

# MERTON WILLIAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER—JULY 2011

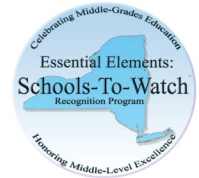


**Maximizing the Potential of the Individual Learner**

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Dear MW Parents,

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer and have found time to take vacation time with your family. I have taken some time to recharge my batteries and enjoy the quiet that summertime brings to a school when the students are not here. What happens at a middle school in the summer?



- ◆ Evaluating student achievement data that includes course grades and NYS Assessments (which we are still waiting for!).
- ◆ Finalizing the master schedule so that individual student schedules can be created and checked for accuracy.
- ◆ Planning new programs, evaluating and adjusting current programs.
- ◆ Readyng the building facilities with a thorough cleaning.
- ◆ Updating software and installing any new technology that is due for replacement.
- ◆ Interviewing and hiring new staff. (Not this year however, which is unusual!)

Assistant Principal, Suzanne Goff, and our Administrative Assistants, Carolyn Greif and Kate Zapf, have been working to put everything in place for our **7th Grade Orientation on August 30th** and **8th Grade Visitation Day on August 31st**. There is detailed information on the next page of this newsletter that I encourage you to read carefully so that you and your child know what to expect on each of those days. Also contained in this newsletter is information on Sports Physicals and supply lists from each Team so you will know what to get when you start your back to school shopping.

Team Information for 7th Graders: On the address label of this newsletter you will find a **red L, D, or I**. This indicates which team you will be on at MW. L – Legacy, D – Destiny, I – Infinity. Please make sure you reference the correct supply list before you go shopping. Many factors go into assigning students to teams, including any specific requests that you had the opportunity to make last spring. There will be no team changes at this point.

We will be sending out a second summer Newsletter before the end of August that will contain more specific information about the opening of school. Until then, if you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [tdobbertin@hilton.k12.ny.us](mailto:tdobbertin@hilton.k12.ny.us) or call the Main Office at 392-1000 x.3098.

Stay cool in the heat!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Dobbertin".

Tim Dobbertin  
Principal

# 7th GRADE ORIENTATION

## 7th Grade Orientation

Team orientations will be held on Tuesday, August 30. Students can pick up their schedule, agenda and locker number and combination upon arrival. **We will NOT be mailing schedules home.** If you are unable to attend orientation, you can visit and pick up your materials during 8th Grade Visitation Day or you may contact us to make alternative arrangements.

Orientation will be organized by team and will conclude with a presentation in the MIR. Please use the time before your team presentation to find your locker, practice your combination and find your way around the building. We also recommend you bring your school supplies so your locker can be organized for the first day of school. Parents are encouraged to attend!!

TEAM	VISIT	PRESENTATION
LEGACY	8:30 - 9:00 am	9:00 am
INFINITY	10:00 - 10:30 am	10:30 am
DESTINY	11:30am - 12:00 noon	12:00 noon

## 8th Grade Visitation Day

8th graders can pick up their schedules, agenda and locker information on Wednesday, August 31, between the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. We request that 8th graders do not visit during 7th grade orientation. If you are unable to attend on Wednesday, you can stop in on Thursday or Friday, September 1 or 2, during the hours of 9:00 am and noon. The building will be **CLOSED** on Monday and Tuesday, September 5 and 6, 2011.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL MAILINGS**

Please send us your email address: 7th grade Parents—please send your email address with your child's name and team in the subject line to: mwparentnews@hilton.k12.ny.us

8th Grade Parents—please send your email address ONLY IF IT HAS CHANGED SINCE JUNE to the above address (or if you did not receive emails from us last year).

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR EFFORTS TO SAVE PAPER AND POSTAGE. NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER INFORMATION WILL BE EMAILED DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

## **Upcoming Dates for Merton Williams**

7th Grade Orientation—Tuesday, August 30

1st Day of School—Wednesday, September 7

Picture Day(s) - Wednesday & Thursday, September 21 and 22

Parent Forum Meeting—9am— September 23

Open House—Tuesday, October 4

Superintendent's Conference Day—October 7—NO SCHOOL

Columbus Day—October 10—NO SCHOOL

Picture Make-Up Day—October 24

## LOCKERS

Locker dimensions are 12" wide by 10.5" deep. Your locker and combination will be given to you at Orientation.



**YEARBOOK ORDER FORM WILL BE IN THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER. DEADLINE FOR ORDERING YEARBOOKS IS NOVEMBER 1, 2011.**

## **LOST & FOUND**

Each day, a large amount of student clothing is left behind in Lost & Found. These items remain in Lost & Found until our bin overflows. At that point, the items get donated to a church or Good Will. If your student is missing something, please check the Lost & Found area periodically.



Boxtops for Education -  
An Easy Way to Earn  
Money for Merton Williams



Boxtops for education is a program, through General Mills, that allows schools to earn money. For each boxtop that is cut out and collected, Merton Williams receives 10 cents! This fall, through a contest, we earned over \$200 cash for Merton Williams.

Boxtops can be found on many items including Kleenex, Ziploc bags, Avery products, Land of Lakes and cereals to name a few. Check out the website at

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/> for more information.

Please, take the time to cut them out and return the boxtops to the Merton Williams Library. This is an easy way to fundraise for our school by buying products that you use everyday! Contact Mrs. Boccuzzi-Reichert, at [aboccuzzi@hilton.k12.ny.us](mailto:aboccuzzi@hilton.k12.ny.us) if you have any questions. In advance, thank you for your support.

