



# MEVSD NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER 2009

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

- Current enrollment: 6,271 students
- Size of the school district: 49 square miles
- Rated in the top 20% of all Ohio schools
- Per Pupil Cost for 2008-2009 SY: \$8,441

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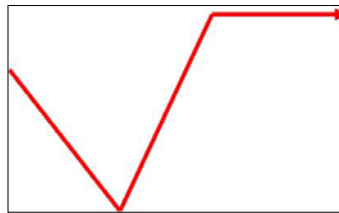
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## Fiscal Caution...no more!

There is good news to share with the community about Milford's financial standing. Thanks to financial support from the community and expenditure reductions by the Milford Board of Education, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) released the district from Fiscal Caution. ODE declared the district in Fiscal Caution last year when the district faced a severe budget deficit. The district, by working efficiently to review all spending and making cuts where necessary and warranted to improve the budget, along with the community's passage of the operating levy last November, is in a much stronger financial position.

During the district's status in Fiscal Caution, the State

monitored district finances on a monthly basis. This is no longer necessary. The board, in working with administration and staff, reviewed all expenditures to



ensure it was operating as efficiently as possible. That practice will continue as the district works to provide a quality education in a fiscally responsible manner.

In the letter releasing the District from Fiscal Caution Marilyn Troyer, deputy superintendent of

ODE said "The expenditure reductions and/or revenue enhancements enacted and implemented by your school board should eliminate the potential for deficits in the current and next two fiscal years. This improved financial position is evident in both your district's five-year forecast and the Department of Education's two-year financial analysis." Superintendent Dr. Farrell stated "I think the response to our financial crisis was a community effort. I don't think one individual does it alone, so we're very thankful for the community support and for everyone working together in the school district and throughout the community to make this happen."

## Take the Survey

The Milford School District is seeking your opinion on how our school district is operating and is conducting a community survey.

The survey was created by students in the Milford High School DECA program in conjunction with the local office of Burke Inc., an international marketing firm. The students

conducting the survey will present the results of the survey to the Board of Education once the results have been tabulated.

You can go directly to the survey site by clicking [here](#) or on the graphic to the right.

You can also visit the district web site to take the survey at [www.milfordschools.org](http://www.milfordschools.org)



## District Honors Veterans



Eight Veterans received diplomas this year.

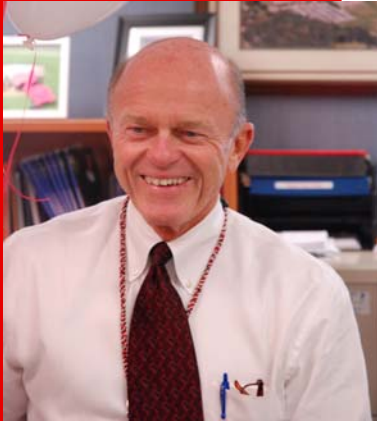
The Milford School District is continuing a new tradition, initiated in 2008, to pay tribute to veterans from the community and say thank you to local men and women serving overseas. The district held a special event at Milford High School on Sunday, November 8. The Veterans Day Celebration recognized the service and sacrifices of all veterans from the Milford area and surround-

ing areas. The State of Ohio allows school districts to present diplomas to veterans who interrupted their high school years in order to serve their country at times of war. Last year, the Milford Board of Education presented diplomas to six veterans who did not earn a diploma because of their commitment to their country. The board wanted to present that same opportunity again this year to any local veteran who did not graduate from high school due to their

service in the military. This year there were 8 veterans who received a diploma.

The program also included special recognition for all veterans in attendance. There were also monetary donations made from several of our elementary schools, as well as, a combined effort between the JH and HS to the Troop Box Ministries. Last year the school district donated 180 care packages. This year the district donated 300.

## Remembering Dr. Bauer



Dr. Ray Bauer, principal for Milford High School, died suddenly on August 29. Dr. Ray Bauer was a remarkable man, a dedicated husband and father, and a caring principal. He made a huge difference at the school and cared greatly about his students and staff. Milford Superintendent Dr. Robert Farrell said, "Ray was a principal where students came first. He always made

himself available to students to help them. That's why he became a principal--it was all about the kids. I've never seen a principal have such a personal connection with his students--especially in a school the size of Milford High School. At graduation this year, he had something nice to say and a hug for each student. He was amazing."

