



THE PILOT



Milton Pope
Pilots
April
NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of Mr. Giertz



We are finally into the home stretch and summer is right there! Students' are preparing their final projects and our 8th grade students' can't wait to see that graduation date, May 25th. June 1st will be our last day of attendance (11:30) and students will be able to get their report cards and wrap things up for the year that day. So, continue to push your student to the end and we look forward to seeing your student's success as we finish 2016-2017 school year.

I would like to put a special thanks out there for all the parents', students', and staff who helped organize and coordinate our 2nd annual Pancake and

Sausage breakfast. Our Character Counts Club has done a great job of preparing for a wonderful breakfast and we couldn't have done it without your support. Our teachers, students', and parent involvement was outstanding and we raised over \$1,200. Each year we have done this we begin to look forward to another and can't wait to help give back to our community.

Community Club is also looking for extra help and new officers. The Community Club has been a wonderful attribute to this district and we couldn't have done many things, purchased multiple items, or provided for our students' the necessary things needed within the classrooms. So, if you are interested and would like to help, please feel free to contact me at school for more information. The next meeting will be on May 8th at 6:30 in our school cafeteria.

Hope you have a warm and relaxing May!

Sincerely,

Mr. Giertz

Upcoming May **Activities/Dates**

1st Track Meet @ Seneca 4:30

**1st-5th Teacher Appreciation
Week**

- 3rd Track Meet @ Seneca 4:30
- 4th Track Meet @ Ottawa HS 4:30
 Articulation Day (Dismissal @
 2:30)
- 6th Track Sectionals @ OHS (TBD)
- 8th Track @ SHS 4:30
- 8th Community Club Meeting @ 6:30
- 9th 2nd Grade Field Trip
- 11th Spring Concert @ 6:30
- 11th Articulation Day (Dismissal @
 2:30)
- 12th-13th State Track @ Peoria
- 15th 3rd Grade Field Trip
- 17th Board Meeting @ 6:30
- 17th Talent Show Pract. from 3-4:30
- 18th Awards Banquet @ 1:00
- 18th Last Articulation Day (Dismissal
 @ 2:30)
- 19th K & 1st Field Trip
- 19th 8th Grade Field Trip
- 20th 8th Grade Field Trip
- 23rd Talent Show @ 9:00
- 25th End of the 4th Qtr.
- 25th 2:00 Dismissal
- 25th Graduation @ 7:00
- 29th No School! Memorial Day

31st No School! Teachers' Institute

June 1st Report Cards and Half
 Day Attendance (11:30)

**Teacher Spot Light of the
Month**



This month's teacher spot light focuses on our Music teacher, Mrs. Heather Francis and Band Director, Mrs. Kim Hatcher.

Mrs. Francis writes:

Greetings from the Music and Chorus Room! Every spring brings the opportunity to look back through the school year to reflect on all that was done across the six grades that receive general music education at Milton Pope. This year, students in K-5 did some combination of the following: sang music (both in English and in other languages), played a variety of instruments (including percussion from Ghana, West Africa), moved or danced to music (both recorded and sung by the students), learned to read notes on the staff, learned to read and decode new rhythms, performed at a local nursing home, learned about famous composers, learned to conduct, played interactive games on the smart board that was installed in the trailer this fall (yippee!!!)... As you can see, the music room is a busy place! It is a pleasure to make music with your students twice per week. I am grateful to share my love of music with them.

This year's chorus was made of students in grades 5-8 who opted to join. We meet each Wednesday and Friday at the end of the school day, preparing music for the Christmas

Program, a Spring Concert, and Graduation. This year the chorus also sang at Rivershores, which the residents thoroughly enjoyed! Chorus members also participated at our area Solo and Ensemble Contest, where students who opted in prepared a solo or a small group ensemble or both, memorized it/them, and then performed for a judge. It was a great day where our Milton Pope chorus members' lights shone bright as they represented our school beautifully. I am proud of ALL of our chorus members. I look forward to working with our returning Pilots next year, and wish our graduating Pilots all the best as they move on to high school!

Mrs. Hatcher writes:

7th and 8th grade band students took part in a Band Festival held at Seneca Grade School at the end of February where they were led by a guest clinician, and put on an outstanding concert performance.

Students in 5-8th grade took part in the annual Solo & Ensemble Contest held at Grand Ridge on March 18. All Band students took Division I ratings for the solos and ensembles they prepared and performed for a judge.

Now students in grades 4-8 are busy preparing for the Spring Concert, which will take place on Wednesday, May 10 at 6:30 pm. The concert will showcase the entire Milton Pope Music Department. Can't wait to see you all there!

Our Character Counts Team continues to work at creating a culture of continuous character building and at increasing the level of positive behavior in the school environment. This month we had our Character Counts Club and staff help organize our 2nd Annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. Students' were to help organize and participate in giving a little back towards our community. Proceeds from the breakfast will help fund rewards from activities, 8th grade incentives, and also charities designated by the club. It has been a wonderful year organizing and coming up with ideas and activities that our students' can be a part of and now they have a vested interest and voice in our school. Come see our new sports banners located in the gym that our 2016 class bought with their money raised from year one's breakfast fundraiser.

Aug/Sept.- Respect

Oct. – Trustworthiness

Nov. – Citizenship

Dec. – Caring

Jan. – Fairness

Feb. /Mar. – Respect

Apr. – Trustworthiness

May – Caring

Character Counts



