

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – August 29, 2021

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

Important Dates

Aug 30	Day 1
Sep 06	NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)
Sep 07	NO SCHOOL (Rosh Hashanah)
Sep 16	NO SCHOOL (Yom Kippur)
Sep 22	CM OPEN HOUSE – BH & KT (South)
Sep 28	PHOTO DAY
Sep 29	CM OPEN HOUSE – CN & NH (North)

From The PTA President

Dear Cider Mill Parents and Guardians:

Welcome back to Cider Mill to our returning and new families for the 2021-2022 school year! I am looking forward to (hopefully) a more typical year filled with fun and exciting events for our school community, such as our big fall Walkathon, Turkey Trot, Fun Nights, Children's Enrichment Programs, Bingo Night, and so much more.

To make this a successful year, the Cider Mill PTA is asking for your support:

1. Please consider joining the Cider Mill PTA once registration is open via MobileArq. Not only are you supporting the PTA by becoming a member, but you also get an online directory of Cider Mill families and staff members via the MobileArq website and app (Android and Apple). *Please look out for an email when membership is open!*
2. Purchase Spirit Wear in your child's house color to be worn on Spirit Days and Field Day! Brand new t-shirt designs will be available for purchase at both the North and South Open Houses (South is 9/22 and North is 9/29). If you're looking for a "retro" t-shirt at a bargain price, please contact Amanda Patania (amanda_patania@yahoo.com) to check availability.
3. Attend PTA meetings! This is a great way to get information on what's happening at Cider Mill and to ask questions. Meetings are typically the second Tuesday of every month in the cafeteria. Our first meeting is September 14th at 9:15 a.m. in person! Remember a mask!
4. Volunteer! We love our volunteers and are so thankful for the time, expertise, and commitment that they offer to our school community. We still need volunteers for several committees, including a Book Fair co-chair and chairs for our Children's Enrichment program, Fun Night events (all grades needed), and the Visiting Author program. Please reach out to Alex Frisbee and Amanda Patania at cmnominating@gmail.com for more information!
5. Consider donating to our Walkathon in the fall. This is our main fundraiser for the whole school year, and its level of success is what dictates what the PTA can offer to the students, families, and faculty for the remainder of the school year!

Every two weeks you will receive the Hot Cider newsletter from the CM PTA that will include a calendar, detailed information on upcoming school and PTA events, links for volunteer signups, and community events. Please take time to read the newsletter. I also encourage you to use our Cider Mill PTA website at www.cidermillpta.org (currently being updated!) and the school's website at <https://www.wiltonps.org/cider-mill> for school information.

Also, please consider joining the Cider Mill parent Facebook group (search for "Cider Mill Parent Community"). It's where you can ask all your parent questions and get answers from other Cider Mill parents who have been there and done that!

Finally, while the school year has not even officially begun yet, the Cider Mill PTA has been already hard at work! A huge thank you to those families who participated in our EduKit fundraiser to help purchase school supplies for Wilton Social Services, as well as to Shannon MacDonald and her crew of volunteers for hand delivering all those EduKits to classrooms before Meet the Teacher!

Next, our wonderful Hospitality Committee arranged for breakfast-to-go bags for Cider Mill teachers and staff on the morning of Meet the Teacher Day, and our Spirit Wear sales are already off and running after a successful sidewalk sale of "retro" Cider Mill spirit wear t-shirts by Amanda Patania. Thank you to all these committees for a successful start to our school year!

As always, thank you! Our school community has always been a huge supporter of the PTA, and we are so grateful and appreciative of your continued support!

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or comments at michelleAkrupa@gmail.com.

Michelle Krupa
Incoming CM PTA President

School News

ACCESS CIDER MILL HANDBOOK HERE

[CM School Handbook Quick Fact Sheet 2021-22.pdf](#)

LUNCH MONITORS NEEDED

We are sending out a HUGE plea to all family members interested in becoming a recess/lunch monitor. The hours are 10:30-1:30 daily. We would greatly appreciate the support as we are currently 4 monitors short to start the year. If you have interest or questions, please email Jeremy Cross at crossj@wiltonps.org.

WILTON SEPTA (SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA)

Wilton Special Education PTA - We invite you to learn about our current initiatives, gifts and grants program and more! **Registration for membership will begin on August 31st**. Please access our membership through the MobileArq system. Each school in the district has its own registration. SEPTA will be an additional option provided when you join any of the other schools' PTAs. Contact us directly at wiltonsepta@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved and like our [Facebook](#) page to stay up to date with the latest news and information.

SEPTA Board and School Representatives for the 2021-2022:

Cider Mill- Rosalie Witt - rwitt17@gmail.com

Join us for our First SEPTA Meeting on October 6th, from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. Please click on the link below to access the meeting via Zoom. We look forward to serving everyone in our community this year!

