

*Respect*

*Achievement*

*Citizenship*

Karen J. Cahill  
Principal, ext. 5503

The seal of the Town of Milton, Massachusetts, is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a sailing ship, surrounded by the text "TOWN OF MILTON" at the top and "INCORPORATED 1640" at the bottom. The words "SEAL" and "MASSACHUSETTS" are also visible.  
**MILTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
25 Gile Road  
Milton, MA 02186 617-696-4470

Benjamin J. Kelly  
Vice Principal, ext. 5504

Brian E. Mackinaw  
Vice Principal, ext. 5507

January 8, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Students and Families,

I hope everyone had a restful holiday break! We have just completed our first full week of 2021 as a school and a nation. This week has triggered many emotions for so many of us because of the events in our Nation's Capital and the increased numbers of Covid-19 in the state. As events unfolded in our nation's capital on Wednesday citizens of this country commonly shared an experience with a myriad of emotions, and that included students in the Milton Public Schools.

Social Studies teachers knew students would arrive at school on Thursday with questions and concerns so we addressed the protests that turned violent at the US Capitol in Washington DC. We ask our students to think like historians, and be sure to be accurate, relevant, and specific in studying history... and that was the approach of our teachers. They provided analysis of the day's events, but did so through the lens of historical context. Students discussed the step in the election process that was planned for Wednesday, the importance of a peaceful transition of power in a democracy, the decision by Congress to return to complete the process of formalizing the election of President-elect Biden, the effects and psychology of a mob mentality during Wednesday's riots and throughout history. We also discussed the historical election in Georgia, where a Jewish Senator and African American Senator will represent a state that is historically a conservative "red state." Our teachers talked but also listened, and students provided extraordinary insight to the tumultuous times in which we live. Our students are resilient and perceptive and as I listened in on some of the history classes I was truly impressed with their honesty and willingness to share. As Superintendent Jette stated in his newsletter, we continue to provide our students a place to discuss these matters, acknowledge their feelings and practice empathy. We will continue our work to provide an inclusive experience for all of our students and staff and to provide a community that is safe and accepting of all differences and opinions.

### **Some GREAT news!**

In case you missed this in our newsletter on December 23rd, we are proud to announce our Term 1 Vision Award Winners. These students have been nominated by students and staff and confirmed by a faculty panel as those who have best exemplified aspects of Milton High School's Vision of the Graduate. Please take a moment to watch the announcement of our [Term 1 Milton High School Vision Awards](#)! A list of recipients can be found [here](#) and some photos of their official recognitions can be found [HERE](#), more photos to come next week as we connect with all of our recipients!

### **Class Attendance & Cameras**

As more students are required to live stream into class due to being in quarantine **we are asking that all students keep their cameras on**. This benefits your teachers and your learning experience. With new features in Google like Background Blur and the ability to select a new background, leaving your camera on has never been easier. It will help with classroom engagement and hopefully provide more interaction with other students and MHS staff. When students' cameras are turned on, teachers are able to more readily facilitate classroom dialogue, check for students' understanding of the lesson being presented, and monitor students' progress. Please check in with your child to see if their camera is on

during class, if it isn't, ask why. While we do understand that some students may be uncomfortable with their camera on, most are not and it does help with engagement, helps facilitate classroom discussions and interactions with their peers. If you wish to have your child excused from being expected to have his/her Chromebook camera on during remote instruction, please complete this linked authorization [form](#). Only parents/guardians who wish to excuse their child from using their Chromebook camera need to complete this [form](#).

### **Covid-Related Absences & Live Streaming**

As more students need to quarantine due to being a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case you should inform Nurse Coughlin ASAP via phone at 617-696-4470 x 5537 or via email at [kacoughlin@miltonps.org](mailto:kacoughlin@miltonps.org). We continue to ask that parents/guardians contact Nurse Coughlin or the main office about requesting your child to stream into classes so we can notify your child's teachers. **Students cannot ask teachers to attend remotely for covid or non-covid related absences; all requests are to be made by parents/guardians.** Teachers are being asked to forward any requests they receive from students or parents to Nurse Coughlin and the main office so students are marked appropriately in attendance and so we communicate with home about next steps. I truly appreciate your help and cooperation with this.

### **Athletics Updates**

As a reminder, there are no spectators allowed at any events this Winter Season, including Hockey. We are offering a free live stream for each game. All you have to do is search [YouTube for Milton Access TV](#) and the game will start streaming roughly 2-3 minutes prior to the scheduled start. [Athletic Schedules can be found here](#).

