

### **GOOD NEIGHBORS**

# Milton Academy Enhances the Quality of Life in its Community

Chartered in 1798 by the commonwealth of Massachusetts, Milton Academy has a mutually beneficial relationship with its town, with a commitment rooted in a spirit of citizenship and responsibility. The social and economic benefits the academy provides to the town of Milton are outlined in its comprehensive Town and Gown Report for 2012.

# **Economic Contributions**

One of the area's largest private employers, the academy employs 570 people. More than 35 percent of them live in the town of Milton.

The academy has spent \$1.6 million with local contractors, businesses and vendors over the last four years. In addition, local businesses are patronized by more than 2,000 parents, alumni and other guests who visit the campus every year, as well as nearly 1,000 prospective students and their families.

#### Cushing Library cont. from pg. 2

Cushing's innovative library and educational model have attracted the attention of schools and colleges worldwide. Tracy has received calls from the Harvard Law School, Syracuse University, the University of Virginia libraries and other institutions, and he regularly speaks before educational groups about the changes happening at his school.



The innovations are part of Cush-

ing's long tradition of embracing the best of the future, Tracy says in his welcoming letter on the school website.

The academy was founded in 1865 as a coeducational boarding school, more than a century before many other schools went coed. Cushing also was one of the first private schools in the country to recruit foreign students and to support and mainstream students with learning differences.

"Cushing is once again the model that other schools emulate as the best of the new, woven seamlessly into the rich tapestry of tradition,"Tracy said. In the 2011-12 school year, 208 local students attended the academy, representing an annual savings of \$2.4 million to the town of Milton. This year, 35 students who live in Milton received nearly \$885,000 in financial aid from the academy.

Over the last two-and-a-half years, Milton Academy has paid about \$900,000 to the town of Milton. In addition, the academy:

- > Provides 24-hour security to its campus area and hires local police details for major campus events.
- > Maintains town sidewalks surrounding the campus and clears streets and sidewalks during snowstorms.
- Manages its own waste and recycling program and paid more than \$75,000 last year for trash removal last year, alleviating pressure on the town waste-management program.
- > Donated \$25,000 to the town for computers and IT upgrades.
- > Provided nearly \$43,000 in grants for guardrail and sidewalk construction projects.
- > Uses its own well water for all irrigation and cooling towers on campus.
- > Supports the efforts of its staff members who volunteer with various local agencies, including the police and fire departments.

Milton Academy also offers its facilities and programs to local youth sports leagues and organizations at reduced rates or free of charge. Residents can enjoy free open skating at the Roberts Rink and free use of its outdoor tennis courts. And the academy's college fair and Nesto art gallery are open to the public at no cost.

Ice time and Pool and Tennis Club memberships have been donated to local fundraisers. In addition, the academy's Dining Services has provided food to the Milton Food Pantry, and beverages were given to the Milton Green Home Fair.

A wide range of academy programs also benefit Milton residents. One of them, the Saturday Course, is an enrichment program for talented and academically motivated students in grades 4 through 8. The program enrolled 56 local students in the 2011-12 school year.

## **Community Service**

Through Milton Academy's Community Service Program, students are involved in a wide range of meaningful service opportunities and special events. Roughly 250 academy students volunteer every week at more than 30 organizations in the Milton and Greater Boston area. They tutor in local schools, assist the elderly and help out at the Milton Animal Shelter, among other things.

In addition, more than 200 students, faculty, staff and parents are involved in the Greater Boston Food Bank, Special Olympics tournaments, the Red Cross Blood Drive, the town of Milton Green Day and Green Homes Fair, and much more. The Middle and Upper Schools also participate in the biennial Community Service Days at local elementary schools, Milton Hospital and other locations.

In May, academy seniors spend 20 to 40 hours per week doing service and research internships in local public schools and other locations.

To read the complete Town and Gown report, please go to http://www.milton.edu/about/milton/upload/TG2012.pdf

MANS&C regularly features brief sketches of schools, colleges and universities that provide significant social and economic benefits to their communities. To nominate your institution for an article, please contact MANS&C Communications Specialist Ann Hall at annhall68@verizon.net.