

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – December 6, 2020

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

Important Dates

Dec 7	Day 1
Dec 24 - Jan 1	NO SCHOOL (Holiday Recess)
Jan 18	NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
Feb 12	SHORTENED DAY (Teacher professional development)
Feb 15- Feb 19	NO SCHOOL (Winter Recess)

From The PTA President

To Cider Mill Parents and Guardians:

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and are enjoying the holiday season. This year has proven to be very different every step of the way, but the PTA is very thankful for your continued support and generosity.

We were so disappointed that our book fair was not able to happen in person, but our virtual fair was a big success! Our students will have many great books to read, and our teacher's classroom libraries will have many new books thanks to your generous donations. I would like to thank Danielle Bottinger for all of her hard work in ensuring the book fair took place, and for bringing excitement to our CM community!

The Cider Mill PTA Hospitality Committee will be holding its annual Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 8th for our fabulous teachers, administration and staff. Given the situation this year, we will be hosting a festive and fun food truck experience instead of our traditional holiday luncheon. Our families have been so unbelievably generous with donations that we will be able to host local favorite food trucks from Parlor of Wilton and Bumble & Brew for pizza/salads/desserts/drinks. We will also have raffles where we will be giving away gift certificates to local businesses. The PTA will be accepting contributions through Monday at 12pm. We greatly appreciate any and all donations!

Please click on the following link to donate: <https://www.cidermillpta.org/holiday-teacher-staff>

As CM continues to improve dismissal procedures, it has recently been discovered there is a School Dismissal Manager Add-On called "FastLane." CM is going to move to using this procedure starting on **January 4, 2021**. The school will be piloting this with four classes from December 14 - 23.

For this to be successful, please use the following directions to set up your account correctly no later than Wednesday, December 23, 2020.

[FastLane ParentInstructions \(peer360.com\)](#) Additional information can be found in the **12/4 Family Update** [Family Update: 12/4/20 - Google Docs](#)

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, January 12th at 10.00 am via Zoom

Thank you for your support and please reach out if you have any questions or comments at meghan.russo13@gmail.com.

Meghan Russo

CM PTA President

School News

WALKATHON UPDATE

The PTA has decided to postpone our annual Walkathon until Spring. The climate, literally and figuratively, is constantly changing, and with Fundraisers going on for Turkey Trot (benefiting Social Services) and other worthwhile causes for affected families in town, it does not feel like the right time for our major PTA Fundraiser for the year. Hopefully in Spring, we will all feel like coming outside again and we will try again then and appreciate your support in advance.

WILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ~ OPEN POSITIONS

The Wilton Public Schools "For a Better World" are seeking recent college graduates, college students, retirees, career-changers, and those interested in giving back to their community to join a dynamic, engaging, and inspirational team of staff and students. A number of flexible positions are available, including substitutes, lunch-recess monitors, certified teachers, long-term substitutes, and paraprofessionals. Help shape the lives of our future leaders! To learn more and/or apply, please visit our website at: <https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources> or contact Human Resources Coordinator Erika Cross at crosse@wiltonps.org.

Ongoing School News

NEED HELP IN SCHOOL? FREE TUTORING FOR CM STUDENTS

All Cider Mill students can receive tutoring at no cost. All tutors are Wilton High School students. Please fill out this form if you need help in any subject: <https://forms.gle/J1L2EWrdnCPa75Z27>

For more information, please visit <https://youracademics.org/>

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 2019-2020 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.

BOX TOPS HAVE GONE DIGITAL!

No more clipping Box Tops! Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production. The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

3 easy steps...

1. Download the "Box Top\$ for Education" app on your phone.
2. Sign up using your email or Google or Facebook account.
3. Simply snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

Have a question? Please reach out to Allison Norful via email: anorful@gmail.com

ZERO WASTE SCHOOLS

With the start of school, we'd also like to send a Zero Waste quick refresher for all, it's YES to using reusable containers, bags, silverware, and ice packs; purchasing bulk snacks to sort into reusable containers, packing realistic portions and taking home uneaten food (or compost!) It's AVOID disposable paper or plastic bags; Individually-packaged snacks; non-reusable food wrap; disposable ice packs, utensils, or drink containers (juice boxes or pouches); and plastic straws.

Community News

BOUNDLESS EDUCATION MATH ENRICHMENT CLASSES AT COMSTOCK

Boundless Education is offering Math Enrichment Classes for talented students in grades 1-7. A new class is being added specifically for 3rd graders. Offered through Wilton Parks Department and taught by Boundless Education. Classes begin the week of November 9. Some classes meet in-person at Comstock; some are online only. The in-person 3rd grade class meets on Tuesdays from 3-4pm. Log on to www.Boundlessedu.com to learn more and have your child work through free pre-placement exercises on the site. Call Boundless at 203.762.7402 to learn if this is right for your child.

WILTON SEPTA (SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA)

Our next meeting is January 13th at 7pm.

Here is the link to the meeting :

<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/95704451346?pwd=UCsrMTQxU2oyUWxYcVJMdmpjZlFOZz09>

Join us to learn about our current initiatives, gifts and grants program and more! If you haven't yet registered or renewed your membership to SEPTA, please click here and join us today: <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/>

NAMI-CAN WILTON

The COVID pandemic has caused unprecedented stress in our society and many children's behaviors have been triggered as a result. What was manageable pre-Covid is now out of control. Find support for you, as you support your child who is struggling. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) is a Support Group for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained 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. Our meetings are held virtually over zoom and for security, you must contact Beth or Vanessa for the password. For more information contact: Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com

Submit News to Hot Cider

Clarissa Cannavino at clarissacannavino@yahoo.com

Anu Suri at anusuri2022@gmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is December 16, 2020.

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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.