

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 ship, surrounded by the text "TOWN OF MILTON" at the top and "INCORPORATED 1640" at the bottom. The words "SEAL" and "OFFICIAL" 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

February 26, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Students and Families,

I hope everyone had a nice vacation week and a smooth transition back to school this week. There has been a lot of conversation about a new schedule starting at Milton High School. The logistics are still being worked out and once I have confirmed the details including a start date, I will be sharing that information with students, staff and families in a separate communication.

Superintendent Conversation Hour

Please join Superintendent Jette for a Conversation Hour to discuss goals, expectations, your student's school experience, and feedback on school as we look to the future. Save the date for March 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM. A link to join the webinar to follow.

Seniors

Everyone loves swag and we have some for our [MHS seniors](#)! Thank you PTSFO President Michelle Cardoza for organizing these bags, and to Senior Class Advisor Patty Pauris and Senior Student officers for helping distribute them.

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

Shout outs!

On Wednesday, February 10th the following Milton High School students gave up their office hours and lunch break to participate in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC), a 25-question, 75-minute intensive math exam that challenges problem solving, critical thinking, and reasoning skills...

AMC 10: William Degregorio (10th), Kyle Denny (9th), Kiera Glazer (10th), Sophie Kosiba (10th), Alex McEttrick (9th), Josh Ricciardi (9th), Daniel Steinberg (9th), Alex Tran (10th)

AMC 12: Alix Benoit (12th), John Clancy (11th), Demi Davis (12th), Lucia Dwyer (11th), Maxwell Mitchell (11th), Declan O'Connor (11th), Bradan O'Loughlin (11th), Philip Phan (12th), Myles Phung (11th), Jonathan Waldmann (11th), Chloe Zhong (11th)

These students should be commended for taking on the challenge of participating in the [2021 AMC exam](#)!

The MHS Debate Team has had a busy February!

The February Debate Topic for Massachusetts Public Forum Debate is: Resolved: On balance, the benefits of urbanization in West Africa outweigh the harms.

MHS Debate Team Captain Anderson Korman researched experts in the field of West African studies and set up a Zoom meeting with Professor Dennis Galvan, Dean and Vice Provost, Division of Global Engagement and professor of International Studies and Political Science, at the University of Oregon.

MHS Debate Captains put a list of questions together prior to the Zoom meeting to ensure they received valuable information they could use in their debate preparation. Students were engaged and asked thoughtful questions. Professor Galvan shared that he was impressed with the questions and professionalism of our MHS students!

In January, the Debate Team participated in a national tournament that included competition from students in multiple states. Although the team participates in this tournament every year, this experience was different and involved much more preparation as they had to participate virtually. Students spent time preparing for this tournament through research, scrimmaging, and collaboration. They faced some of the best debaters in the country and after two days of fierce debate came out with multiple rounds won and an invaluable experience for the future. Congratulations to our participants Senior Captain Ralph Destin, Junior Captains Jonathan Waldman and Anderson Korman, Kiera Glazer, Lok Ye Young, and Maggie Sun on their excellent debate performances.

This week Debate Team Captains Ralph Destin, Anderson Korman and Jonathan Waldmann organized an 'In-House Scrimmage Week' to help the novice teamwork on their debate skills. The Varsity Team members posed as judges for the Novice Team as each novice team debated four rounds throughout the week. The varsity members judge and give feedback to the teams. At the end of the week, there will be an award ceremony to announce the winners.

The MHS Debate team will be competing in two Massachusetts Debate and Speech League tournaments in the coming weeks, on February 27 and March 13. These two tournaments serve as opportunities for team members to earn bids to the State tournament, held on April 10-11. Good luck to our MHS Debate Team!

MHS Theatre

The Theatre program's virtual production of [The Laramie Project](#) has been completed and is available to view at your leisure. The students did an amazing job with such difficult material and, given the first time they have tried this virtual work, rose to the occasion. Bravo!

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. [Click here](#) to see some of the great displays our students and staff have collaborated on.

Cambridge Education Survey

Superintendent Jette sent out a communication earlier this week about an upcoming survey conducted by Cambridge Education. We have partnered with Cambridge Education to examine the instructional, social-emotional and cultural assets across the district to determine what's working well and to identify our opportunities to grow. More information can be found [here](#).

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 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

The Milton High School Key Club would like to thank everyone who donated to our Coat Drive on Saturday, February 13th at Milton High School and Cunningham Hall. Approximately 100 coats and jackets were collected and delivered to

Anton's Cleaners to be cleaned. Through their partnership with Jordan's Furniture, the coats and jackets will be donated to charities in Massachusetts to help people in need. [We appreciate everyone who came out to support this cause on an exceptionally cold day.](#)

Special Education

Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services, [Sue Maselli](#) shares the following.

It's hard to believe summer 2021 is around the corner. This year, the **ESY program** will be run by Mr. Mark Harrison. MPS will be offering Extended School Year services this summer, beginning on July 6, 2021. All programs will once again be held at the Collicot and Cunningham elementary schools. The program will run for six weeks, with a scheduled end date of August 13, 2021. It is anticipated that registration information for Extended School Year services will be sent to families in early May. Plans for how instruction will be delivered will also be communicated at this time. Any questions regarding your student's eligibility for Extended School Year services may be directed to your Team Chairperson. Our staff looks forward to another great summer of instruction.

SEPAC, the Special Education Parent Advisory Council has updated its [website](#). [Use this link](#) to find out about meeting dates, SEPAC news and to access remote meetings.

Educational Equity

[Somaly Prak-Martins](#), Senior Director of Education Equity, shares the following. [Please see the full update on MPS Anti-Racist Work, the 14th Amendment, and Quality Review updates here.](#)

Quality Review Steering Committee and the Selection Task Force: The implementation for the Quality Review from an Equity Lens has been underway and the amount of interest from the community is promising. We are extending our recruitment timeframe for both the Selection Task Force as well as the Steering Committee. [Click here to apply and/or learn more about the Selection Task Force and Steering Committee.](#) The new deadline is: Selection Task Force 2/8/21 – 4/16/21 and Steering Committee 2/8/21 – 5/7/21. [The full timeline 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!

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.

[NAVANCE 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.

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.

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.

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.

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