



miller-driscoll

PTA

2018-2019

PTA Schoolhouse Scoop

September 23, 2018



Dear Parents, Family and Caregivers of Miller-Driscoll Students,

Every year we are fortunate enough, through the generosity of our community, to further enrich programming within Miller-Driscoll through our Annual Appeal. Where does your PTA donation go? For example, these are just some of the programs funded in 2017-2018:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| • School-wide Grants | \$11,000 funded by PTA |
| • Science Enrichment | \$10,600 funded by PTA |
| • Spring and Fall Fine Arts Performances | \$6,500 funded by PTA |
| • Start-up Grants for teachers | \$6,116 funded by PTA |
| • 2 nd grade picnic | \$4,540 funded by PTA |
| • Visiting Authors | \$3,500 funded by PTA |
| • Preschool programming | \$2,000 funded by PTA |
| • Outdoor Learning Center | \$1,440 funded by PTA |

In 2017-2018, the Miller-Driscoll PTA was able to fund over \$55,000 in additional programming and events for our school.

These and so many other events (family bingo nights, staff appreciation, music program t-shirts, Principal's coffee, etc) are made possible ONLY because of PTA donations.

For 2018-2019 we are once again asking for your help.

Please support your PTA and our children. None of this would be possible without you!

Thank you - we sincerely appreciate your support!

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Please Print Name: _____

YES! I support the Miller-Driscoll PTA with a one-time donation of:

\$40

\$_____ (other amount)

Make check payable to Miller-Driscoll PTA and send to school in an envelope marked **ANNUAL APPEAL.**

OR

Pay Online with your PayPal <https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory/> (online store on left column)

Important Dates*

- Sept 24:** PTA Meeting/Coffee with Principal Coon. 9:30 – 10:30am, MD Cafeteria.
A Great Opportunity for New Parents to Meet our Administrators!
- Sept 26/27:** K-2 School Picture Days. [Click for Flyer](#) to order photos.
- Sept 28:** PreK School Picture Day. [Click for Flyer](#) to order photos.
- Oct 3:** Library Volunteer Information meeting. 9:15am, MD Library.
MUST RSVP to michelleAkrupa@gmail.com or emma.halliwell@yahoo.co.uk.
- Oct 15:** PTA Meeting, 9:30 – 10:30am, MD Cafeteria. Guest: Superintendent Smith.
- Oct 19/20/21:** Fall Carnival (**Save the Dates!**).
- Oct 20/21:** Karen Morneau Fall Photo Day. [Click for Flyer](#).



*While we do our best to accurately reflect dates and times of school meetings and events, it is possible that there are changes. Please check the school calendar for the most up to date information.

School News

+ Miller-Driscoll PTA Meetings

Miller-Driscoll PTA Meetings are held one Monday a month from 9:30 – 10.30am in the MD cafeteria. All PTA Members are welcome! Mark your calendar and join us!

Sept 24 –Featuring *Coffee with Principal Coon*

Oct 15 – *Guest: Superintendent Smith*

Nov 12

Jan 14

Feb 11

Mar 18

Apr 22

May 20

June 10, last meeting of the school year

+ Miller-Driscoll Library Volunteers Needed!

Do you love books? Do you like to organize? Want to work with the kids of Miller-Driscoll on a regular basis throughout the school year? Then, we may have just the opportunity for you! We are looking for a few new faces to join us in the library this year. The library volunteers are essential to keeping the library running smoothly. It is a unique opportunity that allows you to assist the librarians and the children weekly or biweekly throughout the school year. We get going very quickly at the beginning of the year so if you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact either Michelle Krupa (michelleAkrupa@gmail.com) or Emma Halliwell (emma.halliwell@yahoo.co.uk), the Miller-Driscoll Library volunteer coordinators. Our Information and Organizational meeting for becoming a library volunteer will be held on October 3rd at 9:15am in the school library. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

+ Wilton Youth Services Parent Workshop Opportunity

How to Talk So Kids Will Listen And Listen So Kids Will Talk

Wilton Public Schools is again running a six-week workshop called “How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk.” The program, developed by the authors of the book by the same name, uses lessons, role-play, and practice to help parents develop more effective skills for communicating with their children.

In this workshop, participants will learn how to:

- Engage your child's willing cooperation
- Deal with your child's negative feelings - frustration, disappointment, anger
- Express your anger without being hurtful
- Set firm limits and still maintain goodwill
- Use alternatives to punishment that promote self-discipline
- Encourage positive relationships between your children
- Resolve family conflicts peacefully

There are 3 sessions in the fall. To register, please call Wilton Youth Services at (203) 834-6241.

TIME & LOCATION: 10:00 -11:30 AM at Comstock Community Center

Session 1 – Tuesdays (Please note for Pre K - Grade 2 parents only)

Facilitated by: Jim Martin, Elena White

Sept 25, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Session 2 - Thursdays

Facilitated by: Nicole Mok, Bonnie Schnitzler

Sept 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1

Session 3 – Mondays

Facilitated by: Kim Zemo, Kathy Weiss

Oct 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19

This enormously successful program was introduced last year with funding provided through a joint initiative of the Wilton Woman's Club and Wilton Youth Council.

