



PTA SCHOOLHOUSE SCOOP

SEPTEMBER 2021



Hello and welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!

The future is bright! And we are so excited to begin a new school year with all of you.

We are working as a team to support all the children, families, teachers and staff at Miller-Driscoll. And we welcome you to be part of that PTA team—join us as a member, come to events, or even volunteer to make things happen!

We are your PTA co-Presidents... and we're here for YOU!

Reach out to us! president@millerdriscollpta.org



—LIZ ALLEVA & SARA SCLAFANI



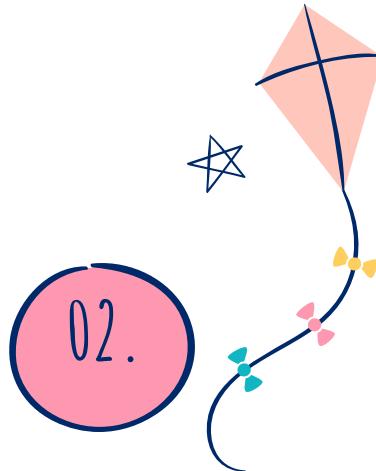


JOIN THE PTA



WHY JOIN?

Annual membership dues enrich programs at Miller-Driscoll. PTA membership provides: Voting rights at PTA meetings, Instant access to our online directory, Online parenting resources through CT PTA, including Our Children online magazine, Online leadership training, PTA Takes Action Network, connecting you directly to Congress on issues that matter most.



01.

HOW TO JOIN

- Membership now open, visit: <https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory> to sign-up today!
- Choose parent or teacher registration.
- Enter the email you have on file with the school, your name and the code “wilton” to join.
- Pay your dues and start enjoying benefits!

Fees: \$20/person; \$30/Family.

Special \$15 Membership Option for M-D Teachers!
(does not include access to online directory)





SEP 28 @ 9:30 AM

PTA MEETING

Join the M-D PTA and guest speakers Kathy Coon,
Janaen Carley, Bernadette Hess, and Bryan Ennis

Location: Miller-Driscoll School



PTA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Liz Alleva & Sara Sclafani

president@millerdriscollpta.com

CO-PRESIDENTS

Meghan Newton

membership@millerdriscollpta.com

Alexis Murphy

fundraising@millerdriscollpta.com

VP FUNDRAISING

Valerie Incao

secretary@millerdriscollpta.com

SECRETARY

Christine Marks

treasurer@millerdriscollpta.com

TREASURER

Heather Lomsky

parentatlarge@millerdriscollpta.com

PARENT-AT-LARGE



CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES

Sep 3	Spirit Day	Sep 21	Open House – Grades 1 and 2 (Time TBA)
Sep 6	Labor Day – No School	Sep 21	Photo Day
Sep 7	Rosh Hashanah – No School	Sep 22	Photo Day
Sep 14	Open House – Pre-K and K (Time TBA)	Sep 24	Trackside Movie – 6:30 PM ET
Sep 16	Yom Kippur – No School	Sep 28	PTA Meeting – 9:30 AM ET



SHOUT OUTS

★ THANK YOU TEACHERS & STAFF

Thank you to our amazing administrators, teachers, and staff for working tirelessly to ensure a safe and successful learning environment where our children can thrive.



SHOUT OUTS



CHEERS TO HOSPITALITY

Thank you so much to Angie Bertolino and Caroline Hanauer, together with their hospitality team, for starting off the school year with two events that hit it out of the park!

Last Tuesday, the PTA sponsored a welcome back luncheon for teachers and staff. With food catered from Pokeworks in Wilton, the event was a huge success. Word on the street is that many were lined up for seconds!

This past Saturday, the PTA also hosted the class meetups on the Miller-Driscoll playgrounds. What an incredibly fun day full of laughter and smiles as the children were able to meet and play with their fellow classmates!

A big thank you to our hospitality team...here's to more great events!

SHOUT OUTS



THE OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER

Thanks to Jolene Ballard, Kimberly Tunvall, and Rebecca Perlman for planting mums and weeding the sunflower garden in the Outdoor Learning Center. What a beautiful space for our children to enjoy!



EDUKITS DELIVERED

This past Friday, our EduKits team led by Danielle Dooner assembled all of the school supplies that were purchased and delivered them to our children's classrooms.

Some families chose to sponsor an extra kit for a student in need; those EduKits were brought to Wilton Social Services.

Thank you for such a seamless set up for the start of the year!



SCHOOL HOURS

Drop-off runs from 8:45am to 9:00am

PreK hours are 9:00am to 1:15pm

K-2 hours are 9:00am to 3:25pm

Dismissal to designated pickup areas at 3:25pm

Main Office: 203-762-8678

Attendance Line: 203-762-8678 Option 1

School Nurse: 203-762-8678 Option 2



M-D Calendar:

www.wiltonps.org/miller-driscoll/miller-driscoll-information/calendar

School Dismissal: www.schooldismissalmanager.com/

NutriSlice Menu: <https://wilton.nutrislice.com/menu>

MySchoolbucks: www.myschoolbucks.com

Board of Education Docs & Calendar:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ct/wilton/Board.nsf/Public>

Bus Questions: Fran Williams

203-762-3381 ext. 8295

williamsf@wiltonps.org



WAYS TO HELP

01. STOP AND SHOP

Sign into your account and choose Miller-Driscoll.

