

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 "SEAS", "SHIPS", "SALES", and "STRENGTH" are also visible around the inner border of the seal.
MILTON HIGH SCHOOL
25 Gile Road
Milton, MA 02136 617-696-4470

Benjamin J. Kelly
Vice Principal, ext. 5504

Brian E. Mackinaw
Vice Principal, ext. 5507

February 12, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Students and Families,

As we head into vacation I want to highlight some great initiatives from the MHS community and many important updates across our school.

Black History Month at Milton High School

Please take a look at our [BHM Bookcase](#), which includes great selections to add to your reading list! Our teachers and students continue to do outstanding work to recognize the amazing contributions in Black history and culture. [Please take a look](#) at some of the great displays our students and staff have collaborated on.

Shout out!

More great news from the MHS Music Department! Three students were selected to participate in the MMEA All State Festival in March. Chorus member Isabel Feloney and Band members Timothy Fay and Claudia O'Neill received recommendations to audition for All State based on their high score results from the Eastern District Festival in the Fall. These three outstanding sophomores will represent Milton High School amongst students from all over Massachusetts and will participate in master classes with world class conductors and a virtual concert production set to premier in April.

Thank you to the Class of 2024 for their recent fundraising efforts to the Community Fridge in Mattapan! Here are [some images](#) from this great project! Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute!

Second Term Report Cards are Posted

Report Cards were added to your/your student's E-Locker in PlusPortals today. Any questions regarding a grade in a particular class should first be directed to the teacher.

To access your/your student's Report Card on PlusPortals:

STUDENTS: Log in to your portal and click on the E-LOCKER located in the red menu bar at the top of the portal page. Then click E-Portfolio. You will find a PDF of your report card dated 2/12/2021 (or after if a change/correction has been made). Click on the BLUE download button and your report card will open.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Log in to your portal and select your student. Click on the E-LOCKER located in the red menu bar at the top of the portal page. Then click E-Portfolio. You will find a PDF of your student's report card dated 2/12/2021 (or after if a change/correction has been made). Click on the BLUE download button and your report card will open.

Seniors!!! Watch this video...deadline is tonight for MHS Senior Scholarship Application 2021

Mr. Devlin sent [this email](#) about scholarships to our Class of 2021 a few weeks ago.

Mid Year Grade Reports for Seniors-IMPORTANT!

Mid year reports, consisting of first and second quarter grades, will be sent out to all colleges you have applied to beginning on Tuesday, February 16th. If you DO NOT want your second quarter grades sent to any of your colleges, you must let Mr. Devlin know via email (sdevlin@miltonps.org) by the end of the day Monday, February 15th. Feel free to reach out with any questions in the meantime.

Seniors please continue to check your MPS emails for communication about senior class information.

What do you want to know....

Since we are not able to have our 8th grade or Program of Studies information sessions in person, we will be providing a recording of both of these sessions. To be sure we answer all of your questions, we are asking students and parents/guardians to submit any of your questions for either event [here](#). Once our sessions are recorded we will be sharing with the MHS community.

Program of Studies 2021-2022

Believe it or not, we are heading into the course selection process for the 2021-2022 school year. We are asking everyone to take some time to read through the [Program of Studies 2021-2022](#). We will be sharing information on the process, timeline and expectations in our recorded sessions available in early March.

Key Club

Key Club is holding a coat drive at 2 locations, [Cunningham Park and Milton High School](#). They will be collected on Saturday, February 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. Anyone is more than welcome to donate jackets or coats, all of which should have been gently used. They will be donated to people in need, so any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Food Service Over Vacation

We are so grateful to be receiving 252 Farmers to Families boxes to distribute every Wednesday at our weekly food service drive through. In an effort to best support our food insecure families, we will offer these boxes to those who indicate need at the drive through to ensure that all food insecure families can receive this box of food. We appreciate your support and ask that you email [Jackie Morgan](#) with any questions. Our weekly Food Service drive-through is open EVERY Wednesday, including during February vacation week.

Weekly Pick Up: Weekly pick up is available at two different times on Wednesdays. Come to MHS 9:30-10:30 or 12:30-1:30 (please don't arrive before 12:15 to allow for MHS pick up) to pick up 7 days of breakfast and lunches and a fresh produce box.

Milton Youth Advocates for Change

The Milton Youth Advocates for Change are hosting a Teen Game Night over Zoom this Saturday (2/13) at 7:00 PM! This game night is open to teens grades 6-12 and they will be playing various games such as Kahoot, Scribblio, Scattergories, and more! For more information, check out their Instagram Page ([@miltonyouthadvocatesforchange](#)) or check out the Milton Coalition Website (info@milton-coalition.org) We hope to see you and your friends there for an hour full of fun and meet other friendly faces in our community!

If you are interested in joining this amazing community group please see this [notice](#).

Somaly Prak-Martins, Senior Director of Education Equity shares the following

Quality Review Steering Committee and the Selection Task Force: Calling all educators, parents/guardians, community members, students, district partners, and anyone else who has a vested interest in making the Milton School District a more equitable entity. We are currently searching for constituents who would like to serve on the Quality Review Steering

Committee and the Selection Task Force. [All details on applying, the timeline, multiple language applications, and more can be found here.](#)

The Chinese Lunar New Year February 12, 2021: Happy New Year to all of our community members who celebrate the Chinese New Year. [This is the year of the Ox.](#) Many people who follow the zodiac calendar believe that the year you were born on gives you certain characteristics that are similar to the zodiac (animal) sign that represents the year. There are many symbols that are predominantly seen during the Lunar New Year celebration. If you would like to know why the color red, dragons, rabbits, and traditions like cleaning the house is important during this sacred time of the year, [History.com](#) provides some insight. [Here are some additional links that share some of the myths and traditions around the Lunar New Year.](#)

Honoring Black Lives and Stories: I would like to elevate some stories from the present and the past. These are just introductions to push forth stories and voices that may not have been heard and/or told. I recommend that you conduct your own research to gain a more in-depth understanding of these stories.

