

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – March 24, 2019

Cider Mill School is a Community of Learners, ALL committed to being the best we can be.

Important Dates

Mar 24	Day 7
Apr 1	Internet Safety Talk with Scott Driscoll, Middlebrook Auditorium, 7pm
Apr 5	Dress Like a Bee Day for Be Kind and WHS Top Inclusion Model Performance
Apr 9	CM PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Cafeteria
Apr 9	3rd Grade South (Belden Hill & Kent) Performance, 7-8pm
Apr 10	3rd Grade North (Cannondale & Nod Hill) Performance, 7-8pm
Apr 11	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, Wilton High School Professional Library
Apr 15-19	NO SCHOOL (Spring Recess)
Apr 25	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, Wilton High School Professional Library
Apr 26	Cider Mill's Got Talent Show, Middlebrook Auditorium, 6:30-8:30pm

Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351
Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or fallonk@wiltonps.org
Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

From The PTA Presidents

Dear CM Parents and Guardians,

We want to congratulate the 3 Odyssey of the Minds teams that competed on March 16th at Southern Connecticut State University. The two CM teams placed 4th and 5th in their divisions and the combined CM/MB team earned the Renatra Fusco Creativity Award and qualified to compete at the world championship in Michigan. The students who participated from CM are Alexander Booth, Ruby Prior, Brianna Hekle, Gayathri Sarath, Brody Fusco, Elissa Enman, Chloe DuBrock, Hannah Anthony, Avery Fischer, Gopika Kaimal, Patrick Denneen, Adrian Monin. The students on the combined team are Trisha Prabhu and Preeti Vijay.

We want to thank Sabeth Albert, Meghan Russo and Amanda Mitchell from the PTA Hospitality Committee for coordinating our annual Soup and Salad Staff Luncheon in the LLC. Thank you to the parents who donated homemade food for the staff.

At our last PTA meeting, we had Office Diane MacLean talk to us about her role as a School Resource Officer at CM and in the schools. She teaches classes in both schools, including a class for 2nd graders at Miller Driscoll, 2nd Grade: Stranger Danger, 3rd and 4th Grade: Bullying, Intro to Internet Safety, Rules vs. Laws, Peer Pressure; 6th: 3-day Internet Safety Course discussing predators and how to keep yourself safe online and 7th Drugs, Alcohol, and Vaping. She stressed that she is not at the school as a disciplinarian. She is there to bridge the gap between kids and police, build a relationship and educate. She will help with certain situations that are brought to school from home. She works closely with the guidance departments, social workers, school psychologists.

Parents at the meeting then asked questions for Officer MacLean to answer:

Parent 1: I walk the track with kids and find alcohol containers lying around. How can we prevent that?

DM: There really is no way to prevent it. It is a hard issue to tackle because once police start patrolling one area, people will just find another area to loiter and leave trash. If you see a bunch of alcohol containers in certain areas, please contact WPD and advise them.

Question submitted by parent: When administrators are at an offsite meeting, how is our building kept safe if there were to be an emergency situation?

DM: This really is not a police issue, it is an education issue. I will tell you that there are other members

of the school in place that are very well trained to do exactly what the administration would do in emergency situations. All teachers and staff are trained in emergency procedures regardless if the administrator is in the building or not.

Parent 2: After school hours, how are the buildings monitored?

DM: After Sandy Hook, a Security Task Force was formed and they work on some great training to keep community buildings safe. They do random building checks and perimeter checks. WPD is very aware of what vehicles should be where and what times throughout the entire day/evenings and after hours. They maintain a relationship with the custodial staff to communicate anything out of place and report it immediately.

We appreciate and thank Officer MacLean for helping keep our kids safe

We are looking forward to our Spring activities – Cider Mill's Got Talent, All School Art Show, Music Concerts, and Field Days.

Hope to see some of you at the Board of Finance meeting on Monday, 25th March where you can provide feedback on the Board of Education budget, details below.