If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Kim Zemo at zemok@wiltonps.org.

+ A Message from Our MD Green Team

We are excited to continue to have a Bay State Textile collection bin at our school. As part of our mission we want to make sure there are many ways to help our families divert “waste” from landfills and incinerators and that includes textiles.

“In the process of diverting textiles from the waste stream, Bay State Textiles' job is to collect the textiles. We send what we collect to people all over the world, and they're the ones who decide what happens to it. These companies sort the clothing into three different grades. 45% of the textiles can be reused as clothing. 30% gets turned into wiping cloth. 25% is converted into fibers that are used to make things like stuffing for stuffed toys, or the insulation in the seats of your car. Only 5% of what's collected can't be recycled, because it is contaminated.”

Our MD Green Team earns \$100 per ton (2000 lbs) collected from our box and that money will be used to support our programs.

The bin is located in the main parking lot at school. **All donations need to be bagged.** Check out the “[Acceptable Items](#)” flyer before donating.



+ Children Do Well When They Can: Identifying & Collaboratively Solving the Problems That Cause Challenging Behavior

Monday, October 8

5:00 – 7:00 pm @ Wilton High School's Clune Center

Admission is free; registration is recommended

(RossGreeneWilton.eventbrite.com)

Parent presentation by Ross W. Greene, Ph.D., Author of *The Explosive Child*; *Lost at School*; and *Raising Human Beings*

Children do well when they can; when they can't, it is because of lagging skills and unsolved problems. Whether a child responds by whining, sulking, or crying, or in ways that are more concerning - hitting, swearing, or biting - the goal of parents and caregivers is to identify and solve the underlying problems that cause the behavior. Join us to learn from child psychologist Ross W. Greene, Ph.D., how to understand children's challenging episodes, identify unsolved problems and begin to solve problems. Dr. Greene is the originator of the innovative, empirically-supported approach to children's behavioral challenges known as Collaborative & Proactive Solutions.

In the 2018-2019 school year, the Wilton Public Schools will be learning more about Dr. Greene's model. The district has worked with Dr. Greene to create a plan to help teachers, faculty, administration, staff, and parents learn how to help students with effective self-regulation and problem-solving strategies. This will begin with keynote addresses for elementary, middle and high school faculty on October 8, which is a professional development day for district staff. In addition to working with faculty, Dr. Greene will also present to parents and other concerned adults to share this model with our community. Please contact Genevieve Eason at Genevieve.Eason@gmail.com with questions.

Sponsored by: Wilton Public Schools, SPED*NET Wilton, Wilton Youth Council, and Wilton Youth Services

+ Online PTA Membership and Directories

Please join the Miller Driscoll PTA! While we would love for you to get involved, you do not have to volunteer! **Your membership and donation dollars fund valuable programs at Miller Driscoll**, including: Fine and Performing Arts performances, Visiting Author, Women in History, Outdoor Learning Center, Science Enrichment, Field Trips, Bingo Nights, 2nd Grade Picnic, Teacher & Staff Appreciation, Teacher start-up grants, PTA Grants, and many more.

PLUS, when you join the PTA, you gain ***instant access to our online directory!***

Visit <https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory/>, choose parent or teacher registration, and enter your email, name and the code "wilton" to join. When you pay your membership dues, **please consider making a tax-deductible donation; our programs are only possible with the additional support of our members!**

Please add support@mobilearq.com to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link. If you have any questions please contact Kaylie Vo Pham (tokvoj@gmail.com). Click [here](#) for FAQs and registration information. [Numerous PTA benefits are available to members!](#)

Other Ways to Support the PTA

+ Use AmazonSmile to Donate to the Miller-Driscoll PTA

If you don't already know about AmazonSmile, you should! When you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. The Miller Driscoll PTA is now set up to receive donations from AmazonSmile!

Here's how to help us:

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Search for and select "Miller Driscoll PTA" as your charity of choice
3. Start at smile.amazon.com every time you shop on Amazon

Pro tip: Search for "AmazonSmile plug-in" and the name of your browser (like Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.) to find and download a browser plug-in that will redirect you to AmazonSmile every time you go to Amazon. Even if you're not technically inclined, it's easier than it sounds!

This is a simple and free way to increase funding to our PTA. Thank you for taking a few minutes to get set up!

+ Save Our Lost and Found!!!! Label Your Child's Items!!!!

Introducing MABELS LABELS - A fundraiser for the Miller-Driscoll PTA that can save your child's items!

Step 1: Your first step is to visit our website, mabelslabels.com, click the "Support A Fundraiser" button located on the top of your screen, and then select **Miller Driscoll PTA (Wilton)** from the drop-down list.

