

*Mustang Minute: September 4, 2015*  
**\*\*\*NO SCHOOL MONDAY- Labor Day**

**Student Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures:** If you are dropping your child off in the morning, you are welcome to pull up along the curb to drop your child off. Students should exit on the passenger side closest to the curb. If you would like to walk them to the doors, you will need to park in our parking spaces so we can keep traffic moving.

For afternoon pick-up, parents do need to park in spaces and walk in to sign students out. Cars cannot be parked along the curb unattended as this is also a fire lane.

**1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Parent Night:** Parent Night (Formerly Curriculum Night) at MES will be Thursday, September 10. Grades 1-3 will start at 6:00 PM and Grades 4- 5 will start at 7:00 PM. This night is designed to help inform parents of our curriculum and our goals to provide high quality instruction for our students. Special Area teachers will be available in their rooms if you would like to stop by and talk with them. This night is for parents only. Once again, parents are asked to report directly to their child's homeroom at their assigned time.

**Millburn Cup:** This year's Millburn Education Foundation golf outing will be held Friday, September 11, at Bittersweet Golf Club in Gurnee. All proceeds will benefit the students of Millburn School District. You may register at: <http://millburncup.eventzilla.net/>

**Media Center:** The Media Center has been a busy place this week. Many classes have come in for a tour. Grades K-2 enjoyed a story and a walking tour, while 3rd-5th grade students completed a self guided Scavenger Hunt using the iPads and scanning QR codes. Please Follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/yourmediacenter> to see some pictures and read about what's happening in your Media Center. Included in the Backpack this week are the Media Center Guidelines. You will find information about check out limit, due dates, and our overdue policy.

**Recess Volunteers:** Millburn Elementary School is looking for volunteers to assist on the playgrounds during this 2015-2016 academic year. Recess volunteers are needed Monday-Friday between 11AM-1215PM. Recess volunteers can sign up for one day a week, one day every other week or even one day each month. For further information, please contact Recess Volunteer Coordinator Tracy Behnke at [tracybehnke@hotmail.com](mailto:tracybehnke@hotmail.com).

**Immunizations:** Parents or legal guardians who object, for religious reasons, to their child being immunized for school entrance must submit a Certificate of Religious Exemption, which now must be signed by a health care provider. Signed into law on August 3, 2015, this new legislation requires a health care provider to sign the certificate confirming they have provided education to parents or legal guardians about the benefits of immunizations and the health risks of not vaccinating students. The certificate also reflects the parents or legal guardians understanding that their child may be excluded from school in the case of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or exposure. This new requirement will be in place for religious exemption requests beginning October 16, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Vanko, our school nurse.

**Kindergarten Lunch Volunteers:** We are looking for volunteers to come in daily to help with Kindergarten lunchtime from 11:20-11:50. This is a new arena for our kindergarten students and we want to provide them as much support as we can with getting through the lunch line, choosing their side dishes, or even poking that straw through their Capri-Sun. If you are interested, please contact me at school. If you are interested in going outside to assist recess, please contact Recess Volunteer Coordinator Tracy Behnke at [tracybehnke@hotmail.com](mailto:tracybehnke@hotmail.com).

**Young Rembrandts:** Millburn will once again house Young Rembrandts. If interested in signing up, please see the flyer in this week's Virtual Backpack.

## PTO News

**WHAT IS THE PTO!!** Our parent volunteers help enhance the relationship between home and school and maintain the working rapport that exists between parents and school staff. We supplement the needs of the school with funds in order to provide the best possible educational experience for the children in Millburn School District 24.

Our INVESTMENT in the district includes, but is not limited to:

- \$18 per student in STUDENT ENHANCEMENT FUND to help fund field trips and classroom supplies
- TECHNOLOGY including LCD projectors for each classroom and Carts with 30 mini iPads
- A new marquee sign at MMS
- Filtered Water Bottle Filling Stations at MES
- \$30 Stipends for each teacher to spend locally at Brainstorm for classroom supplies
- Staff Appreciation lunches and dessert raffles throughout the year
- Gifts and surprises for teachers and staff during National Teacher Appreciation Week
- 3 Family Fun Nights at MES
- 3 Activity Nights at MMS
- Classroom Holiday Celebrations at MES
- Holiday Surprises at MMS
- Fall Fest
- District Talent Show
- Book Fairs at MES & MMS
- PBIS Assemblies at MES & MMS
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Farewell Celebration

To fund all of the above contributions, the PTO coordinates several fundraisers throughout the year; Kids Resale, School Portraits, Box Tops, Millburn Family Fun Run, Wendy's, Target, and NEW this year, Kidstuff Coupon Books and World's Finest Chocolates!

**PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!!** In order to continue our investment in the district and to our students, we need your support and membership. We only meet FIVE times per school year. Your PTO membership gives you a voice, vote on how the money is raised and how it is spent. Please consider joining us to help keep all of these fabulous programs alive for the 2015-16 year. Please register at [www.MillburnPTO.com](http://www.MillburnPTO.com). Our PAPERLESS PTO system is where all signups, calendars, eblasts, membership directory and purchases can take place in one centralized location.

Membership costs only \$10 and provides you with the PaperlessPTO app for one device. Access the membership directory, class lists, calendar and much more! Once you complete the membership purchase at [www.MillburnPTO.com](http://www.MillburnPTO.com), please use the REGISTRATION KEY found in your email receipt to activate the app on your device. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the PTO Board Members at [www.MillburnPTO.com](http://www.MillburnPTO.com).

**WELCOME BACK PTO MEETING!!** Please join us for our first meeting of the year at 7pm at MMS LRC on September 16.

**KIDSTUFF COUPON BOOKS!!** We are trying a new fundraiser this fall, which is replacing Innisbrook. Your youngest child will come home with a Kidstuff Coupon Book next Tuesday. Books cost \$25 and are filled with awesome, local coupons! If you would like to purchase the book, simply keep it and send in cash or check, made payable to Millburn PTO. You can also order more books for family and friends, what a great gift idea for the holidays!

**FALL FEST!!** Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 26th from 12:00-4:00pm at Millburn Elementary for this year's Fall Festival! It will be fun for the whole family. Events include: pony rides, 18 foot inflatable slide, inflatable obstacle course, games and new, bigger prizes! Also, get ready to get some of Millburn's teachers wet in a power shower! Hit a target and see your teacher get soaked! Tickets for the fest will become available starting next week. We need volunteers for the event! Go to <http://vols.pt/xkpTHC> to sign up.

*Upcoming Events: KIDSTUFF FUNDRAISER 9/8-9/18, WELCOME BACK PTO MEETING 9/16, FALL FEST 9/26*

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

Mr. Ben Walshire  
Millburn Elementary Principal

**September**

7<sup>th</sup> No School- Labor Day  
8<sup>th</sup> Beginning Band Registration and Instrument Rental 4-7PM  
10<sup>th</sup> MES Parent Night (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> @ 6:00, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00)  
11<sup>th</sup> Millburn Cup Golf Outing  
26<sup>th</sup> PTO Fall Fest @ 12:00

**\*Remember to view the Millburn Elementary calendar online to find all the events and activities.**

**Virtual Backpack:**

**Media Center Policy**  
**Young Rembrandts**  
**Kids Health and Safety Fair**  
**Zion Area Job Fair**  
**Cub Scout Pack 87 Information**

**Link to Virtual Backpack:** <http://www.millburn24.net/parents.cfm?subpage=1225444>