Thanks,
Carolyn Lyon and Amanda Patania
CM PTA Co-Presidents

2019-2020 Budget Corner

The 2019-2020 Board of Education budget process is underway. Here are some important dates from now until the Annual Town Meeting.

MARCH 25TH, 7:30pm (Middlebrook School Auditorium) BOARD OF FINANCE PUBLIC HEARING ON BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET

- Members of the community can provide feedback on the budget proposal to members of the BOF

March 26th, 7:30pm (Middlebrook School Auditorium) Board of Finance public hearing on Board of Selectmen budget • Members of the community can provide feedback on the budget proposal to members of the BOF

March 27-29th (Meeting Room A, Town Hall) Board of Finance Mill Rate Meetings

- During these meetings the BOF votes to set the proposed appropriation for 2019-2020 (Public can listen)

MAY 6TH, 7:30pm (Tentative) (Clune Auditorium, WHS) Annual Town Meeting

- PRESENT registered voters can vote to reduce or approve proposed appropriation

At any time, you can email your thoughts, concern and feedback regarding the budget to:

- boe@wiltonps.org
- boardoffinannce@wiltonct.org

PTA Open Positions 2019-2020 School Year

Executive Board:

Co-President, serving alongside Carolyn Lyon.

Secretary, attending PTA meetings and taking notes to report back to parents. Collecting reports from Committee Chairs to report at PTA meetings.

Treasurer, keeping financial records for Cider Mill PTA, submitting financial reports and tax forms.

Committee Chairs - more positions may open later in the year.

-**Hospitality**, join our current chairs in hosting a variety of different events for our faculty and staff.

-**3rd Grade Great Books**, helping organize volunteers and run the Great Books lunch program for 3rd Grade.

-**Volunteer Coordinator**, gathering volunteers that may be interested in events during the school year such as Walk-a-thon, School store, Art, etc.

-**3rd and 5th Grade River Study**, helping co-ordinate volunteers and liaise with Science teachers for the River Study

-**5th Grade Fun Night**, a few co-chairs are needed to plan the 5th Grade Fun Night at the YMCA. There are contacts and plans from preceding years making it easy to action.

For more information on any of these positions or any other opportunity you may be interested in, please contact Amanda Patania amanda_patania@yahoo.com

New York Yankees Vs. Tampa Bay Rays ~ Sunday May 19th at 1.05pm, Yankee Stadium

Look for the flyer in your child's backpack this week to purchase New York Yankees vs. Tampa Bay Rays Sunday, May 19th at 1:05pm at Yankee Stadium. Cheer on the New York Yankees while supporting our schools! The whole family will enjoy the thrill of a live baseball game and the ticket sales proceeds will benefit the Miller-Driscoll and Cider Mill PTAs.

Great seats and just \$45 each. All seats are in the 200 level – seats are limited!!

PLEASE mail completed flyer to Susan Price (49 Scarlet Oak Drive, Wilton) with a check made payable to "Miller-Driscoll PTA" by April 5th. Tickets purchased can be picked up the week before the game in CM main office. More details on pick-up will follow.

Any questions? Contact Susan Price via email at sprice14@optonline.net.

5th Grade Parents – Consider Middlebrook's Project Adventure Next Year!

Interested in volunteering at Middlebrook next year? Project adventure is one of the few opportunities for parents to volunteer and help students literally reach new heights. Project Adventure is part of Middlebrook's physical education curriculum and offers students a chance to climb, swing, and belay on outdoor and indoor rope courses. Adults are needed to belay students and encourage them to face (and crush) rope course challenges. All volunteers are required to complete a belay training course and obtain certification (Rock Climb Fairfield works great). All volunteers must also complete the school required background check. For more information please contact Renee Rafferty raffertyrenee@gmail.com or Margo Silvan margosilvian@me.com.

Ongoing School News

Join the PTA ~ We Need Your Support!