[SEPTA meeting link](#)

Best,
Rosalie Witt
Early Childhood Consultant, Trainer, and Adjunct Professor

Coming Together: Responding to Unfinished Learning and Supporting Social-Emotional Health in the 2021-2022 School Year

Thursday, September 9; 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Wilton High School Clune Center

A virtual option will be available, and a recording will be posted.

The 2020-2021 school year was unlike any in modern memory and has left many asking the question: *Are our kids prepared for the year ahead?* While the pandemic has created much that is unprecedented, unfinished learning is not new. Wilton's educators are well-prepared to re-engage students in the concepts they'll need to master to successfully navigate the upcoming year's curriculum; as family members, there is a great deal we can do to support them in the process.

Please join us for a panel discussion led by Wilton Public Schools Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Charles Smith, that will address the district's response to unfinished learning and plans for implementing a prioritized curriculum in the upcoming school year. In addition to WPS staff members, Tracey Masella L.C.S.W., will join the panel to offer guidance on how families can support students and foster social-emotional well-being as kids make the transition back to full-time school.

Panelists

Charles Smith, Ed.D. - *WPS Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction*

Andrea Leonardi - *WPS Assistant Superintendent, Special Services*

Trudy Denton - *WPS Curriculum Coordinator - Math/Science*

Karen Brenneke - *WPS Curriculum Coordinator - Humanities*

Kim Zemo, L.C.S.W - *WPS, Safe School Climate Coordinator*

Tracey Masella, L.C.S.W - *Private Practice, Silver Hill Hospital*

This program is appropriate for parents of 1st -12th grade students. Register at <https://comingtogetherwilton.eventbrite.com>. If you would like to submit a question to the panel in advance, please email it to info@wiltonyouth.org.

Sponsored by: Wilton Public Schools, Wilton Youth Council, Silver Hill Hospital, SPED*NET Wilton, Wilton SEPTA

MS. PRESIDENT US PROGRAM

Girls entering grades 4-8 are invited to enroll in the Ms President US program, which begins October 1st.

Ms President US, a non-partisan, non-profit civics and leadership program, motivates and prepares girls to aim for the highest civic leadership positions and know that they can achieve them. By introducing the girls to students and women who are leaders in their community, state, and on a national level, participants learn about the political process. The girls then have a chance to interact with the leaders, and engage in activities that help them develop their own leadership skills. Each session is facilitated by high school girls who serve as mentors throughout the program.

Session topics include:

- Civic Leadership / Public Service
- Meet & Greet Local, State, and Federal Leaders
- Women's History and Leadership
- Public Speaking & Debate
- Communications & Media
- State Capitol Visit

The program culminates in a campaign and election whereby participants have the opportunity to create their own campaign (or work on another participant's campaign) and run for Ms President US of Wilton. The sessions will be held either in person or via Zoom (depending upon health and safety guidelines) from 4:15pm-5:45pm on 8 Fridays between October and March. In addition, there is a field trip to the State Capitol, and an Election.

To enroll or learn more, visit <https://www.mspressidentus.org>. Enrollment fee for the program is \$250 and ***scholarships are available***. Space is limited. Enrolled Girl Scouts can earn several patches and badges for participation in the Ms President US program.

Advance thanks,
Ann Nunes

Ann Pettigrew Nunes
she/her/hers

Ms President US/Wilton
PO Box 7112
Wilton, CT 06897
tel: (203) 617-8603
mspresidentus.org
facebook.com/MsPresidentUS

Ms President US motivates and prepares girls to aim for the highest civic leadership positions. Ms President US is a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. EID: 82-2508937. Contributions to Ms President US are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Community News

WILTON YOUTH COUNCIL

This fall, we hope you will join Wilton Youth Council for one of our great presentations and events. Each of these is a chance to learn a new skill, find a fresh perspective, or connect with others in similar circumstances. Get all the details at www.wiltonyouth.org and text WILTONYOUTH to 22828 to join our newsletter.

Coming soon:

Breathe and Connect: A Yoga / Mindfulness Experience

Friday, September 17 and Saturday, September 18

Jacqueline Jackson, E-RYT 500, will lead three age-appropriate workshops for children, teens, and adults.

Explore mindfulness, meditation and yoga to manage back-to-school stress. Choose options to build your own toolbox of helpful techniques. Our goal? To get rid of the tension in the body so it is better able to house a quiet mind. Learn more at: <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/breathe-connect>

Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend

Friday, September 17 - Sunday, September 19

Has your neighborhood had a block party this year? It's not too late to participate in Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend. Don't miss this great opportunity to make new friends and reconnect with those you haven't seen in a while! Learn more at: <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/block-party>

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

Anu Suri at anusuri2022@gmail.com

Melissa Reynolds at giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is Sep 08 2021. The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on Sep 12, 2021.

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.