Midland Public Schools is proud to have several recent recipients and honorable mentions of the National Center for Women & Information Technology Aspirations Awards (NCWIT). This non-profit organization is focused on women’s participation in the field of computing.

The young women below are being recognized for their computing-related aspirations and for their demonstrated outstanding aptitude and interest in information technology and computing; solid leadership ability; good academic history; and plans for post-secondary education.

National Runner Up  Michigan Winners (41 total in the State of Michigan; 15% are from Midland Public Schools)

Katherine Perry, MHS  Adia Haynes, MHS  Rebecca Kowalczyk, DHS  Brylee Pavlik, MHS  Sarah Menzl, DHS  Julia Powers, MHS  Misa Halphen, MHS

H. H. Dow High Honorable Mention Awardees

Sasha Konovalenko  Abigail Peterson  Grace Pnacek  Isabella Rhee  Kiran Sequeira  Katie White

Midland High Honorable Mention Awardees

Edie Haase  Morgan Hallberg  Taylor Harvey  Logan Haring  Hannah Jozwiak  Makayla Nehrt  Tejaswini Srinivas Reddy  Hannah Sawicki  Carlie Servinski  Ashley Siegmund  Caryn Wenban

A dinner reception will be held at the end of March at Michigan State University honoring this year’s recipients. Congratulations to this impressive group of young women! We are proud of you!

Please keep the nominations coming in for MPS staff members you believe are Shining Stars!

Link to Shining Star nomination form: https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form

MPS CONNECT is a great communications tool for you to connect with me. Every message comes to my desktop. Either I or a member of our staff will do all we can to reply to your message the next work day. Click here to connect with me: https://goo.gl/forms/ciB8b7FAMXb4pQxN2
Now accepting fall registrations

Have a child who will be 4 years old in the fall? Looking for a quality, proven preschool program that will give your child a great start for their K-12 education?

Take a look at the Midland Public Schools’ International Baccalaureate Primary Years Preschool Programme

Space is Limited!

IB PYP Preschool: This tuition-based program is for four-year-old children and includes a child-centered, play-based curriculum designed to be flexible to meet the individual needs of the child. The framework aligns with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, which is an integral part of all MPS elementary schools.

Here are some important aspects of our IB-PYP 4-Year-Old Preschool Program:

- Highly qualified teachers
- Research based curriculum-Inquiry led, transdisciplinary framework uniquely adaptable to state and national standards
- Full day, 5 days a week programme
- Preparing individual students, using a developmentally appropriate approach, using IB/PYP, for kindergarten and beyond
- Before/After school care offered onsite by Campfire for a minimal fee
- Follows Midland Public Schools’ calendar
- This is a tuition-based program

Have questions about this or any MPS 4-Year-Old Preschool or Young 5’s Kindergarten program? Contact Amy at the PrePrimary Center 923-6411.

Teachers at Plymouth have been working to incorporate more authentic, meaningful, STEM learning into the students' day in addition to Project Lead the Way science curriculum. Many classes decided to try something new with Valentine’s celebrations this year. In order to support their Unit of Inquiry about force and motion, 3rd grade students were given the directive to design a Valentine’s box that used a simple machine. The box could have motion or not, but students were responsible for explaining what simple machines were used and their rationale for the design. The most popular simple machines were pulleys, wheel and axles, ramps, and levers. Students used the Engineer Design Process starting with simple research to evaluate changes and improvements that could be made.

Here are your Midland and Dow wrestling STATE qualifiers!

(left-right) Dow Coach Dennis Doyle; Aiden Belgiorno wrestling for Dow, finished 4th place at Regionals; Sam Hine wrestling for the Chemics, finished 2nd in Regionals; Sam Martin for Dow, finished 3rd at Regionals; Brennan Doyle for Dow, finished 3rd at Regionals; and Midland Coach Mike Donovan.

Good luck at State Finals at Ford Field in March!
Central Park Elementary's
STEM Night

On February 11, Central Park students, families and staff enjoyed an interactive STEM Night together! Many local community organizations helped to make our second annual STEM Night a HUGE success! The Dow High, Midland High and Northeast Robotics teams shared past robots and gave students control of the remotes! The Dow Ambassadors provided an experience with magnetic metals. The Chippewa Nature Center ran various animal classification centers. Students and families had the opportunity to explore different furs, along with birds, fish and frogs! The Van De Graff machine from the Saginaw Children’s Museum was a HUGE hit –providing a “hair raising” experience while exploring static electricity! Snapology provided different maze activities for families to navigate and explore. And finally, Engineering for Kids brought a Whack-A-Potato challenge! All of the activities provided a great evening of interactive STEM learning and family fun! Thank you to our great community partners!

On Valentine’s Day, Midland High Meistersingers delivered over 250 singing Valentines to local homes, schools and businesses. This has been a Meistersingers tradition for decades. This year 38 student vocalists were involved in the Meistersinger Singing Valentines.

Kudos, Meistersingers, for sharing your musical message of love and friendship all over Midland!
The Midland High School Student Council hosted an event to end violence against women, on February 15, 2019, in conjunction with the One Billion Rising movement. This movement is the largest global movement to end violence against women and children and Midland High has been continuing to draw attention to this important issue since 2014.

