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Dear Darien Community,

It appears that we may finally begin to feel like spring has arrived! Flowers are blooming and buds can be seen on trees. Those of us who suffer from seasonal allergies can certainly attest to an increase in pollen too! It has been a very productive stretch of school and when we return from the break, there will be so many great events in our schools and community.

BOE Meeting

At Wednesday's Board of Education meeting, Mrs. Kate Dimoulas and the MMS administrative team presented a very informative update on Middlesex Middle School highlighting areas of focus for the school this year and plans for future work. Here is a [link](#) if you'd like to view the presentation.

Young Composers and Songwriters concert

The music department presented the annual Young Composers and Songwriters concert on April 8. The concert featured students from across the district performing their original compositions. Congratulations to all the performers! [Click here](#) to watch the performance.

Recognizing Our Assistant Principals

As we celebrate National Assistant Principals Week, I want to take a moment to honor the incredible leadership and heart our APs bring to our schools every day. Often working behind the scenes, our assistant principals are essential to our success, managing student life, supporting our teaching staff, and ensuring our campuses run smoothly and safely. They are problem-solvers, mentors, and tireless advocates for our students. Please join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for their dedication and the vital role they play in shaping a positive school culture for us all.

National School Librarian Day

April 4 marked National School Librarian Day, a special time to recognize the vital role our librarians play in our students' educational journeys. Our librarians do so much more than manage our collections; they are dedicated educators who foster a lifelong love of reading, teach critical information literacy, and guide students through complex research. We are incredibly grateful for the positive, welcoming, and knowledgeable learning environments they create for our entire school community. Please join me in thanking our librarians for their unwavering dedication to our students' success!

Parent University

Parent University – Save the Date! Our next Parent University, Executive Functioning 101, will be held on April 20 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Middlesex Middle School Library Media Center and will focus on executive functioning, classroom

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strategies across PK–12, and practical ways families can support learning at home. Additional details and RSVP information can be accessed [here](#).

Spring Fireside Chat

We're excited to invite you to participate in an engaging fireside chat on Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 pm in the DHS library with me, focused on the remaining three tenets of our vision of the graduate: empathy, integrity, and independence. This is your opportunity as a valued member of our community—parents, students, staff, and residents—to submit questions in advance that will be addressed during the chat. Please submit questions via this [form](#) by Monday, April 20.

Byrne's Book Club

Our final selection for this year's book club is Jeffrey Selingo's *Dream School*. We'll be discussing the evolving landscape of higher education and how students can navigate the college search to find a "fit" that fosters both academic success and personal growth. Please join me and Director of School Counseling, Ms. Cathy Ostar, for the conversation on Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00 pm in the MMS library.

DHS Sports

The spring season is in full swing as our athletes prepare for another slate of competitive matchups across the region. From invitational meets to high-stakes home games, there are plenty of opportunities to support our teams as they push for excellence on the field, the court, and the track. Please see the schedule of weekend games:

Friday's Schedule:

- 4:00 pm: Girls Varsity Softball @ Fairfield Warde
- 4:00 pm: Boys Freshman Baseball vs. Fairfield Prep (Home)
- 5:00 pm: Boys Freshman Lacrosse vs. Guilford (Home)
- 5:00 pm: Boys JV Volleyball @ Farmington
- 6:00 pm: Boys Varsity Volleyball @ Farmington

Saturday's Schedule:

- 9:00 am: Boys & Girls Varsity Outdoor Track & Field @ 48th Hammonasset Freshman Invitational
- 10:00 am: Boys JV Volleyball @ Cheshire
- 11:00 am: Girls Varsity & JV Lacrosse vs. Rye (Home)
- 11:00 am: Boys Varsity Volleyball @ Cheshire
- 2:00 pm: Boys JV Lacrosse vs. Manhasset (Home)
- 4:00 pm: Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Manhasset (Home)

Roll Wave!

Wishing you a safe and restorative Spring Break filled with relaxation and quality time, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed for a strong finish to the school year.

Sincerely,



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