

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA NEWSLETTER

October 2025 | Vol 5

Upcoming Dates

- **Oct 20, 7:30pm** - Candidate Forum
- **Oct 22** - Shortened Day (Professional Learning)
- **Oct 23, 6:30pm** - #wiltoniswhereyoubelong Fashion Show!
- **Oct 23, 7:00pm** - BOE Regular Meeting, WHS Professional Library
- **Oct 29** - Photo Retake Day
- **Oct 31, 9:00am** - Halloween Parade and Walk-a-Thon!
- **Nov 2, 3:00pm** - 5th Grade Chorus Performs at Islanders Game
- **Nov 2, 4:00pm** - Harlem Wizards Game vs. Wilton Teachers & Staff
- **Nov 3** - Every Vote Counts!
- **Nov 4** - No School (Professional Learning)
- **Nov 20-21, 24-25** - Shortened Days (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
- **Nov 21** - Reflections Contest Deadline



Photo Retake Day

If your child was absent or you'd like a retake, mark your calendar for **Wednesday, October 29!**

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PTA NEWS

Halloween Parade and Walk-a-Thon!

On Friday, October 31, the Halloween Parade and Walk-a-Thon are once again joining forces for one blockbuster event.

This fundraiser supports Field Days, Fun Nights, Teacher Grants, Yearbook, and more. Last year we raised \$18,150 — let's match or beat it this year!

**Click image
to donate!**



WILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HALLOWEEN PARADES
October 31, 2025

Cider Mill - High School Track

All School Parade and Walkathon 9:00-9:45

Miller-Driscoll - Front Bus Loop

K and First Grade 10:15-10:45

Second Grade 12:00-12:30

MD ELC - Orange Loop

11:15

Cider Mill



Parking (click for map) ..

Regular Lots, Gravel Lots on
Corner of School Road and Rt. 7,
Bus Loop, Blacktop Areas

Miller-Driscoll Parking

Regular Lots, Yellow Loop,
Purple Loop

Credit: www.reallygreatsite.com



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PTA NEWS

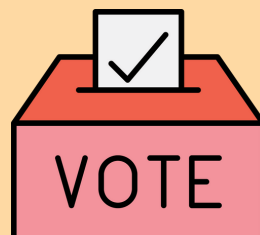
Every Vote Counts!

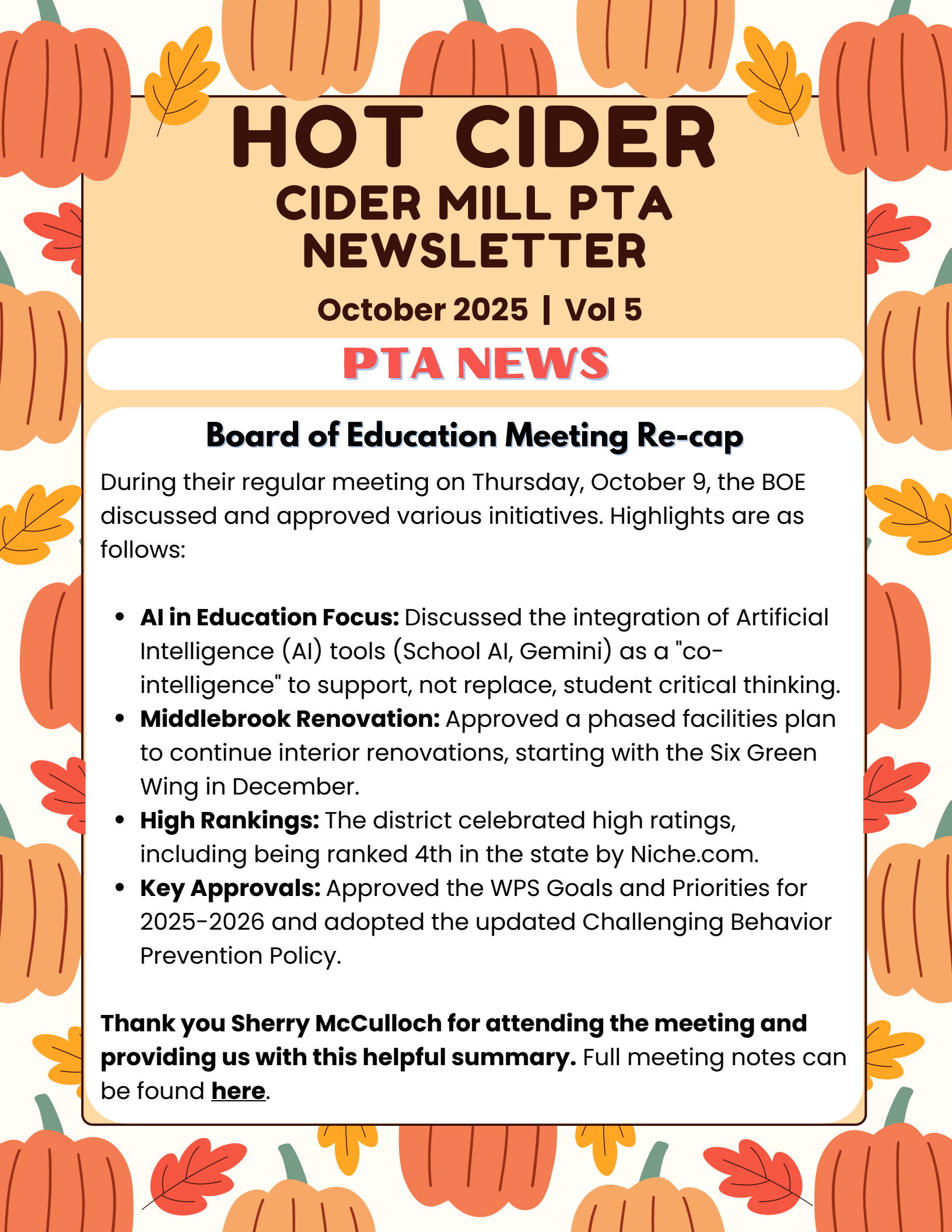
"Every Vote Counts" is a fun and meaningful way to demonstrate the power of voting to our students ahead of Election Day.

