

Mustang Minute: June 1, 2018



****Field Day/ KDG Picnic on Monday!!! Please make sure students have on comfy shoes (gym shoes or athletic sandals), sunscreen, bug spray and names on their water bottles.****

MES Website: [Link](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [@MillburnMustang](#)

Mustang Highlight: [Link](#)

Topics for this week:

- Curriculum Updates
- Extra Yearbooks
- End of Year Activities
- 2018 Cross Country
- PTO News
- Important Dates
- Virtual Backpack Items

Since this is the last newsletter of the school year, I want to thank all families for a successful year. We saw tremendous growth with our students and I am very pleased in their accomplishments. Thank you to all of our staff for working with such dedication and thank you parents for being active in your child's education. Enjoy your summer!

Curriculum Updates: We took great strides towards a standards-based report card this year. Our teachers broke down grade level standards in each subject, reviewed information from the state, and created Power Standards in Math. These efforts will allow teachers to better direct teaching practices and assessments towards those standards. Currently, we are addressing the English Language Arts standards. Ms. Shay McCorkle from the Regional Office of Education in Lake County is working with our teachers further develop our application of standards in the classroom. We will continue this work into next school year.

In Science, we piloted a program called Mystery Science. Throughout the year, we received great feedback from teachers and students alike. The lessons were engaging, aligned to standards, and fun for the kids. Because of this success, we are moving forward with using this program as a part of our science curriculum. We still need to explore more opportunities for engineering aspects to our standards. Currently, we are exploring STEM labs as a way to meet those engineering standards. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) is a hot button word now in education. STEM is a way to integrate those aspects into real-world application.

Finally, our current reading series, Reading Street, is going on ten years of practice at Millburn. This year, our English Language Arts (ELA) Committee has been exploring new programs to implement. After thoughtful searching, we identified a program that we want to try called ARC Core. The Board of Education as provided us funds to pilot this program next year in some of our classrooms. We will provide more information to families at Parent Night next year about the program.

Extra Yearbooks: We have some extra yearbooks!! Each year we put names into a lottery for selection. If you are interested in being a part of the yearbook lottery, please complete the form in the virtual backpack and return it to school next week.

End of Year Activities: On Monday, June 4, we have a lot going throughout day. Kindergarten will be at Heritage Trails Park all day for a picnic, it should be a great time for them. 1st -5th grade will have Field Day in the morning at MES, then dance to a DJ in the afternoon. We will provide popsicles in the afternoon. If you would like to know the nutritional information and ingredients, please see the Virtual Backpack for information on the product. If you do not wish to have your child have a popsicle, please let the homeroom teacher know.

We will conclude *Monday, June 4th* by wishing our 5th grade farewell as students in K-4th Grade line the hallways and sidewalks to wish them luck as they leave for dismissal.

On the last day of school, *Tuesday, June 5*, we will do our end of the year PBIS assembly filled with Staff Challenge(s) and raffle prizes to students. We will enjoy a picnic-style lunch where all students will have a chance to eat outside (for those who take hot lunch it will be a bag lunch). We will dismiss at 1:00, which will be the start of summer break!

2018 Cross Country Season- All 5th through 8th graders interested in running cross country this fall should have their parents/guardians email Coach Perusich at dperusich@millburn24.net. When emailing Coach Perusich, please include your son's/daughter's name, his/her grade this fall, and your email contact information. Coach Perusich will be emailing information regarding August workouts, spirit wear, and the upcoming 2018 cross country season. Expect to receive an email by the end of July.

PTO NEWS!

PTO MEETING!! Thanks to all who attended our final PTO meeting of the school year. We appreciate all of the feedback! We approved purchasing a \$25 stipend to Brainstorm for all teachers for August! We also elected Amber Fendel as our PTO Vice President, CONGRATS! We need to elect a MMS PTO President and Secretary at our September meeting. Committees we are also looking for help with next school year are; MMS Staff Appreciation, World's Finest Chocolates, MES Recess Volunteers, MES Decorations, MMS Book Fair, MES Book Fair and 8th Grade Farewell Celebration. PLEASE reach out with any questions!

NEW PTO WEBSITE!! The new website is now active and ready to receive new members! Please visit our site and sign up for membership for next school year so you can receive the latest communications on our events, news, activities and more! It is quick and easy! Thank you for your continued support!

- Browse to www.millburnpto.com
- Click "SIGN UP" in the top right corner and you will be prompted to create an account within PTBoard (our new site).
- You will be sent a confirmation email to verify your email. Click the confirmation button to go back into our site.
- Log back into our site and click the green button to JOIN SCHOOL and enter our school code: **5SRAMT**
- You can now pay for your membership and enter your student's information for the directory for the upcoming school year

BOX TOPS!! Congrats to Mrs. Piekarcz's class for submitting the most box tops for the End-of-the-Year Box Top Drive! Her students have won a classroom party to enjoy before the end of the year!

April Box Top \$25 Target Gift Card Winner: Ariana Lech (4E)

May Box Top \$25 Target Gift Card Winner: Sammi Madsen (3D)

We will be having a Back-To-School Box Top Drive in September - don't forget to save all of those box tops over the summer! The classroom with the most submitted will win a classroom party, as well as the students who submit over 200 will win a one-of-a-kind prize! We will also be continuing the \$25 Target Gift Card Random Winner next year, so every box top counts!

PTO SPIRIT NIGHT at Chick-fil-A!! Join us at **Chick-fil-A** next Tuesday, June 5th anytime between 5:30pm - 7:30pm for your next opportunity to not cook! Enjoy "Millburn PTO's - Spirit Night" at the Chick-Fil-A in Gurnee! Just show the flyer in virtual backpack or our Facebook Page! Keep in mind, Chick-fil-A donates 10% of the sales!

FACEBOOK!! Be sure to LIKE our Facebook page before school is out for quick updates and to see what other restaurant promotions we will have scheduled throughout the Summer months. Next up is **Chik-Fil-A!!**

TWITTER!! Please "FOLLOW US" on Twitter at Millburn PTO @MillburnPTO24!

Upcoming Events: Box Tops Winning Classroom Party 6/1, Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night 6/5

If I can be of any assistance or if you have questions, please contact me at bwalshire@millburn24.net or (847) 356-8331.

Mr. Ben Walshire
Millburn Elementary Principal

June

4th- Field Day (1st-5th), KDG Picnic
5th-Last Day of School, 1:00 Release

Summer Dates

August 6-7- Kindergarten Screening
August 9- New Family Orientation
August 13- PowerSchool Goes Live (Homeroom Teacher Assignments)
August 22- Supply Drop Off/Pictures
August 23- First Day of School

Link for MES School Calendar- [LINK](#)

Virtual Backpack- [LINK](#)

Miss Lindenhurst