

## Middlebrook PTA Weekly Messenger – October 30, 2016

### MIDDLEBROOK QUICK CALENDAR

Mon	October	31	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Trip- Cider Mill Halloween parade 8:20 - 9:00 am
Mon	October	31	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Trip- Cider Mill Halloween parade 9:10- 10:00 am
Thurs	November	3	WHS/ 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra Concert 7:30 pm Clune Center
Mon	November	7	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
Tues	November	8	NO SCHOOL – Election Day/Professional Development Day

### MIDDLEBROOK 6 DAY CYCLE

Mon	October	31	Day 6
Tues	November	1	Day 1
Wed	November	2	Day 2
Thurs	November	3	Day 3
Fri	November	4	Day 4

## PTA NEWS

### Annual Appeal Update from PTA President

Thank you to everyone who has donated thus far, whether through PayPal, by check, or by getting some shopping done during our catalog sale! As of 10/25, we have raised only \$12,725 – that is down 32% from last year. I know we can do much better!

Our school community is fortunate to have so many wonderful volunteers who give their time and talents to make our PTA run, but we can't provide all the enrichment we would like to without financial support as well. Please show your support for our Middlebrook PTA by donating to the Annual Appeal. The suggested **tax-deductible** donation amount is \$40 per student and is a great value for the many student programs and events our PTA supports.

To make it easier than ever, you can find our **PayPal link HERE!** If you prefer, you can send in a check with our annual appeal form, which can be found [on our webpage](#). Thank you for your support.

### **Join the PTA Online & Get Immediate Directory Access!**

Your membership and donation dollars support a variety of programs at Middlebrook that enrich the student experience. Student Assemblies, Outdoor Classroom, Media Center Supplies, Activity Nights, Science & Engineering Fair, Social Opportunities, Weekly Messenger, Photo Day, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Events, and Soaring Ahead are just a few of the programs our PTA supports. When you join the PTA, you gain instant access to our **new online directory**. Visit <https://wilton.mobilearg.com>, choose parent or teacher registration, enter your email, name

and the code “wilton” to join, pay your membership dues and make a supporting donation! Please add [support@mobilearg.com](mailto:support@mobilearg.com) to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link.

### **Middlebrook Band Field Trips**

**Monday, October 31**, 7th grade band field trip to Cider Mill Halloween Parade: 8:20 - 9:00 am

**Monday, October 31**, 8th grade band field trip to Cider Mill Halloween Parade, 9:10 - 10:00 am

**Monday, January 9**, 8th grade band field trip to WHS, 1:00 pm-2:50 pm

Questions? Contact Jennifer Ginsberg with the Middlebrook Band

### **Are you on Facebook? Join our Middlebrook Community Page!**

It's a great way to stay up to date and share information across our school community. Just search for the group “Middlebrook School Parent Community” and ask to join. This page is for parents of current students at Middlebrook.

### **Reflections Arts & Literature Competition Needs a Co-Chair**

Reflections is a wonderful opportunity that allows students to express their creative side, incorporating diverse disciplines such as visual arts, film production, literature, music composition, photography and dance choreography. One wonderful volunteer has committed. Now we need a second to make this program the best it can be! Please contact Kim Yang at [yi\\_yang\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:yi_yang_us@yahoo.com) to learn how you can help. Thank you!

### **Project Adventure**

Become involved in one of the few opportunities to work directly with your Middlebrook child – become a volunteer for Project Adventure! What is Project Adventure? The Middlebrook PE Department offers the chance for our middle schoolers to climb, swing and belay on an outside ropes course in Fall and Spring and inside the gyms during Winter. Adult volunteers are needed to assist with belaying. As a volunteer, you sign up for as much or as little time as you would like to give to the classes. To become involved, volunteers must take a belay training course. For further information, contact Salys Magnusson [salysmagnusson@yahoo.com](mailto:salysmagnusson@yahoo.com)

### **Media Center Volunteering**

The media staff would greatly appreciate your help in the school Media Center to assist them with a variety of responsibilities and projects. Shifts are extremely flexible. Pick the time and day that works best for you! Can be weekly/ biweekly/monthly or just periodically throughout the year! If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Claire Carbonier at [carbos@optonline.net](mailto:carbos@optonline.net)

### **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

**Wilton Youth Council - Find us on FB or visit [www.wiltonyouth.org](http://www.wiltonyouth.org)**

**The Cyber Child: Effects of Social Media - Neurological, Social, and Educational Implications with Chris Parrott**

**Tuesday, November 1, 2016**

**10:00-11:30 AM @ Wilton Library NOW HAS A WAITLIST so please join us in Weston!**

**7:00-8:30 PM @ Weston Senior Center (inside Hurlbutt Elementary School) 9 School Road, Weston**

What is the true impact of social media on our children? What are the benefits and pitfalls—neurologically, socially and educationally—to cyber exposure? What are the best strategies for parents to support the overall well being of their children in today's social-media-centric world? This workshop will answer these questions, leveraging the most current research on the effects of social media on children's brains and behaviors. Participants will explore the cyber social reality that pervades children's lives and shapes their still-forming identities and social interactions. They will be asked to critically evaluate how their own interactions with children, consciously and unconsciously, are affected by social media and technology. This presentation is appropriate for parents with children of all ages.

### **NAMI Support Group for Parents**

Has the back to school honeymoon worn off? Academic and social demands can overwhelm kids this time of year and 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 fear of being judged or treated differently. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the area. Our next meeting is Monday November 28, from 10-11:30am, G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. Information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or [beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com) or Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com)

### **Wilton Fire & Police to Hold Open House for Children with Special Needs**

**Wilton's Fire & Police Departments are holding an open house, sponsored by the Parent's Advisory Board (PAB), for children with special needs on Monday November 7, 1 to 2:30 PM.**

The purpose of this event is to introduce the town's first responders to the children in a calm, safe and fun environment and to enhance understanding of emergency response among the children themselves. Interested parents should RSVP at [PABWilton@gmail.com](mailto:PABWilton@gmail.com).

### **Trackside**

Trackside is ready to help your Middlebrook student make the most of the new school year with a variety of activities and events at the Teen Center, including free clubs such as Crafts for Shelter Pets, Gamer Club, and Broadway Club. As always, Trackside is open weekdays during the school year from 3 to 6pm and 3 to 7pm on Fridays for drop-in hours. Special events on Friday nights for include dances, parties, video game tournaments, and movie nights. For more information, visit [www.trackside.org](http://www.trackside.org) or follow us on facebook.com/trackside.

### **Trackside Donation Drive!**

The Crafts for Shelter Pets Club at Trackside is holding a donation drive for materials to make no-sew pet beds for local animal shelters. Please drop off any unused fleece fabric/material, gently used fleece blankets and/or cotton pillow stuffing to Trackside at 15 Station Rd.

**Board of Education**

Visit the [BOE website](#) for lots of information. Meetings are available for viewing online by [clicking here](#) and on cable channel 78.

**Middlebrook Weekly Messenger Newsletter Submissions**

This weekly newsletter is reserved for news about information and events related to Middlebrook students. If you would like to submit a school-related announcement for this newsletter, please contact Middlebrook Messenger at [middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com) by Wednesdays at noon to be included in the next Sunday edition.