

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 "OFFICE" 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

March 26, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Students and Families,

Happy Passover to those observing; I hope you have a peaceful holiday! I start off this week's newsletter acknowledging our [Term 2 Milton High School Vision Award recipients](#) who not only have excelled academically, but demonstrate respect and citizenship both inside and outside of our school. I shared some of the pictures of some of our recipients but continued visiting our remote students this week to acknowledge all of our recipients. [Congratulations to all of the recipients!](#) Please take a few minutes to [view the announcement](#) of the Term 2 recipients.

Full return to school

Please watch for a communication from me early next week with dates/times for informational sessions for our full return to school on Monday, April 12th. We have been working diligently on the logistics of our full return and will be sharing this with our MHS students and families once finalized.

Course Selection for 2021-2022 School Year

Please be sure to submit your/your student's Course Verification Form to your/your student's Guidance Counselor by the end of the day today, March 26 if any changes are necessary. (We will gladly extend the deadline to Monday, March 29 for those who would like to drop off their form in person on Monday). The [Course Selection Information Website](#) is still live with all the information you need to complete the process. Any general course selection questions can be directed to [Vice Principal Ben Kelly](#); any student-specific questions can be directed to your/your students' Guidance Counselor.

Driver's Education

MHS is happy to announce the April Vacation Driver's Education course. Get all your Driver's Education Hours done over April Vacation! Any **Milton High School student** who is at least 15 and 9 months on or before 4/19 is eligible to take this course. Since this is an online course, you must have a miltonps email account to access the course materials. This is why it is open to **Milton High School students only**. [All details on Driver's Education at MHS can be found here.](#)

Testing Updates for MCAS and AP Exams

Please see the [MCAS Testing Notification letter](#) sent to grade 10 and 11 families last week. MCAS Testing will be Next-Gen ELA and Mathematics computer-based tests, taking place May 3- 13 at MHS. Please also see this [AP Exam Administration Notification](#) sent to all AP Students & Families on Tuesday of this week. AP Testing will take place in the school building from May 12- 26.

Food Service

Our current food service model with Wednesday's weekly drive through will continue for March 31 and April 7.

With the return to a full in person model throughout MPS, we will be ending our weekly drive through pick up. **Our last weekly drive thru with the Farmers to Families boxes will be April 7.** We will be emailing a survey to our fully remote families to schedule weekly pick ups. Once we begin the full in person model (April 5 for elementary, April 12 for MHS and Pierce) students who are in school for a full day will have the option to receive a school lunch each school day.

Senior Director of Education Equity

Somaly Prak-Martins, Senior Director of Education Equity, shares the following. [Please see her full March 2021 newsletter here.](#)

Health and Safety Updates

What is the MPS travel policy for students/ staff who travel out of state? Has the travel order change impacted current school policies? As of Monday, March 22, the Massachusetts Travel Order is replaced with a [Travel Advisory](#). This new travel advisory urges all persons entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, to quarantine for 10 days upon their arrival if they have been out of the state for 24 hours or more. The Travel Advisory is the *minimum* requirement that MPS has to follow. **Our MPS policy remains as a negative PCR test within 72 hours of returning OR a ten day quarantine for any out of state travel.** An exception is made for travelers who are fully vaccinated (who have received two doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer COVID 19 vaccines OR who have received a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, 14 or more days ago) AND who do not have symptoms. MPS does not allow for any other exemptions that the state allows.

MPS Visitor Guidelines

As a means of keeping students and staff healthy and safe, visitors – including parents or caregivers – will not be allowed to enter MPS school buildings for any purpose other than to drop off or pick up their student(s), all of which will be limited to the school's administrative space. This prohibition does not apply to MPS staff with a business purpose to be at a school site or vendors necessary for providing school services.

Milton Youth Advocates for Change

Milton Youth Advocates For Change is recruiting high school youth for leadership positions in Milton Minds Matter. Milton Minds Matter is a club promoting positive mental health for high school teens in Milton led by high school teens! [All details can be found here.](#)

Virtual Diversity Job Fair

Milton is a participating community in the [Massachusetts Partnership for Diversity in Education upcoming Virtual Recruitment Fair](#). This event takes place on **March 31** and [all details can be found here.](#)

If you would like to receive MPS communications in a language other than English, [please use this link](#) to take a short survey regarding language, translation & interpreting. If English is your preferred language, please skip this survey. The link to take the survey in multiple languages is at the top right of the survey.

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:

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES

Dear Class of 2021:

With the month of March well underway and final post-high school plans beginning to emerge, it is a great time to secure some extra funding to support your futures. Below is the current list of scholarships available to you in the local, Town of Milton scholarship program. Further details, and copies of applications, can be found on Naviance, under the Colleges tab and Scholarships and Money. Feel free to email Mr. Devlin or stop by Guidance with any questions.

Also, please update your Naviance account with college decisions as you receive them.

Sincerely,

Mr. Devlin

Beirne Lovely Memorial - new in 2021 - \$2500 - how have you exemplified Beirne's motto of "be kind; do good?" - essay, and more required - due March 26th

Caitlin Clavette Memorial - brief statement required, how does your own vision of your future embody the Caitlin Clavette Memorial Foundation's mission? - due March 26th

Cameron Nohmy Memorial Scholarship - new in 2021 - for those pursuing technical training or a trade - brief statement required - due March 26th

Caribbean Heritage Association - due May 15th

Charles Eliot Scholarship - students pursuing careers in the field of transportation, city planning, etc. - due May 5th

Debra Davis Memorial - what sets you apart from others? How have you grown over the last four years? How have you helped others? Essay due in Guidance March 26th

Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias - see application for details - due April 1st

Henry O. Peabody - for residents of Norfolk County - due April 16th

Mark Bavis Leadership Foundation - due April 15th

MHS Boosters - several awards available, \$500 each, application due April 30th

Michael A. Devin Memorial - essay required, how have you overcome hardships in your life? - due April 2nd

Milton For Peace - due March 26th

Milton Girls Softball - \$250, due April 5th

Milton Kiwanis Club - resident of Milton for at least 3 years, exemplifies the Kiwanis ideals, due March 26th

Milton Youth Hockey - due March 26th

Pierce PTO - attended Pierce, write a speech you will deliver at 8th grade commencement, due April 1st

Sustainable Milton - \$100 award to those who have helped to reduce waste, preserved the ecosystem, or raised environmental awareness of others, due April 3rd

Tempus Unlimited - for students with a documented disability and current IEP, due June 1st

The White Rose Scholarship - African American male or female with a minimum 3.0 GPA who has demonstrated strong character and leadership.

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](#)

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

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.

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.

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!

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!

Paws-Abili-Treats

Our Launch students have been working hard over the past few weeks to fulfill orders for our supportive MHS staff. The students in the Launch Program have made over 700 dog treats and are ready to take orders for our four legged furry friends in the Milton community. Each bag contains 6 treats (\$2.00 per bag). Please click [here](#) to order your treats. If you have any questions, please email the team at pawsabilitreats@miltonps.org. [You can see some of the Paws-Abili-Treats Team hard at work!](#)

Milton Public Library

The Milton Public Library announces [Milton Moves](#), a physical literacy initiative! Physical Literacy is the concept of providing people with the tools and information to lead healthy, active lives. While we at the MPL provide literacy services every day, at this crucial moment in our world's health, we turn our attention to not only providing sustenance for the mind, but also for the body.

Please join us for this year-long initiative, beginning in March 2021, for all ages focused on fitness, wellness, and healthy eating. [The Library will offer programs and resources related to health and physical fitness for all ages](#). In keeping with the spirit of a public library, all of these offerings will be free of charge.

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.