- Isabel Wilkerson is an American journalist and the author of *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* and *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. She was the first woman of African-American heritage to win the Pulitzer Prize in journalism.
- Meet Dr. Gladys West, the hidden figure behind the Phone's GPS.
- The Muse Brothers: The story of two brothers during the Jim Crow South Era

[For an introduction to and resources about Isabel Wilkerson, Dr. Gladys West and the Muse Brothers, please visit this link.](#)

MHS Athletics Registration

Registration for the Fall II Floating Season ends in ONE week! The deadline is set for Wednesday, February 17th at noon. This is a hard deadline. Coaches will need time to plan tryouts and practice sessions due to participant restrictions set by the State. Students not registered by Wednesday February 17th will not be able to try out. Please use the link [here](#) for more instructions on registering. More information can be found [here](#).

Summer Opportunities

The Guidance Department has [set up this page](#) where summer opportunities for workshops will be posted, bookmark this page if you are looking for summer opportunities with some colleges. Do you have something to add to this page? Please let us know!

SEPAC

[Please see this letter from SEPAC](#), which contains information on the next SEPAC meeting on February 25 at 7 pm; dates for upcoming SEPAC meetings; and information on how to get involved with this vital parent group that supports our work in Special Education. SEPAC is seeking membership and building based representatives, and [you can find details on that role here.](#)

COVID Testing Reschedule

There are two local upcoming COVID test dates: Sunday, February 14, from 12-4pm and Sunday, February 21, from 10am to 3pm, at the Department of Public Works (DPW) yard at 629 Randolph Avenue. All updates will be posted on the [Town of Milton website.](#)

Stop the Spread- local Randolph site- Testing available 2/13, 2/15, 2/16, 2/18, 2/20. Free/ Pre-registration required.

[Randolph Stop the Spread Testing](#)

Travel Reminders

Anyone considering travel should review and abide by [Massachusetts travel orders](#), and people who want to travel to another state that is not a lower-risk state should be aware of the quarantine requirements involved with such travel. All students/ staff will be required to provide a negative PCR test or quarantine for 10 days prior to return to in person learning after out of state travel.

Remote Access After Break

To request remote access for COVID related reasons ([see our COVID page for more information](#)), please send an email to the nurse and principal of the school your student attends. All requests for remote access received after February 12 at 2pm will be reviewed on Monday, February 22 and granted within 24 hours.

Nursing Department

Over the February break our health rooms will be closed from Friday, February 12 at 3pm until Monday, February 22 at 8am. If you have health questions during this time, please contact your pediatrician.

If you have any travel questions about your child returning to school on Monday, February 22, please review MPS travel and remote access policies as stated in the latest Superintendent's blog sent 2/11/21 [Milton Public Schools blog](#).

If your question arises over the February break, or you are requesting clearance to return to in person learning after travel, we will be responding to all new emails and calls on Monday, February 22. If you are unsure if your child should return to school, please keep them home until you speak to your school nurse on Monday, February 22.

AP Payments are Past Due

Online Exam Payment will remain open. Any AP students who have not paid will be contacted by your teacher/main office and may be expected to pay a late fee. Students requiring financial assistance should contact Mr. Kelly, bkelly@miltonps.org, in the MHS Main Office. 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.

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

Take care and have a nice weekend.

Sincerely,



Karen J. Cahill

Principal

kcahill@miltonps.org

617-696-4470 x5503

Reminders Important Links and Reminders from Past Newsletters:

National Honor Society Tutoring

The National Honor Society will be offering free virtual tutoring from 3:00 - 3:45 pm on day 1 and day 3 afternoons. All MHS students are welcome to join to get help on any of their subjects! More information can be found [here](#)

Honor Roll

I am proud to recognize our [Term 1 honor roll students](#) with the MHS community. These students have shown academic tenacity during these difficult months of COVID. There are two Honor Roll categories: High Honors is reserved for students receiving all A's (all subjects counted) and Honors is reserved for students receiving all A's and B's (all subjects counted). Students receiving one C+ grade will be honorably mentioned. Congratulations to our Honor Roll students!

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. 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.

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 Public Library

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

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 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).

Friendly Reminder for MHS Remote Classrooms

- Attendance in all live remote Google Meetings is mandatory.
- Be on time for class and stay for the entire class period
- Try to create a learning space where you will be free from distractions (put away your cell phone, turn off the television etc during class).
- Have class materials ready and nearby before class begins.
- Dress appropriately - no pajamas, no hoods; school dress code applies (see handbook for specifics).
- Your icon should be school appropriate and represent you. We recommend a headshot picture.
- Your screen names must be your first and last name.
- Mute your microphone unless you are talking.
- Indicate that you want to speak by raising your hand, using the chat, or the NOD extension (when available).
- The chat will be used for class related discussion only, as allowed by your teacher
- If you are having technical issues, contact your teacher via email or Google Classroom to explain the circumstances.
- All of the following cases will result in you being marked absent:
 - You never sign in to the Google Meet
 - You are signed in to the Google Meet but fail to actively participate in class
 - You are signed in to the Google Meet but leave the session or leave the computer for a significant portion of the class.
- Your icon should be school appropriate & represent you. We recommend a headshot picture
- Your screen names must be your first and last name.

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.

Principal's Corner

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