- **Event Date: Monday, November 3**
- **Location: Cider Mill Cafeteria (during lunch waves)**

During lunch, students will cast their votes for one of three songs. **The winning song will be played at a school-wide dance party on November 5**, giving students a fun way to see their voices make a difference.

And thank you to all the parents who've volunteered to collect votes. We couldn't do it without you!





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Board of Education Meeting Re-cap

During their regular meeting on Thursday, October 9, the BOE discussed and approved various initiatives. Highlights are as follows:

- **AI in Education Focus:** Discussed the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (School AI, Gemini) as a "co-intelligence" to support, not replace, student critical thinking.
- **Middlebrook Renovation:** Approved a phased facilities plan to continue interior renovations, starting with the Six Green Wing in December.
- **High Rankings:** The district celebrated high ratings, including being ranked 4th in the state by Niche.com.
- **Key Approvals:** Approved the WPS Goals and Priorities for 2025-2026 and adopted the updated Challenging Behavior Prevention Policy.

Thank you Sherry McCulloch for attending the meeting and providing us with this helpful summary. Full meeting notes can be found [here](#).

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Candidate Forum

Join us for a special Education & Youth-Focused Candidate Forum, featuring candidates for the Board of Education, Board of Finance, and Board of Selectmen.

- **Monday, October 20**
- **7:30 – 9:30pm**
- **Middlebrook Auditorium**

This is a great opportunity to hear from local candidates on the issues that matter most to our schools and students. If you are unable to attend in person, **a livestream is available with this [link](#).**

Save the Date

Wilton Votes!

**Education /Youth
Candidate Forum**

Do you want to learn more about where Wilton candidates stand on key issues that impact your families?

Come hear from the candidates for BOE (Education), BOF (Finance), and BOS (Selectmen) at the education & youth focused candidate forum!

MONDAY, 10/20 7:30-9:30 PM
MIDDLEBROOK AUDITORIUM

Please submit potential questions for consideration [HERE](#) by Sunday, October 12th.

Sponsored by the PTA's of Wilton, Miller-Driscoll, Cider Mill, Middlebrook, Wilton High School, and SEPTA

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PTA NEWS

Reflections Contest

This year, let's encourage our students to consider the importance of community with the **2025-26 PTA Reflections Contest** theme, **"I Belong!"** Student artists are invited to create original work!

The contest deadline is Friday, November 21. The District wide Ceremony with art display and announcement of awards will take place in January, date to be announced.



2025-2026
CALL FOR
ENTRIES

Introducing This Year's Theme
I Belong!

Explore the arts and
express yourself!

Dance - Film - Music - Literature - Photography

Deadline for Entries:
Nov 21

For Details:
Stay Tuned!

Logos: MILLER-RODRIGUEZ STARS, #CM Cider Mill School, MBPTA, PTSA, SEPTA everychild.onevoice

Click here for:
Submission Form
and Rules

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PTA NEWS

Contact Us

- **Email:** president.cidermillpta@gmail.com
- **Website:** www.cidermillpta.org
- **Follow us** on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)



Join the PTA

Membership for the 2025–26 school year is officially open! Sign up now to receive access to the online school directory and support the important work of the PTA. **[Sign up here!](#)**

The Turnover Shop

The Turnover Shop is a great Wilton resource when looking to reuse or donate items you no longer need. Many of our lost and found items end up at the Turnover Shop at the end of terms. And **they are the PTA's largest sponsor!** Please check them out at **<https://turnovershopwilton.org/>**.