Join the PTA and gain access to our Mobile Directory! Get instant access when you join – no waiting, easy updates to address or phone number changes throughout the year! Join here, and use the code - 'wilton' https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory/school_directory_parent_register.html

Parents please update your profiles to include email and cell phone numbers! One easy spot to register for all your kids' PTAs and make a donation at the same time! Questions? Email our Directory Chair Jennifer Wulff jen@presto.org (Please add support@mobilearq.com to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link.)

Get Your CM Spiritwear

Spirit Wear (also known as House shirts) can be purchased at any time throughout the year on the Cider Mill PTA site: cidermillpta.org, Your order will be delivered to your student's class within two days.

Cider Mill School Store

We are looking for parent volunteers to work in the Cider Mill School Store! The School Store is open during lunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. If you're interested in helping out, please email CiderMillSchoolStore@gmail.com to get onto our email volunteer list and to find out how to sign up for shifts throughout the school year!

Find Us on Facebook!

The PTA has a group on Facebook called Cider Mill Parent Community. It is a place where the PTA can communicate to parents, and also where parents can communicate with one another. Please check it out by clicking here: [Cider Mill Parent Community](#)

Stop and Shop Rewards Program

CIDER MILL SCHOOL – (ID#: 40341) has the opportunity to participate and earn CASH from A+ School Rewards, a great fundraising program run through our local Stop & Shop!

To participate:

- Visit <http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus> and scroll down to the center of the page to select REGISTER YOUR CARD from the red box on the right marked FOR CUSTOMERS

To earn points:

- Use your registered Stop & Shop Card each time you shop at Stop & Shop, and you will earn CASH for our school. You can track the number of points you are earning for our school by checking your grocery receipt.
- At the end of each month, your points are calculated and converted to CASH rewards for our school. These CASH rewards are updated monthly on the Giant A+ website beginning in November.
- After the last day of the 2018 program, these same conversions are performed and the final school account total is posted.

- Our school will receive one CASH awards check at the end of the program and can use this cash for any of our educational needs.

Lost and Found ~ Cider Mill

There are two L&F locations in Cider Mill. One is at the doorway where you go to the playground, on the high school side (Cannondale). The other is by the front door on the far side of the bus loop (Kent). You or your child can check these locations for lost items. At the end of each season, the unclaimed items are donated to the Turnover Shop with proceeds going to the Cider Mill PTA. Contact Amanda Mitchell with questions, at amandaNmitchell@gmail.com.

Community News

Town of Wilton ~ Public Meetings for Merwin Meadows and Schenck's Island

The Town of Wilton will be holding two public meetings seeking feedback to be used in the development of a concept plan for the renovation of Schenck's Island and Merwin Meadows. The meetings will be held on Sunday, March 24th, 2019 and on Sunday, April 28th, 2019 from 1-3 pm at Comstock Community Center gym. The meetings are open to the public and no RSVP is required. If needed, a snow date will be posted on the Town website (www.wiltonct.org).

The March 24th meeting will provide a brief overview of the sites and then focus on collecting feedback from participants on desired features and improvements at Schenck's Island and Merwin Meadows. At the April 28th meeting, Milone & MacBroom will present a summary of feedback gathered to date and will present a proposed concept plan for discussion and feedback. Wilton residents of all ages are encouraged to attend the meetings to provide feedback on what features and improvements they would like to see in the parks. Questions may be directed to Mike Conklin, Town of Wilton – Environmental Affairs Department at mike.conklin@wiltonct.org or (203) 563-0182.

Wilton Children's Theater Summer Registration now open!

