Everyone in our school community is valued, safe, treated with kindness and respect, and works together to make our community and world a better place.

MPS INCLUSION & DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Keeping it Kind at Adams Elementary! Kudos to Kylie in Ms. Taylor’s class who helped a classmate clean up her space in the classroom. Kudos also to Madison, in Mrs. Westervelt’s class, who was very kind to a student who was struggling on the playground. Madison helped her find her way around and helped her have fun. Way to go, friends!

Congratulations to Jillian Seamster, Central Park Elementary 3rd Grade Teacher, who has been selected as “Outstanding Teacher of the Year” by the Saginaw Spirit. Jillian will be recognized February 28 at the Saginaw Spirit game. Congratulations, Jillian!

2020-2021 PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

MPS OFFERS TWO PROVEN 4-Year Old Preschool Options to Prepare Your Child for Kindergarten Success!

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: Monday, March 9 at 5:30

Both MPS preschool programs assist children reach their full potential through activities that develop inquiry, confidence, self-esteem and social & physical skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IB PYP 4-Year-Old Preschool</th>
<th>Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proven, reasonably-priced tuition preschool that follows the IB PYP foundation that is the framework used by MPS elementary schools.</td>
<td>State-funded, quality preschool program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPS invites you to compare our fees against area preschools. We are confident you will find MPS offers a great educational value!</td>
<td>Free for income-qualifying families.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For preschool registration documents and information call the MPS Pre-Primary Center at 923-6411 or click as follows: www.midlandps.org → Parents → PreSchool Program

IB PYP 4-Year-Old Preschool

TWO QUALITY Kindergarten Options Available for MPS Families!

Both of these proven, successful Kindergarten options are part of the MPS public school system and are offered at no cost to families.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Y5 Developmental Kindergarten</th>
<th>Traditional Kindergarten</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Register NOW!</td>
<td>Register NOW for the 2020-21 Kindergarten class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGISTRATION ENDS Friday, February 28</td>
<td>Kindergarten classes are offered at all six MPS elementary schools: Adams, Central Park, Chestnut Hill, Plymouth, Siebert and Woodcrest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Y5 Developmental Kindergarten is the perfect program for students who would benefit from an additional year of growth between preschool and kindergarten.

Questions? Call the MPS PrePrimary Center at 923-6411.

For kindergarten questions & registration documents: www.midlandps.org → Parents → Kindergarten

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
At the Monday, February 17, Board of Education meeting, Board and audience members heard a wonderful presentation about two Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs available to Midland Public Schools’ high school students—Welding and Health Care Technology (HCT).

Thank you to these presenters: Curriculum Specialists—Dr. Alison Cicinelli and Dr. Steve Poole; Welding Teacher Corey Pawlak; Patrick Tobin from Delta College; and Colleen Markel from MidMichigan Health, as well as HCT students Cindeyia DeBruine, Haleigh DeForest, Christina Owens; and Welding student Abby Markel.

The HCT program is for students who are interested in entering health care related careers and want to begin their career journey in high school. HCT is a two-year program that, for many, includes a year of Co-op and the opportunity to obtain their CNA Certificate, as well as 12 college credits.

The Welding program at Midland High includes four different levels of welding classes. Welding students have the opportunity to compete in several State-wide competitions.

Thank you to these CTE presenters for sharing their knowledge and experiences!

**2020 MPS High School Graduation Ceremonies**

Tuesday, June 2, @ Dow Diamond (Venue subject to weather)

Dow High Graduation — 4:30 p.m.
Midland High Graduation — 7:30 p.m.

**ONE BILLION RISING EVENT — WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020 — 7:00 PM CENTRAL AUDITORIUM**

YOU ARE INVITED TO THIS FREE EVENT! This impactful event—One Billion Rising Fashion Show—will showcase Midland High students displaying their thrifty outfits and video viewing & conversation about American culture and how it (and we) contribute to gender violence. The event will also discuss how we can be “upstanders” rather than bystanders regarding gender violence. The event is expected to last about an hour, followed by a dessert reception and an opportunity for people to vote for their favorite outfit through donations. All funds and clothing will be donated to the Shelterhouse.

On February 18, the Midland High Varsity and JV pom teams hosted over 50 future pommers ranging from kindergarten through 8th grade for our annual Future Pommer Clinic. The participants learned a routine, enjoyed some yummy food, made hair bows and performed an amazing routine at the basketball game. Thanks to all who participated and helped to make this fun event happen! #yaypom
MIDLAND COUNTY CANSTRUCTION

The first annual Canstruction Midland event kicked off on Friday, February 21. A total of 30 students from six area middle and high schools converged on the Midland Mall early on Friday (before it was even open to the public). By 8 a.m. the students were using donated food items they specifically requested, to construct sculptures representing this year’s theme: “Modes of Transportation.”