### **AP Payments due Friday, January 15th**

**Online Exam Payment is open now and will end on Friday, January 15th.** In order to pay, students must know their Student ID #. We know that parents may desire to pay for their students' exams but we strongly recommend that parents and students are both present to ensure that the correct exams are paid for. Using the drop down menu please select all AP exams you are enrolled in and will be taking in May, and enter the number of exams in the quantity field.

This year, Milton High is pleased to be able to offer AP Exams at \$40/exam (\$20/exam if qualified for Free/Reduced Lunch), with the district paying the remaining cost. It is important that all students/families pay their AP Exam fees on time to ensure timely delivery and processing of all AP Exams. Students requiring financial assistance should contact Mr. Kelly, [bkelly@miltonps.org](mailto:bkelly@miltonps.org), in the MHS Main Office.

The [MPS Online Payment Center](#) (UniBank) can be found on the [www.miltonps.org](http://www.miltonps.org) website.

### **COVID Updates**

Please be sure to have read Superintendent Jette's [weekly newsletter](#) which contains updated information for COVID close contact guidelines. All current policies can be found on the [COVID-19 page on the MPS website](#). This will always be the place to find the [most up to date information](#) about the Milton Public Schools COVID-19 policies.

There are several upcoming local testing options:

- The Town of Milton will host two additional, free, drive-through testing days – Sunday, January 10 and Sunday, January 17, both from 10am – 3pm at the DPW Yard located at 629 Randolph Avenue. This testing is run through the Town and is open to all residents and employees and their families through the COVID testing agreement with Fallon Ambulance/ Transformative Healthcare. Please visit the [Town of Milton website](#) for more information.

### **Milton Public Library**

In the "Library of Things" Collection at the Milton Public Library they have chromebooks with hotspots. More details can be found [here](#).

Sincerely,



Karen J. Cahill  
Principal  
kcahill@miltonps.org  
617-696-4470 x5503

**Reminders Important Links and Reminders from Past Newsletters:**

**Guidance Department Presentations**

[MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OVERVIEW](#) - Christopher Horn, Associate Director of Admissions, Massasoit Community College  
[PARENT AND STUDENT GUIDE TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES](#) - Bridget Canty, MHS Special Educator  
[POST-SECONDARY PLANNING FOR STUDENTS WITH IEPs AND 504's](#) - Gabriella Diller, MHS Team Chair  
[HISTORICAL BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OVERVIEW](#) - Stephanie Gray, MHS Guidance Department  
[NCAA ATHLETICS](#) - Ryan Madden, MHS Athletic Director  
[FINANCING HIGHER EDUCATION](#) - Todd Weaver, Senior Vice President, Strategies for College, Inc.  
[NAVIANCE OVERVIEW](#) - Scott Devlin, Lead Counselor, MHS Guidance Department  
[COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING](#) - Drew Heilpern, Summit Educational Group, Inc.  
[MILTON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PRESENTATION](#) - Allison Sherlock, Regional Associate Director of Admission, Saint Michael's College

**Milton Foundation for Education**

[Please consider making a donation to the MFE at this link to continue this critical work this year, as this will likely be our only fundraiser.](#)

**User Fees for Clubs & Activities**

Please use the [MPS Online Payment Center](#) on the [www.miltonps.org](http://www.miltonps.org) website to pay all Club & Activity User Fees, if you have not done so already. Students who have qualified for Free/Reduced Lunch are not required to pay club fees.

**Technology**

Don't forget to check out our [Family Technology Support page](#) for helpful tips on technology issues. Bookmark this page for up to date information!

**Food Services**

Just a reminder that **any** student at MHS can pick up a FREE lunch or breakfast [without even signing up](#). If you think your family may qualify for free or reduced lunch please complete [this application](#).

**Health Check Before School**

Please continue to use the [Pre-Screening Checklist](#) prior to sending students to school. Parents/guardians, please call the Main Office at 617-696-4470 to document the absence, and if you/your student has any of the symptoms listed on the daily health screen checklist, please reach out to MHS Nurse Kim Coughlin ([kacoughlin@miltonps.org](mailto:kacoughlin@miltonps.org)).

### **Principal's Corner**

Do you think you missed a newsletter? Take a look at the [Principal's Corner](#). You can find this tab on our MHS homepage.

The Milton Public School system does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, gender identity, transgender status, gender transitioning, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, pregnancy/parenting status, marital status, sexual orientation, homelessness, or military status, in any of its programs, activities or operations. These include, but are not limited to, admissions, equal access to programs and activities, hiring and firing of staff, provision of and access to programs and services, as well as selection of volunteers, vendors and employers recruiting at the Milton Public Schools. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, students, volunteers, subcontractors, and vendors. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Human Resources, 617-696-4812