In order to spread awareness at Midland High, the MHS student body took a voluntary survey asking them questions about abuse in their own lives. The results of the survey were shared with the student body through large posters throughout the school and an activity called silent statistics. During this activity, members of the council stood silently and held signs with statistics gathered from the student surveys. Announcements were made throughout the week that brought attention to the survey findings.

At Friday afternoon’s event, members of the community and MHS students gathered in front of the school to observe 32 seconds of silence to support survivors of abuse. Participants then gathered in the MHS cafeteria where they were served soup donated by Chartwell’s Food Service, coffee donated by Live Oak, and hot chocolate and cookies donated by the student council. Brittany Porchert of the Safe and Sound Child Protection Advocacy Center of Midland shared a video and purpose of their organization. Next, Dr. Amy Beasley, the North American Inclusion Leader at DowDupont, and co-worker Joslyn Chulski, introduced by Megan Shaffer, daughter of Dr. Beasley, shared their courageous story of domestic violence and resilience.

Changes to Associate Superintendents for 2019-20 School Year

Mr. Bob Cooper, Associate Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) has announced his retirement as of June 30, 2019. Bob has done an outstanding job in many different roles throughout his more than 35 years with MPS. From MHS Math Teacher and then Math Department Head to District Math Coordinator to his current role as Associate Superintendent. Bob will be truly missed, but we wish him and his wife, Wendy (Paraprofessional at Adams Elementary), all the best in their retirement!

Mr. Brian Brutyn will assume the position of Associate Superintendent of FFO following Bob’s retirement. Mr. Brutyn is currently the Associate Superintendent of Administration, Student Services and Innovative Programs (ASSIP). Mr. Brutyn joined the MPS team in 2014.

We are excited to announce that Mr. Jeff Jaster, Principal of Midland High School, will assume the position of Associate Superintendent of ASSIP for the 2019-20 school year. Mr. Jaster joined the MPS team in 2002 as a Science Teacher at Midland High. Through his years at MPS, he has served as the MHS Department Head of Science, Assistant Principal at Northeast MS, Principal at Northeast MS, Midland High Principal, and next year in his new position as Associate Superintendent. As you will see on page 6 of this Communique, the Midland High Principal position is currently posted. We look forward to interviewing for the position and finding the best person to serve as the Midland High School Principal.
The Midland High Jazz Band hosted the MSU Octet #1 & 2 February 10 at Midland High. The MHS Jazz Band collaborated with the MSU groups for a fantastic concert that afternoon.

MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2015 BOND UPDATE
January 31th, 2019

Construction / In Progress:

Chestnut Hill / Siebert New Media Centers:
- Framing and drywall is 100% complete.
- Painting is complete at both media centers.
- Ceiling grid and tile installation is complete.
- All new window glazing has been installed.
- All flooring including Chestnut Hill refinishing is complete.
- Continuing to install IT and AV Equipment.
- Continuing the installing of furniture at both media centers.

Look Ahead:
- Completing all furniture installation.
- Finishing IT and AV equipment installation.
- Contractor clean-up and demobilization.
- Turn-over to the Owner.
- Midland Community Stadium Press Box is out to bid.

THE GERSTACKER TEACHER PROFICIENCY AWARDS NOMINATION WINDOW IS NOW OPEN!

Don’t miss your chance. Nominate a great MPS teacher today!

The nomination window Closes Friday, March 15, 2019.

For nomination information go to our website—www.midlandps.org—or click on this link:
https://www.midlandps.org/News/223#sthash.J3dEZBCw.dpbs

To nominate a teacher, you may also send a personal letter via US Mail to:
Gerstacker Committee,
Midland Public Schools Superintendent’s Office,
600 E. Carpenter, Midland, MI 48640

This year’s Gerstacker Ceremony: Thursday, May 2, 4:15 pm Central Auditorium.

Nominate Now!
### Join our Team

**MPS Current Job Openings**

Click on this link for current job postings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Posting End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Tennis, Boys</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Softball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Volleyball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Track, Boys</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>02/26/2019 or until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Principal</td>
<td>Midland HS</td>
<td>02/19/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanic's Assistant</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>02/19/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teaching Associate</td>
<td>Carpenter School</td>
<td>02/19/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal, Elementary</td>
<td>Adams Elementary</td>
<td>02/26/2019 or until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Language Interpreter</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervisor, Special Education</td>
<td>Special Services</td>
<td>02/26/2019 or until filled</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher, Special Education</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, we are always looking for

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS AND BUS DRIVERS.**

Click on this link for information about these opportunities:
https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Employment%20Opportunities

Have a high school student looking ahead to post-secondary opportunities? **SVSU is holding their annual College Night on Tuesday, March 12th from 6:00 – 7:30 in Curtiss Hall.**

There will be representatives from over 40 colleges and universities throughout Michigan and beyond. You and your student will discover the possibilities and learn about financial aid, scholarships, career opportunities, academic programs of study, clubs, organizations, athletics, and more. SVSU’s College Night is FREE and open to the public.

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**wise thought to ponder ...**
“...there is nothing which can better deserve your patronage, than the promotion of science and literature. Knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness.”

— George Washington