If you would like to make a contribution to the scholarship fund, please send a check payable to:

Milford High School--  
Ray Bauer Memorial  
Scholarship  
Send the check to:  
Milford High School  
1 Eagles Way  
Milford, Ohio 45150

**Ray Bauer Memorial  
Scholarship  
Donations can be sent to:  
Milford High School  
1 Eagles Way  
Milford, Ohio 45150**

## Excellent with Distinction

The Milford School District is rated Excellent with Distinction by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) on the Local Report Card. ODE added this rating to the accountability program last year. This is the first time the state rated Milford as Excellent with Distinction.

The state rates districts and schools based on several indicators.

They include: Achievement test scores, graduation rate, attendance rate, Performance Index, Adequate Yearly Progress and Value-Added.

Milford achieved the following:

- 28 out of 30 Indicators on the Achievement and Graduation Tests
- Performance Index score of 101.
- Graduation rate was 93.6%
- Attendance rate was 95.1%

# Community Group Helps Renovate Gym



Milford High School has a newly renovated Auxiliary Gym thanks to the financial support and work of the Milford Basketball Association (MBA). The youth athletic organization donated \$52,000 to the

Milford School District to cover all of the costs associated with renovating the space at Milford High School. To celebrate the completion of the project, Milford High School hosted a dedication of the newly renovated Auxiliary Gym on Wednesday, October 7th.

The renovations provide an improved and safer environment for all Physical Education classes and both boys and girls teams that will use the facility for practices. The Milford Basketball Association signed a five year agreement with

the district that ensures them a set number of hours in the district elementary schools for practices during the week; unless there is a school event that requires the use of the gym. The project was a coordinated effort by the elementary school principals, the superintendent, Extended Day program, high school coaches and the Milford Basketball Association. It is an example of how the Milford School District works well with community groups to provide more opportunities for students and all children in the community.

**“The biggest thing for me is to motivate the next generation of scientists, engineers and mathematicians,”**

## Reaching for the Stars

Milford Junior High teacher Steve Heck has taken the idea of inspiring students to “reach for the stars” to a new level. He has an opportunity that is out of this world. The science teacher and retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel will be a “Pathfinder” for the Teachers in Space program. This means, he will be part of a select group of teachers who will be educated in

science, technology, engineering and math (STEM); trained for space flight and launched for a sub-orbital flight. Unlike NASA’s teacher-astronaut program, where the teachers become part of the NASA astronaut corps, the Teachers in Space program puts these astronauts back in the classroom. Mr. Heck will take his extraordinary experiences and return to his

Milford Junior High classroom in order to share his stories, knowledge and passion with his students. “The biggest thing for me is to motivate the next generation of scientists, engineers and mathematicians,” Heck said. “That’s what I want to do, to get that new generation going, to invigorate that new generation toward discovery.”

## Seipelt Students Study Germs

Students in Karen Scott’s 3rd grade science class enjoyed a hands on lesson in germs and the importance of good hand washing. In the experiment, students had to determine if germs do stick to our hands & transfer to others when touched. The students used crushed blue chalk as the germs. Some students got to rub germs between their hands, while

others then removed germs with a cotton swab. All students in the schools saw a PowerPoint presentation about the importance of washing hands, covering coughs & sneezes, and throwing tissues away promptly. This experiment allowed the students to see for themselves that germs from your hands can spread easily to other people or other surfaces.





**Milford**  
**Exempted Village Schools**

Administrative offices  
777 Garfield Avenue  
Milford, OH 45150

Phone: 513-831-1314  
Fax: 513-831-3208

MEVSD's Vision Statement is to inspire and prepare our students to reach their fullest potential in a diverse and dynamic world



## MEVSD - First Issue

The Milford School District's Communications Committee would like to thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. This is the first issue of our new quarterly newsletter. It is being distributed by e-mail in order to save on costs and to continue the effort of the school district to "go green". Our goal is to reach out to every household in the school district and share some of the highlights that have occurred in the school district over the last quarter. For those households that are not on the districts e-mail list, a post card was sent out containing brief highlights from the articles in this newsletter and with information on how to opt-in to received the e-mail version of the newsletter.