The students began designing their ideas about six weeks ago using a 3D modeling program. They then delivered a specific grocery list to the main event partner, the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network (EFPN). EFPN then sourced the food through local grocery stores for each of the teams. Over 6,000 food items were then delivered to the mall for Friday’s competition.

The students opened, sorted and sculpted for five hours to create some amazing sculptures. The winner of the high school competition was Academic and Career Education Academy (ACEA) with Bullock Creek as runner up. Northeast won the middle school division. All the sculptures turned out great and will be on display for People’s Choice voting until Friday evening, February 28. “People’s Choice” and “Most Items Used” trophies will be given at noon on Saturday, February 29. The teams then deconstruct their sculptures to donate the food back to EFPN for distribution to people in need.

Go out and see the sculptures this week. Make a donation and cast your vote for your favorite sculpture.

Northeast Middle School’s winning sculpture, “S.S. Candace” in the Middle School Division

Jefferson Middle School’s sculpture, “Steve McQueen”

Best wishes to ALL of our winter sports student athletes who will be competing in post-season district, regional and state events. We are cheering for you!

Midland Public Schools is proud to be the Midland community’s public school district. We are honored that you have chosen MPS for the Pre-K through Grade 12 education of your child(ren)!

Please know we take the education of our students very seriously.

MPS staff are committed to providing your child with the highest-quality education possible!

#midlandpublicschoolsProud

Public Schools Week
February 24-28

#publicschoolsProud
H.H. Dow High is hosting the FIRST Robotics District Competition on March 20-21 in the HH Dow High Gym. Come and cheer on both of the MPS high schools FIRST Robotics teams, who will be among the 39 teams competing at this event—Team 2619, The Charge (Dow High) and Team 5509, Like a Boss (Midland High)!

District Competitive Schedule
- Friday (3/20): Opening ceremonies 10:30 am; Matches end at 7:00 pm
- Saturday (3/21): Opening ceremonies at 9:00 am; Awards at 5:00 pm

The public is welcome! Parking & entry are FREE for this event.

MPS FIRST Robotics Teams’ Outreach

Even though our high school FIRST robotics teams are busy gearing up for their 2020 competitive season, they continue to make time to “give back” and share FIRST Robotics at community events. Dow High’s Team 2619 The Charge and Midland High’s Team 5509 Like a Boss were part of the recent Women in STEM night at the Midland Center for the Arts. Both teams did robot demonstrations and shared about the impact of FIRST Robotics.

The Robots are Coming … The Robots are Coming … From All Over Michigan!

The Robots are Coming … The Robots are Coming … From All Over Michigan!

MPS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

The Charge’s FIRST Robotics Woodie Flower’s Award Nominee

Congratulations to Richard Stevens, who is The Charge's 2020 Woodie Flowers Award nominee! The FIRST Woodie Flowers Award celebrates effective communication in the art and science of engineering & design and recognizes mentors who lead, inspire and empower using excellent communication skills.

Richard was a student member of The Charge and is a Dow High alumnus. After graduating from Michigan Technological University with a degree in mechanical engineering, Richard returned to mentor The Charge starting in 2015. Richard is currently the team’s lead mechanical mentor and a reliability engineer for Corteva Agriscience. Richard will find out during the upcoming competition season if he will advance as a finalist for this award.

MPS HIGH SCHOOL FIRST ROBOTICS TEAMS ARE WORKING HARD AND “GEARING UP” FOR THE EXCITING 2020 COMPETITIVE SEASON!

FIRST Robotics Dean’s List Award Semi-Finalists

Congratulations to Caleb Allington and David Watkins, who are HH Dow High The Charge’s 2020 Dean’s List Award semi-finalists! The FIRST Dean’s List Award celebrates outstanding student leaders who have led their teams and communities to increased awareness for FIRST and its mission while achieving personal technical expertise and accomplishment. David and Caleb will find out during the upcoming competition season if they will advance as finalists for this award.

MPS FIRST Robotics Teams’ Outreach

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The Robots are Coming … The Robots are Coming … From All Over Michigan!

February 24, 2020 Page 4 of 7

Midland County Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise Held Today

This morning, MPS hosted a Tabletop Exercise that included school staff members from the area as well as emergency responders—State, County, City Law Enforcement; Fire; EMT and more. Today’s exercise prompted in-depth, constructive, problem-solving discussions about existing emergency response plans as emergency scenarios and roles were discussed in various crisis response situations. An in-depth, life-like emergency response drill will be hosted by MPS in May.

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Central Park Kindergarteners recently ventured outside of the classroom to put their learning to the test! The kindergarteners, as part of their *How the World Works* unit, are exploring how forces impact our daily lives, including the role of gravity and the roles of push and pull forces on objects. With a visit to Valley Lanes, the students tested their push/pull forces with a variety of bowling techniques and received a behind-the-scenes tour of the pin racking mechanics!