Registration is now open for Wilton Children's Theater summer programs, Summerstage Jr! (entering grades 3-6) and Summerstage (entering grades 7-10). Program dates are June 24-July 12. Summerstage Jr! will perform Disney's 101 Dalmatians KIDS. The show for Summerstage will be announced soon. For Summerstage Jr!, All payments must be received by WCT before April 4, 2019 in order for your child to be considered registered. If oversubscribed, there will be a lottery after April 4 for spaces. Register and get more details at <http://www.wiltonchildrenstheater.org/> We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Challenger Baseball ~ Registration is Open

Do you know a child with disabilities who would enjoy playing baseball? Come join us!!! The Wilton Little League True Warriors participate in the Challenger Division of Little League. Our focus is to play baseball and have fun. No experience necessary. [Click here to register](#)
Want to know more about True Warriors? We can be reached at wiltonlittleleague@gmail.com.

TOPSoccer - Registration is Open

TOPSoccer provides children with special needs the opportunity to learn and play soccer in a fun and structured environment. Each player is assigned a "buddy" (high school student) who will assist him or her in learning the game. Just bring a water bottle and ball. [Click here for more details and to register:](#)
www.wiltonsoccer.info

SEPTA ~ Spring Social! Come celebrate with us! Thursday, 4/11.

This event is **free** and open to all members, staff and community members. Appetizers and drinks will be served. Adults Only. Please RSVP ensure a spot. We are honored to have Dr Margie Gillis president of **Literacy How** join us to present. We are so fortunate that she is able to join us here in Wilton! She is a wonderful presenter and she is truly helping to change the landscape for literacy outcomes for all students across the country. Food and drinks will be available before, during and after her presentation. Doors open at 5pm, Dr. Gillis will present at 5:30pm. Adults only please.

Evite Link: <http://evite.me/ybA8tj7eXg>

April is Diversity/ Inclusion Awareness Month for Wilton Public Schools!

Wilton SEPTA along with Wilton Public Schools will be sponsoring the following programs to educate, raise awareness about diversity, inclusion, compassion and empathy throughout our schools: One of the most special components of the programming includes the school based performances presented by the High School peer mentors, Top Inclusion Models(TIMS). This tradition was originally started by Fran Monro, a Wilton parent and former Parent's Advisory Board member, years

ago. We are proud that we have been able to help grow, expand and support this program over the past few years, and it has become the highlight for our programming for our youngest learners in Miller Driscoll and at Cider Mill. The high school students practice and perform in both schools utilizing the themes of inclusion, understanding/ appreciating individual differences and friendship. This year we have once again hired our amazing theater director, Nan Merolla to work with the TIMS. The hope is that this unique program will be a source of inspiration for our younger students and plant the seed for them to grow into future Top Inclusion Models and mentors. The performance this year will be a play based upon the book, "[Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun](#)," by Maria Dismody. Copies of the book will be donated to the school libraries by Wilton SEPTA.

For additional info and to inquire about open executive board and committee positions contact us at Wiltonsepta@gmail.com. For membership visit our web site at www.wiltonsepta.org.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN)~

Feel like you have no one to talk with about your child's challenging behavior? You are not alone.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group is for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified volunteer facilitators who themselves have had personal experiences raising children with these concerns. Our meetings are a place to speak freely and be understood without embarrassment or the fear of being judged or treated differently. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the surrounding area.

Our next meeting is **Monday, March 25th, from 10-11:30a.m.**, at G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. For more info, contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or Beth44es@gmail.com; or Vanessa at EliasVanessa5@gmail.com, or text 203-970-4130.

You can also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.com>.

Wilton Youth Council (WYC)

WYC promotes and protects the social, emotional and mental well-being of Wilton's students by educating and empowering youth, parents and the community. Find us on FB or visit wiltonyouth.org for more information and to sign up for our monthly newsletter.

Click [here](#) for an overview of this year's events!

Looking to Get Involved?

Wilton Youth Council needs you! We have many programs running and this is a great time to get involved! Questions? Email Vanessa Elias at eliasvanessa5@gmail.com. Interested in volunteering? Email Courtney Boucher at courtney.v.boucher@gmail.com.

Submit News to Hot Cider

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Deadline for submission is April 3, 2019.

Content may be edited at the discretion of editors. In an effort to keep Hot Cider timely and concise, your article may be published only twice.