Step 2: Once your organization has been selected, you will be directed to a landing page that will say "**Miller Driscoll PTA (Wilton) Welcomes You To Our Page > Click here to buy**"

Ongoing News at Miller-Driscoll

+ Lost Property at the Bus Depot

Is your child missing a jacket, water bottle or hat? Items left on buses can be found at the Bus Depot Lost and Found. The bus depot is located at 130 School Road. If your child has lost or left something of value, other than clothing, on a bus, please contact the bus company directly. They will ask you for the child's bus number, date lost, and a description of the article. Dispatch Office 203-762-8600

Community News

+ Wilton TOPSoccer: Fall 2018 Registration is Open!

TOPSoccer provides children with special needs the opportunity to learn and play soccer in a structured and fun environment. Each player is assigned a "buddy" (high school student) who will assist him/her in learning the game.

- ⚽ Who: Children ages Pre-K to 18 years old
- ⚽ When: Sundays 2-3pm beginning Sept 9th
- ⚽ Where: Comstock field, 180 School Road
- ⚽ Drop-in to try a session for free*
- ⚽ To register: <http://www.wiltonsoccer.info>
- ⚽ Questions? Contact Zach Dedrick at 19dedrickz@wiltonps.org or Rachel Slater at 21slaterr@gmail.com

+ Bake Sales to Benefit the Ronald McDonald House of the Greater Hudson Valley

Monday, September 24: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm @ Village Market

Tuesday, September 25: 11:30 am – 2:00 pm @ Village Market

The bake sale proceeds go towards the fundraising goals of the **[Dylan J. Hoffman Memorial Walk](#)** and Family Funday on **September 30**. Dylan passed away shortly before starting Miller-Driscoll Preschool Services on September 12, 2014. His younger sister, Hailey, has just started kindergarten at Miller-Driscoll. The Hoffman Family raises money each September at the bake sales to honor Dylan and raise awareness of the Ronald McDonald House that they stayed in instead of travelling back and forth to Wilton while Dylan received the critical care he needed as a newborn in Valhalla, NY. [Click here](#) for more information.

+ Wilton Youth Council (WYC) – wiltonyouth.org

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

+ WYC's Class Project 2023

WYC's Class Project 2023 is very excited to announce that we have worked closely with ISlides to create three custom pairs of high quality slides designed exclusively for WILTON! Not only can you choose from one of the three designs, you can personalize your slides too - add a last name, a team name, a number - to customize them and make them uniquely your own. \$45 a pair.

Please note that these are only available for order from our online store until September 30th.

There will be samples on display at the Wilton Sport Shop, Open House as well as Signature Style.

To place your order please visit our 2023 Online Store by clicking the button below.

<https://warriorclass2023.wixsite.com/mysite/store>

+ Super heroes coming to Wilton!

Your favorite super heroes will be making an appearance at the **[Wilton Food Truck Festival](#)** on October 28th at Miller/Driscoll school. Come meet your heroes and also enjoy terrific food from 20 different trucks, live music on the Fairfield County Bank stage, terrific crafts from vendors from around the state! The festival will be held from 11-5!

+ The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group

School is back in session and for many children, so is the academic and social stress that can cause behavioral changes. 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. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the surrounding area.

Our next meetings are Mondays September 17 and October 22, from 10-11:30, G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. Information: Beth at [203-984-0123](tel:203-984-0123) or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at [203-970-4130](tel:203-970-4130) or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com. [Click here](#) for more information.

Community News submissions are accepted from any Wilton organization wishing to notify the Miller-Driscoll community of events or opportunities appropriate for our students and families. Submissions may be edited at the discretion of the editor and are not intended as endorsements by the Miller-Driscoll PTA.

Important Numbers/Websites

Office: 203.762.8678 and 203.762.3374
Attendance Line: 203.761-0364 or 203.762.8678 (option 1)

Student Transportation of America (Bus) Hotline: 203.762.8600

Looking for a Special Bus Assignment for the 2018-2019 school year? Special bus assignments will now be listed on **School Dismissal Manager**.

Miller-Driscoll*: <https://www.wiltonps.org/miller-driscoll>
Miller-Driscoll PTA: <https://www.millerdriscollpta.org>
Wilton School District: <https://www.wiltonps.org>
PowerSchool: <https://wilton.powerschool.com/public/>
MDTV <http://k2mdtv.blogspot.com> (Use the MDTV link to view the morning announcement broadcast each day at 9:00am)
MobileArq School Directory <https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory>

Calendars:

Chartwells Sept Lunch Menu: Click [HERE](#)

Wilton Public Schools 2018-2019: Click [HERE](#)

Wilton School District Calendar (Monthly view): Click [HERE](#)

Miller-Driscoll School Calendar (Monthly view): Click [HERE](#)

Schoolhouse Scoop: Deadlines, Policies + Procedures

To submit **School News**, email sonalvats@gmail.com. Please put "Schoolhouse Scoop submission" in your subject box.

The next newsletter scheduled for Sunday, September 30th is Schoolhouse *Scoop Lite*, a shortened version of the Scoop containing dates and important numbers. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, September 26th.

For deadline and publication dates, click [here](#). For previous issues, click [here](#)