High School principal, Rebecca Warner, Glover teacher; Gracie Burke, World Language Director; Christine Shaw, Educational Assistant; Hugh Bonner, Food Service assistant; Joanne Bonner, teacher and Pierce Middle School librarian; Dr. Susan Whalen, school psychologist; Denise Doyle,

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*

Educational Assistant; Phil Genatossio, Physical Education/Health teacher at Pierce and athletic trainer at Milton High School; Gerard Schultz, Collicot Principal and Patricia McDonald, Tucker Elementary School secretary. Thank you for your service!

Volunteer: We would like to recognize Paul Durgin as one of our outstanding volunteers. Paul has been the Boosters president for the past two years. Some of Paul's initiatives were re-establishing the Boosters Bylaws, forming sub-committees, and transitioning the Boosters back to supporting the teams. Our athletic director, Steve Traister, gave Mr. Durgin a glowing review:

"Paul has shown tremendous leadership over his two year as Boosters President and has work closely with the athletic department in helping "boost" the teams, coaches and student-athletes enhance their athletic experience"

**25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186**

*The Milton Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. MPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, genetic information, age or sexual orientation.*