02. MABELS LABELS

Fun ways to label your child's belongings – [click here to learn more](#).

03. THE TURNOVER SHOP

Support M-D PTA by donating items, shopping, volunteering at the shop, and spreading the word.

04. AMAZON SMILE

Shop with Prime and Amazon will give to M-D PTA – [click here to learn more](#).

05. BOX TOPS

Box Tops for Education (BTFE) raise funds for M-D with every receipt scanned – [click here to learn more](#).





MEET LIZ



My husband Neill, son Mason and I moved to Wilton because of our firm belief in the strength of a public school education. Mason is now in Miss Perschino's first grade class and adores learning!

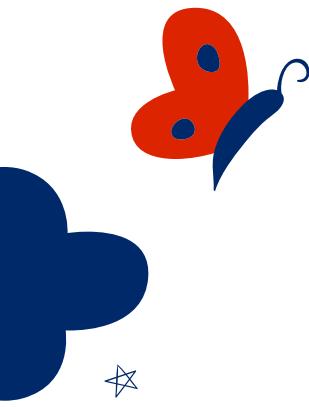


I have loved the journey of watching Mason grow at Miller-Driscoll and I too have loved being part of the PTA community as a Preschool Representative, Kindergarten Representative and now Co-President. As I look forward to the next two years, I am eager to continue supporting the Miller-Driscoll PTA and you. I am excited to work alongside my fellow parent Sara Sclafani and continue to bring joy and enriching activities to our school community.

My background is in education. With a BA from Wesleyan University and an MA from New York University, I was a public school dance educator in New York City for twelve years. I choreographed biannual, modern dance performances for over 300 students and co-directed musicals with a cast of over fifty students. I love to lead with empathy and a kind heart. My goal is always to inspire others to achieve.

I'm excited to continue this journey of making Miller-Driscoll a truly special place for elementary education.





MEET SARA



I have been a member of the Miller-Driscoll community since my oldest daughter, Audrey, began preschool at the Early Learning Center four years ago. She is now in second grade with Ms. Arcuri and my younger daughter, Amelia, is starting kindergarten in Mrs. Cook's class.



When I think about the kind of elementary education I want my children—and all children—to experience, an environment that fosters love of learning, inclusiveness, social responsibility, kindness, and perseverance is what comes to mind. Miller-Driscoll is a truly special place that exemplifies all of these core values (and more), and I am thrilled to be able to serve our families and our school with my Co-President, Liz Alleva.

My professional background is in corporate law and human resources, which prepared me well for daily negotiations with small children. From my experience working in both leadership and support roles, I recognize the utmost importance in welcoming the ideas of others and respecting the contributions of every individual. I also have previous experience as a member of the PTA, serving as a room representative and Preschool PTA Co-Representative, as well as volunteering my time more casually in the classroom and the school library (pre-pandemic).

I look forward to the next two years supporting you, your children and your families, and encourage everyone to dream big! Together we can achieve great things.



THINGS TO KNOW



Wilton Special Education PTA (SEPTA)

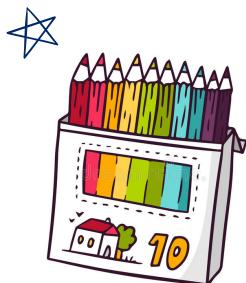
Join us for our First SEPTA Meeting on October 6 from 7:00pm-8:00pm.

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](#)

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 school year:

- Miller-Driscoll | Maria Stylianou mstylianou@gmail.com
- Cider Mill | Rosalie Witt rwtitt17@gmail.com
- Middlebrook | Kara Berghaus karaberghaus@hotmail.com
- Wilton High School | Donna Peterson donnacpeterson@gmail.com

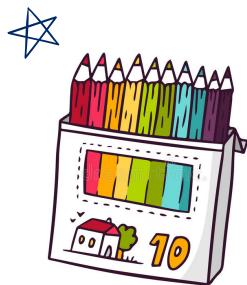




Coming Together: Responding to Unfinished Learning and Supporting Social-Emotional Health in the 2021-2022 School Year

Thursday, September 9 from 10:00am-11:30am | Wilton High School Clune Center
Register at <https://comingtogetherwilton.eventbrite.com>.

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.



If you would like to submit a question to the panel in advance, please email it to info@wiltonyouth.org.

Wilton Youth Council News



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.

Breathe and Connect: A Yoga / Mindfulness Experience | Friday 9/17 and Saturday 9/18
Jacqueline Jackson, E-RYT 500, will lead three age-appropriate workshops for children, teens, and adults. Learn more at: <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/breathe-connect>

Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend | Friday 9/17 to Sunday 9/19

Has your neighborhood had a block party this year? It's not too late to participate in Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend.

Learn more at: <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/block-party>



RESOURCES



FACEBOOK

Follow us to connect
with the PTA and M-D
Parents – [click here](#).



CT PTA

M-D PTA is a chapter of
the Connecticut PTA –
[click here for more info.](#)



NATIONAL PTA

Your M-D PTA
membership gains
access to national
resources – [click here to
get started.](#)