On February 12, interested Jefferson 8th grade science students participated in a DNA fingerprinting activity. Jefferson teachers Christine Brillhart and Mark Hackbarth, along with Dow science coach Bob McAfee, assisted the students in using DNA electrophoresis to determine who stole Mrs. Brillhart's lunch. The students compared the DNA samples of five suspects to the crime scene DNA sample. In doing this activity, the students learned the science behind DNA testing and electrophoresis. A special thank you goes out to the MSU STEM Center for providing the materials for the activity.

They also took advantage of Michigan weather and set out with their sleds to investigate forces of friction and, inevitably, collision!

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**SAGINAW VALLEY LEAGUE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Saginaw Valley League established this award to recognize excellence in teaching and is presented annually to one teacher from each of the Saginaw Valley member high schools.

Any teacher who has taught for at least 5 years and whose current teaching assignment is full or part-time in grades 9-12 is eligible for the SVL Teacher of the Year Award.

If you wish to nominate a deserving teacher, click on one of the two links below for the form to submit for your nominee’s school:

- H.H. Dow High School
- Midland High School

The SVL Teacher of the Year Award nomination **DEADLINE is FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020**.
Do you have a child who is a Senior at Dow High or Midland High?

Has your family completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) yet for his/her entry into the college/university they plan to attend next fall?

Governor Whitmer has challenged every Michigan high school to increase their FAFSA completion rate among 2020 graduates.

From the Governor’s website,

“It is estimated that nearly 25,000 Michigan students eligible for Pell grants did not file the FAFSA last year, leaving nearly $100 million in Pell grant funding unspent.”

“Every student deserves a path to a quality, affordable postsecondary education, and filling out FAFSA forms can make an enormous difference for families across the state,” Gov. Whitmer said.

Here are some FAFSA deadlines for your info:

State of Michigan Deadline: March 1, 2020
College Deadline: Check with each college
Federal Deadline: June 30, 2020

A week or so ago, Midland Public Schools received a very, very generous gift of $5,000 from the Town & Country Group, an electrical company from West Michigan, as part of their “We Love Our Schools” campaign. These funds will be used to assist with MPS student lunch accounts that may need a helping hand.

Town & Country Marketing Manager, Bethany Stover, remarked that paying lunch debts is part of the company’s mission to serve its communities.

Thank you, Town & Country Group, for thinking of Midland Public Schools’ students & families with this wonderful donation!

Elizabeth Herman, one of the two photographers of Redefining Representation: The Women of the 116th Congress photo exhibit that recently opened at the Midland Center for the Arts (MCFTA), visited Mr. Starling’s classroom at MHS and Mr. Richard’s classroom at DHS and gave a lecture on Wednesday, February 19. The photos of the 131 women currently serving in Congress are on display now through March 29 at the Center, in conjunction with the 20/20 Vision: Seeing HERstory exhibit that runs through the end of April. Through both exhibits, MCFTA is examining the last 100 years of women’s history and the change-makers of today and tomorrow.
Join our Team

MPS Current Job Openings

Click on this link for current job postings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Posting End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Driver/Trainer</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>03/03/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Driver/Office Assistant</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>03/03/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Driver/Mechanic Assistant</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>03/03/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Volleyball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Tennis</td>
<td>Midland HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Volleyball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, JV, Boys’, Soccer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional (two positions)</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>03/03/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teaching Associate</td>
<td>Carpenter Pre-Primary Ctr</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counselor</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Elementary (Two openings)</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Middle School</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Secondary Science</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Family Consumer Science</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Special Education</td>
<td>Chestnut Hill ES</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the job openings above, BUS DRIVERS & PARAPROFESSIONALS are needed in our Transportation Department.

Interested in working with children? Want the same days off as your child? Consider becoming a member of the MPS Transportation Team!

Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED
- Pass criminal background check
- Drivers: Pass pre-employment drug test, physical/back assessment
- Paras: Pass physical/back assessment & Work Keys

A few details about being part of our Transportation Team:

- Flexible schedule, AM & PM routes available, no experience required, paid training, both regular & sub drivers and paraprofessionals are needed.

Salary:

- Bus driver: $14.22/hour starting salary … within four years: $18.01/hour
- Para: $ 9.65/hour to start … with steps to $13.12

Call MPS Transportation with questions and to apply: 923-5041

Midland Public Schools contracts through EDUStaff for our substitute teachers. You choose the days, grade levels, schools at which you would like to sub! For more information go to www.edustaff.org TODAY

wise thought to ponder …

“We are a nation of communities … a brilliant diversity spread like stars, like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.”
— George H. W. Bush