### **CELL PHONE USE POLICY – "OFF AND AWAY DURING THE DAY"**

#### **PROCEDURES:**

**1ST PHONE IS CONFISCATED  
FORMAL WARNING BY  
ADMINISTRATOR  
PHONE PICKED UP BY  
PARENT**

**2ND PHONE IS CONFISCATED  
SATURDAY SCHOOL  
PHONE PICKED UP BY  
PARENT**

**3RD PHONE IS CONFISCATED  
IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION  
PHONE PICKED UP BY  
PARENT**



## HILTON CADETS

*Sportsmanship... Be a Cadet Fan!*

Michael P. Giruzzi, Athletic Director  
Hilton High School \* 400 East Avenue \* Hilton, NY 14468  
Office- 585-392-1000 ext. 2136 Fax- 585-392-1071

### MIDDLE SCHOOL 2011 SUMMER SPORT PHYSICALS

There is a process that needs to be completed before each and every sport season: fall, winter and spring. **This is called the re-certification process.** The process to re-certify athletes will be as follows:

Students will get the **Interscholastic Athletic Form Re-certification and Physical Form** from the Health Office, Athletic Office or Main Office. The parent must complete the forms and both the parent and student must sign.

Students may get their sports physical by their own physician or by the district's school physician. **The dates and times are listed below.** At this time, they will also be completing the re-certification process for a fall sport and are ready to begin the fall season.

#### August 11, 2011

**GIRLS**

**8:00-10:00 am**

**BOYS**

**10:00 am-12:00 noon**

If a student chooses to get their physical by their own doctor, **they still must be physically seen by the nurse to be re-certified.** Dates and times for re-certification are below:

Wednesday August 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am—1:00 pm
Thursday August 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am—1:00 pm
Wednesday, August 31 <sup>st</sup>	12:00 noon —2:00 pm
Thursday, September 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am—11:00 am

**\*Please note: physicals are valid for one year ONLY!**

All physicals and re-certifications take place at the **Middle School Health Office.** Feel free to contact the Athletic Office with any questions.

From the Health Office...

Attention 7th Grade Parents and New Entrants to the District: Please remember to send in your child's physical and dental health certificate.

The forms are available on the District website, the Main Office and Health Office.

Cheri Schwind, R.N.

#### STARTING DATES FOR FALL MODIFIED SPORTS:

Modified A Cheerleading and Modified A  
Soccer—September 1

Modified B Football—September 6

All Other Modified Sports—September 7

# 2020 R E B M E T P E S

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	HALF DAY CONSULTATION DAY	<b>H</b>	<b>A</b>	

## CALCULATOR INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN MATH 7, MATH 7A, OR MATH 8

Your child is currently registered for Math 7, Math 7 Accelerated, or Math 8. A scientific calculator will be used in class, and although not required, it would be beneficial for students to have this technology at home throughout the year. One recommended model is the TI-30XIIS. DO NOT PURCHASE THE TI-MULTIVIEW CALCULATOR AS IT MAY NOT BE USED ON STATE EXAMS.

---

## CALCULATOR INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN INTEGRATED ALGEBRA

Your child is currently registered for Algebra for the upcoming school year. One important component of instruction for our high school mathematics courses is the use of graphing technology. Graphing technology aids students in discovering new ways to think about problems and in analyzing data to come up with their own answers to problems. These tools give students a way to explore ideas and visualize concepts in greater depth than would otherwise be possible. Used appropriately, graphing technology can help lead to better comprehension of concepts and their real world applications. Please be assured we also recognize that using technology in the classroom is not a substitute for mastery of basic skills and that we will continue to stress building every student's fundamental skills in mathematics.

Technology has become an integral part of advanced mathematics courses at both high school and college levels. This year, the calculator will be used regularly in a variety of aspects including class activities, tests, homework assignments and the New York State Regents Integrated Algebra exam next June. In addition, students will be required to use a graphing calculator for their future high school mathematics courses including Geometry, Algebra 2/Trig, and Precalculus. A graphing calculator is also permitted for use on the SAT and ACT exams and is permitted or required on several Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams. In addition, college professors are incorporating this technology into their classrooms.

The Texas Instruments models are the calculators that will be used by the classroom teachers and class time will be spent specifically to learn how to use these models. Classroom sets of one of the models will be available for student use during their mathematics class. Although not required, it would be beneficial for students to have this technology at home. Please take this into consideration as you purchase your school supplies for the upcoming school year and consider this a long-term investment in your child's education. The recommended models are from Texas Instruments and include the TI – 84 PLUS and TI-Nspire Handheld with Touchpad\*.

\* The TI-Nspire is the latest version of handheld computers developed by Texas Instruments and unlike the older calculator models, the TI-Nspire is document-based and driven by drop-down menus (much like the Windows platform on a computer). Some of the applications include: Geometry, Note taking, and Spreadsheet. In addition, a TI- 84 PLUS keypad comes with the Nspire which can be interchanged as necessary. The cost of the TI-Nspire is expected to be the same as the TI-84 PLUS Silver Edition during the back to school sales.

Should you make a Texas Instrument purchase, please clip the proof of purchase from your Texas Instruments calculator box and have your child give it to his/her mathematics teacher. The teachers will receive instructional supplies from the company through the Technology Rewards Program. Thank you for your support.

If you have any questions about the curriculum or our use of technology, please contact: Sharon Messina, Mathematics Program Coordinator, at [smessina@hilton.k12.ny.us](mailto:smessina@hilton.k12.ny.us) or (585) 392 – 1000 ext. 2206.

