Happy Neighboring Week Midland, Michigan!

As we have been reporting for the past few weeks, MPS Art Teachers have graciously been having their students complete a Hello Neighbor sheet for students to share with the folks in their neighborhood. Jenna Dulude and Buffy Hall, Adams & Woodcrest Art Teachers, shared these fun pictures with us!

We hope you will take a moment to say ‘Hello Neighbor’ to folks in your neighborhood this week.

From the Midland County Health Department

As of September 28, 2020:

- # quarantined/isolated individuals that attend MPS: 31

Midland County COVID-19 Dashboard: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/abfabc9f43a74363b7ad28a763d4d2b6/
MDHSS FAQ sheet. Here is the link: http://www.midlandps.org/MDHSS-FAQs

Midland Points of Pride

We are excited to keep the 2020 MPS Points of Pride going …

National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Each year, based on PSAT scores, 16,000 of the nation’s high scorers (representing less than 1 percent of the nation’s high school graduating seniors) qualify as Semifinalists in the annual National Merit Program.

Congratulations and best wishes to these Midland Public Schools National Merit Semifinalists!

HH Dow High Semifinalists: Abigail Jendretzke, Olivia Miller, Caleb Qiu, Faith Tabler, Rachel Weldy, Andrew Zhou
Midland High Semifinalist: Zoren Berlanga

Stay tuned! National Merit Finalists will be announced in early spring.

Friday is National Custodian’s Day!

Thank you to our MPS Building Managers and EnviroClean team that are working so hard to keep MPS buildings and surfaces clean and sanitized during this time of COVID-19!

MPSCConnect is a convenient communications tool for you to connect with me. Every message comes to my desktop. Either I or another MPS staff member will do all we can to reply to your message within the next work day.

https://www.midlandps.org/content2/706

— Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent
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MPS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

BETHANY HAMPTON

Owner, CEO of Bright SchoolKits

HH Dow High 1989 Graduate

Ms. Bethany Hampton (nee Freeman) attended Siebert Elementary, Jefferson Intermediate and Dow High School. During her post-secondary education, she earned her chemical engineering degree from MSU and her MBA from UCLA. For those who went to school with Bethany Freeman, you may remember her as a gymnast (she continued to compete as a gymnast at Michigan State University).

Ms. Hampton currently resides in the Greater Cincinnati area with her husband Ed and two daughters, Kayla and Hattie. After working at Abbott Laboratories and Procter & Gamble, Bethany began her own business—Bright SchoolKits (www.schoolkits.com)—that provides back-to-school supply kits that are customized to each student’s specific teacher supply list. Her company prides itself in offering the supplies at a comparable cost of local retailers, but also saving parents the time and hassle of back to school supply shopping. Her company provides school supplies to kids all over the nation. Bethany’s company’s mission is ‘to give.’

Midland Public Schools was the very recent recipient of Bethany’s company’s giving spirit. When Ms. Hampton heard about the devastating flooding in May, she contacted her school supply vendors seeking help for her hometown. Here is what she included in her note to them, “In a normal year, my company could donate supplies to provide for these children - but with the pandemic, we are struggling ourselves and have had to take loans to get through the year. Nevertheless, I would like to volunteer my efforts and donate some of our supplies to help them. They need more than we can offer through, and I would like your help. Would you consider donating supplies to them as well?” This was the result. More than five pallets of school supplies were delivered to the Midland Public Schools’ warehouse building last week. MPS staff are in the process of sorting and preparing the supplies to be delivered to our schools to utilize.

We send our sincerest appreciation to Dow High Alumni, Bethany Hampton (and her suppliers), who so graciously provided the many, many, many school supplies that our students/staff will use and enjoy!

PIC 2020-21

We held our first Parent Information Committee meeting of the 2020-21 school year last week. The topic of conversation was the Midland Public Schools’ return to school plan and how we stand following the first month of 2020-21. We are excited to report that we had more than 20 MPS parents who attended either in person or via Zoom. This school year, PIC will meet the 4th Thursday of each month from 12-1:00 via Zoom, allowing those parents who wish to attend in person to do so within the current meeting guidelines allowable by Michigan Executive Order. In addition, we will share the video link in the Communique following each meeting. The next PIC meeting is Thursday, October 22. If you are interested in attending 2020-21 PIC meetings, please email Cindy at youngcd@midlandps.org with your name, your email address and the school(s) your child(ren) attend.

⁻⁻ Here is the YouTube video link to last week’s PIC meeting: https://youtu.be/PbQscfgUF54

⁻⁻ MPS is working to get more active with podcasting. If you would like to listen to the September PIC meeting without the video, here is the podcast link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Sr3mpDc8YRivf6YMj_Mp9826Gj_EVp/view

Chestnut Hill Playground News

Chip, Chip, Hooray!  The new playground structure at Chestnut Hill has become a reality! Our amazing CHE students and families have worked so hard over the last four years to make this happen. This would not have been possible without the fundraising coordination efforts of Danielle Larson and Andrea Shepard, the work of Plainfield Excavating or the grants from the Midland Firefighter Youth Foundation and Midland Noon Rotary Club. These fun playground structures will cultivate many years of active play for our students and the community.

THANK YOU to all who made this possible!

SHINING STARS RETURN … We are excited to reinstate the Shining Stars that recognize MPS staff members who go above and beyond to make MPS a better place for students. If you would like to nominate a deserving MPS team member, please complete and submit the Shining Star nomination form.

Here is the link: https://www.midlandps.org/Content2/shining-star-nomination-form
JOIN OUR MPS TEAM — Current Open Positions

MPS Employment Opportunities Link:
https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Employment%20Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus Driver, Substitute</td>
<td>MPS Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Basketball, Girls’ (2 positions)</td>
<td>1. HH Dow HS  2. Midland HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Basketball, Boys’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer, Girls’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Soccer, Girls’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Debate</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional, ESL Tutor</td>
<td>District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional, Special Education (7 positions)</td>
<td>District-wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional, Substitute</td>
<td>District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Special Education</td>
<td>District</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MPS District Vision
Lead with respect, trust and courage.
Ensure an equitable, collaborative and inclusive culture.
Enable all to achieve success.

MPS Website: www.midlandps.org
Twitter: @MichaelSharrow2 @MidlandPS
YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/MidlandPublicSchools
Student Flyers: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/
Community Flyers: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers

Want to drive a big yellow school bus?
OR are you interested in being a transportation paraprofessional and riding around on a big yellow school bus and assisting students on their way to school or on their way home?

If so, Midland PS NEEDS YOU!

Bus driver salary range: $14.22-$18.01
Para salary range: $10.47-$13.89

Call 923-5041 TODAY for training and CDL information.

Central Park Elementary Virtual Students Art Class
Thank you to Beth Hazen, Central Park Elementary Virtual Art Teacher, for sharing this information with us!

“Here are two examples from our ROCKET Ship Line project. We are learning the elements of art. These were created in our Midland Virtual Academy. This (past) week was line.”

Wise words to ponder …
“You can disagree without being disagreeable.”
— Ruth Bader Ginsburg