Spiritwear

To purchase spiritwear for your child, shop here: **cidermillpta.org/spiritwear**

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SCHOOL/DISTRICT NEWS

#wiltoniswhereyoubelong Fashion Show!

Save the date for the first annual #wiltoniswhereyoubelong Fashion Show! Presented in collaboration with Wilton Community Steps Program, Wilton Pride, Wilton SEPTA, Middlebrook, and Wilton High School, the fashion show celebrates creativity, community, and inclusion. A highlight of the evening will be students with neurodiverse profiles walking alongside their peer mentors. **[Click here for more details and to purchase tickets.](#)**

- **Thursday, October 23**
- **6:30pm**
- **Zellner Gallery at the Clune Center, Wilton High School**



october 23 | 2025
A LAUNCH YOUR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING EVENT

THE FIRST ANNUAL
#wiltoniswhereyoubelong
fashion show

Reception 6:30 PM
Fashion Show 7:00 PM
Halftime Paddle Raise 7:30 PM
Fashion Show Finale 7:45 PM

ZELLNER GALLERY
WILTON HIGH SCHOOL

SUPPORTING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WILTON STUDENTS WITH DIVERSE LEARNING PROFILES

TICKETS: \$20
scan to purchase

PRESENTED BY
The Turnover Shop
Wilton Community Steps
Wilton Pride
Wilton Special Education PTA (SEPTA)

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SCHOOL/DISTRICT NEWS

CM Family Fun Night at the Bridgeport Islanders!

Come cheer on our Cider Mill 5th Grade Chorus as they perform *God Bless America* before puck drop at the Bridgeport Islanders game! It's a special day to support our students, enjoy a family outing, and celebrate the Cider Mill community together. **Click here for discounted tickets.**

- Sunday, November 2
- 3:00pm
- Total Mortgage Arena





ISLANDERS
Sunday, November 2^d

THUNDERBIRDS
Game Time: 3:00PM

**The Bridgeport Islanders Welcome
Cider Mill School!**
Join us in supporting Cider Mill School as they perform God Bless America before puck drop!


Cider Mill School
See Here, See You, Beelongs

Get your discounted tickets using this QR code or link:
<https://www.gofevo.com/event/Cidermill61>



Please contact Maggie.Howard@bridgeportislanders.com or
203.345.4853 with any questions!

 **BRIDGEPORT ISLANDERS**

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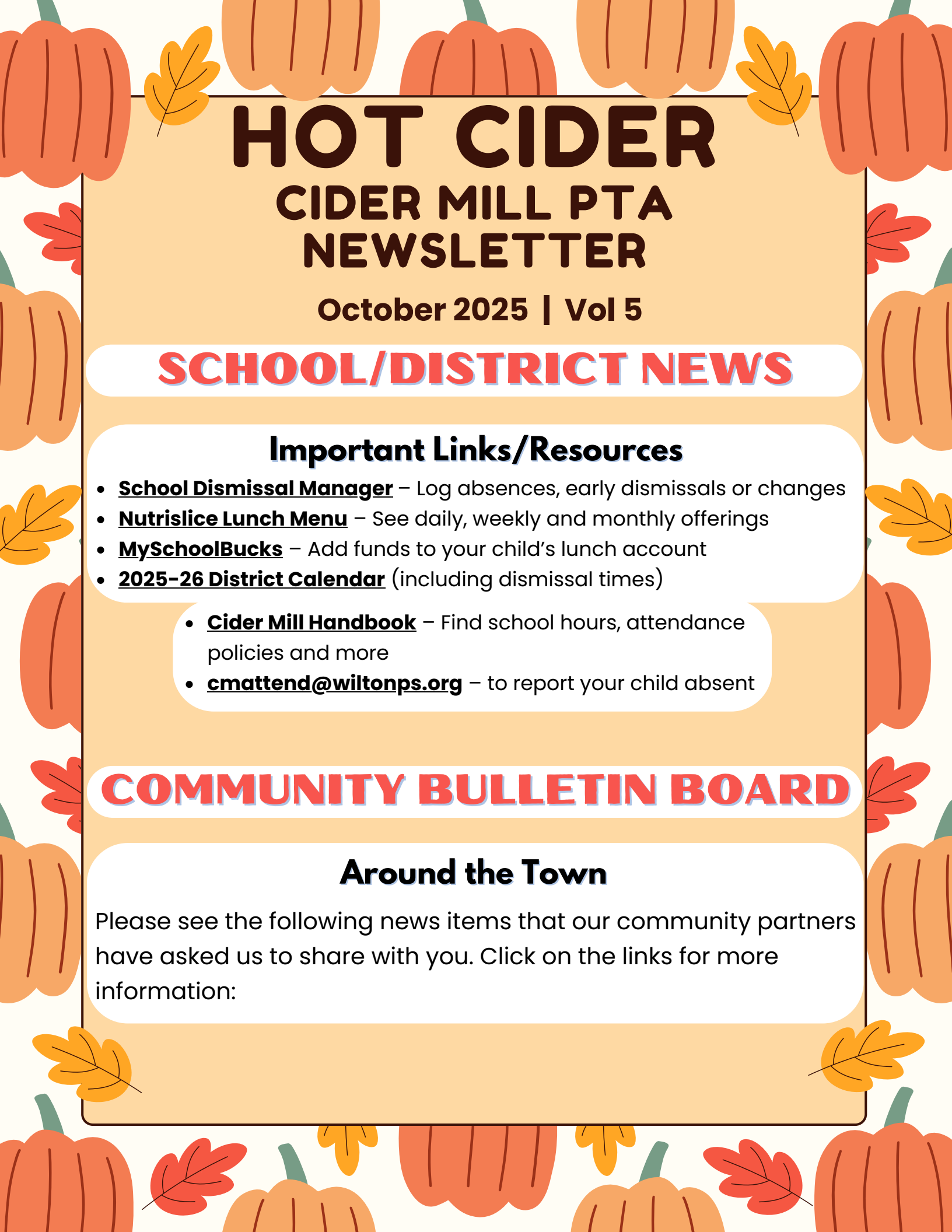
Harlem Wizards vs. Wilton Teachers & Staff!

