

April 10, 2023 Dear Milton Parents and Guardians,

The future of our town rests with our youth. **Investing in our children, in their education and extracurricular activities, is a responsibility that I have always taken to heart during my public service career.** I have worked tirelessly to identify significant resources in support of our school-aged community. **Continuing to protect, serve and develop Milton's children and their families are at the forefront of my re-election campaign for Select Board.**

The children of Milton have always been my priority. I have advocated for their best interests in everything from sports to recreational programs, school safety, upgraded learning technology, and education initiatives. During the 32 years I proudly served with the Milton Police Department (MPD) including 9 years as Chief of Police, and the past 6 years as a Select Board member, I have enjoyed countless hours supporting of our youth from innumerable visits to every school, to advocating for educational tools and programs, to safety training of law enforcement, school staff personnel and students.

I will continue to preserve our wonderful schools while addressing challenges that lie ahead. **The Milton Public Schools (MPS) are overcrowded and need more space, a fact that is well documented, and I will continue to advocate for a new school.** Reducing class sizes while sustaining the quality of our education and safety of our students and faculty will take leadership, experience, ingenuity and sacrifice. I am fully committed to addressing the overcrowding of our schools by working together, alongside MPS, our School Committee and community leaders, to identify viable solutions in both the short and long term. I look forward to implementing realistic solutions in a timely fashion so that our students and staff are fully supported, and Milton remains one of the most stellar school systems in the state.

As Police Chief, I developed a strong partnership with the MPS and MPD to ensure that all staff and students have the very best in training and preparedness for any contemporary event that might threaten a child or school facility in Milton. Today our schools are comprised of fully-trained staff. They are equipped with modern communications equipment, security technology and clear protocols with excellent protective personnel from MPD serving as School Resource Officers. As Chair of the Town Capital Subcommittee, I continuously advocate for important upgrades for our students including new chrome books, enhanced information technology, new buses for after-school activities, dozens of upgrades for the classrooms and additional programs within our schools.

I fully understand how important constructive recreational activities are for Milton's children. I have worked closely with amazing volunteers around town as well as Park and Recreation staff to implement and preserve dozens of structured activities for the benefit of our youth including softball, rugby, baseball, scouting, crew, dance, music and many others. I also fully supported the establishment of a Youth Task Force and the "Wildcat Den" to provide our middle school students with a fun and safe haven for afterschool activities.

I certainly have not accomplished all of this alone. I am merely part of a team of dedicated individuals who want to make a difference in our community. I feel blessed to bring my strengths to bear, including using my experience and network to identify and secure resources for our town, and organizing and leading teams of people who accomplish so much with so little.

I humbly request that you please consider voting for me on Tuesday, April 25th. Please visit www.wellsformilton.org to learn more about me and what I am proud to stand for as I continue to do all I possibly can to serve my hometown. Thank you.

Gratefully, Richard Wells

"Richard has been an advocate of Milton Girls Softball for many years. He has always been willing to help in any way he could - whether it was volunteering his time at events, helping us navigate through the town government or sharing ideas he had for the program - he has always been one of our greatest supporters."

-Kevin Olivieri, President of Milton Girls Softball

"Few people realize that the idea for the Wildcat Den started with a discussion with Richard Wells when he was still the police chief. Our church was engaged in conversations with town leaders about pressing needs in our community. Wells was the first to describe the lack of safe places for our youth to congregate and the associated resulting issues. As our church began to raise money and develop this facility, we had a strong advocate in Richard Wells who eventually helped establish a partnership with the town for the after school program that now serves teens and their families. We remain thankful for Richard's support and advocacy for our youth."

-Steve Paxhia, MPS parent

"I have witnessed Richard Wells' support for the schools, first hand, on many occasions. Recently, safety regulations changed and the MPS was no longer able to transport children in our current vans which provided essential rides for our students to sporting events and team competitions. We approached him for assistance and Richard helped advocate to a local foundation for the necessary funds to get two new vans to transport our students. Using these vans rather than renting school buses saves significant funds."

-Elizabeth White, School Committee Member

Richard has an extensive history serving Milton. I am impressed with his passion and commitment to our youth. He helped develop the Wildcat Den and has advocated for youth sports, emphasizing the importance of having a place to belong, be active, and improve mental health. Re-elect Richard Wells on April 25 to continue his mission to ensure Milton remains an amazing community. -Jaime Levash - TMM 10, Milton Public Library Trustee, Milton Soccer President

"Richard is a dedicated partner with the Milton Public Schools. He is highly invested in supporting and improving our schools and has built strong working relationships with district and school-based leadership as well as students and families."

-Liz Talbot Parent of Pierce and Collicot students