

# MPS NEWS ONLINE



Volume 1; Issue 2

September 23, 2013

## Illing Students Are True Champions

### MEETING DATES:

- Board of Education Meeting, Monday Sept 23 7:00 pm
- Policy Committee Mtg.—Tuesday, 9-24-13—6:00 p.m.
- MAPS—Wednesday, 9-25-13—3:15 p.m. MPD Community Room
- SMARTR Committee 6:30 Town Hall

Recently, two Illing Middle School students were recognized for the good character and sportsmanship that they exhibited over the summer at the Manchester PAL Chief's 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament. 8th grade students Maximino Rivas of Team UConn, and Taj Williams of Team Yale were part of the winning team in the 8-14 years-old division.

It was a close competition and the boys felt that they were underdogs who wouldn't have finished with the best record if not for the efforts of their teammate, Roosevelt Orbe. When it was discovered that due to the unexpected turnout for the tournament there would be only one trophy available to award to the winning team, Maximino and Taj made the very mature decision to give the trophy to the person that they consid-

ered the MVP of the team - Roosevelt. This act of kindness was rewarded when they were later presented with their personal trophies at Illing Middle School as well as official letters of thanks and recognition from Stephen Desautels, PAL Executive Director.



## District Seeks Odyssey of the Mind Coaches The Importance of Being a Coach: Odyssey of the Mind Invites You

Odyssey of the Mind is a dynamic international creative problem solving competition. Students in small teams (maximum of 7 members per team) solve long-term problems that always involve a performance built around a dramatic, technological, engineering, or humanities-based problem outline. The team members are responsible for everything - generating

ideas/themes, writing scripts, building structures, making costumes/props/sets/special effects, etc. An Odyssey coach is first and foremost a facilitator who guides students through their problem solution and challenges them to always stretch their thinking to come up with new, fresh, inventive ideas in every area of their performance/solution.

## District Seeks Odyssey of the Mind Coaches

### The Importance of Being a Coach: Odyssey of the Mind Invites You

Manchester has been incredibly successful over the past three years and has taken five teams to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals during that time. There are experienced students at Illing Middle School and Manchester High who are very enthusiastic about starting teams again this year. They are, however in need of coaches to guide them through it this year. Parents and teachers make excellent Odyssey coaches! The time commitment required to solve the problem is really up to

the coach and the team, but having flexibility in a schedule and willingness to meet after school, sometimes on weekends, and sometimes in the evening is a must. The time commitment will pay off with incredibly inventive, creative, and dynamic performances.

For more information, check out these sites:

International Odyssey of the Mind: [www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com)

Connecticut Odyssey of the

Mind: [www.ctom.org](http://www.ctom.org)

Contact Nancy Eastlake in the district office at:



## Pinwheels for Peace Press Release

Illing Middle School students will be observing the International Day of Peace by participating in its 3rd Annual Pinwheels for Peace Day. While traditionally held on September 21st, Illing will be celebrating it this year on Monday, September 23, 2013. This



year's activity will be a tribute in memory of Illing teacher, Tim Lewis, who originated the event at the school.

Tim Lewis was a long-time teacher in the Manchester Public School System who touched the lives of many students and staff through-

out the area. He passed away last spring after battling cancer.

Students will be planting their pinwheels in the soccer field at Illing on Monday between 8:30-9:00.

The website for more information on Pinwheels for Peace is:

## District Seeks Community Assistance

The school district seeks community help in identifying families who send their children to the Manchester Public Schools but are not residents of the community. Students are allowed to attend the Manchester Public

Schools only if they have residence or domicile in Manchester. Residents can help by notifying the superintendent's office if they are suspicious that students are not living in the community. The contact may be anonymous in

writing or by calling 860-647-3441. The school district's Outreach Office has trained personnel that will complete an investigation very discretely on the information tip.



## CMT and CAPT Results to be Posted on the District Website

Mrs. Amy Radikas, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction will present an overview of the results of the 2013 administration of the state assessments at the Board of Education's regular meeting on September 23. The power point slides, which summarize the test results, will be posted on the district website beginning September 25.



### SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHOOL VISITS

**Monday, September 23, 2013 Bowers School (p.m.)**

**Tuesday, September 24, 2013 Martin School (a.m.)**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2013 Keeney School (a.m.)**

**Thursday, September 26, 2013 Buckley School (a.m.)**

**Friday, September 27, 2013 Bennet Academy (a.m.)**