The Harlem Wizards return to Wilton to play our teachers and staff on Sunday, November 2 at 4:00pm (doors open at 3:00).

Come see the world famous Harlem Wizards' basketball wizardry in action. All proceeds from this event fund WPS programming and initiatives. **Buy tickets [here](#)** and don't miss out on the chance to cheer on our CM home team: **Sarah Arbucci, Blake Epstein, Kim Hellthaler, Eileen Montgomery, Joe Pullia, Erica Rome, Anastasia Romond, and Jeff Schwartz!**

We're also looking for parents to volunteer for shifts on the day of the event. **Sign up [here](#)** and we'll see you on the court!



The entire page is framed by a decorative border of orange and red pumpkins and autumn leaves. The pumpkins are of various sizes and are scattered around the perimeter, with some leaves interspersed between them. The background of the central content area is a solid light orange color.

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Important Links/Resources

- **School Dismissal Manager** – Log absences, early dismissals or changes
 - **Nutrislice Lunch Menu** – See daily, weekly and monthly offerings
 - **MySchoolBucks** – Add funds to your child's lunch account
 - **2025-26 District Calendar** (including dismissal times)
- **Cider Mill Handbook** – Find school hours, attendance policies and more
 - **cmattend@wiltonps.org** – to report your child absent

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Around the Town

Please see the following news items that our community partners have asked us to share with you. Click on the links for more information:

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Wilton NAMI-CAN (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Child Adolescent Network) Free Parent Support Group Meetings

<https://namisouthwestct.org/> - Mondays, 11/3 and 12/1 from 10:00-11:30am over Zoom (cameras on).

Wilton Hoops Travel Basketball

www.wiltonhoops.org - Registration open now. Tryouts week of 10/20 (Boys) and 10/27 (Girls).

Wilton Youth Wrestling

www.wiltonyouthwrestling.org - Registration open now. Practices begin 12/2.

Wilton Cheer and WHS Video Club Halloween-themed 5K

<https://runsignup.com/Race/CT/Wilton/FamilyFunHalloween5k> - Wilton, CT. Saturday, 10/25 at 10:00am.

2026 HRRRA Billboard Recycling Contest

<https://hrra.org/annual-billboard-contest/> - The theme is "Don't Trash Textiles." Deadline to submit artwork: Friday, 11/14.

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Wilton Y Wahoos Thanksgiving Pie and Cooke Dough

Fundraiser! <https://my.mcmfundraising.com/2025-fall-wilton-y-wahoos-swim-team/wilton-y-wahoos/> - Place your order by 10/10 and pick up on 11/22.

Marché Holiday Artisan Market

www.marchewilton.com - WEPCO Complex, 48 New Canaan Rd, Wilton, CT. Saturday, 11/29 from 10:00am - 3:00pm.

Your Academics

youracademics.org - Free tutoring from WHS students that runs throughout the year.

If you would like to be featured in this section in a future issue, please contact the following email address to fill out a [Google Form](#):

hotcider.cidermillpta@gmail.com

*Release date of next issue: **11/2/25***

*Submission deadline: **10/29/25***