

Superintendent Communiqué



Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence

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MPS INCLUSION & DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

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.

SPECIAL EDITION COMMUNIQUE

August 20, 2019

IMPORTANT NEW SCHOOL YEAR DATES: As the school year rapidly approaches, most buildings are hosting 'Welcome Back' events including schedule walks, student orientations, etc. Here are the dates/times at MPS buildings:

Pre-Primary Center	Information Night (IB PYP Preschool only): August 26—6-7 pm; Open House—All Students: August 27—4-6 pm; Curriculum Night (Young 5's only): September 12—5:30 pm
Adams Elementary	Open House: September 5—5:30-6:30 pm
Central Park Elementary	Curriculum Night/PTO Ice Cream Social: Tuesday, August 27—5:30-7:30 pm
Chestnut Hill Elementary	Curriculum Night: September 4: Grades K-2—5-5:40; Grades 3-5—5:50-6:30 (Chromebooks will be distributed also on September 4—4:30-7:30)
Plymouth Elementary	Ice Cream Social: August 26—5:30-7:30 pm; Curriculum Night: August 27—5-6 pm (Chromebooks are available to pick up both nights)
Siebert Elementary	Open House/Curriculum Night: August 27—6-8:00 pm (Chromebooks will be distributed)
Woodcrest Elementary	Parent Information Nights: Sept. 9: Grade 3—5-6 pm; Sept. 10: Grade 4—4:30-5:30 pm; Sept. 11: Kindergarten—5-6 pm & Grade 1—6-7 pm; Sept. 12: Grade 2—5-6 pm & Grade 5—6-7 pm
Jefferson Middle School	Schedule Walk: August 21: Grade 8—8-9 am; Grade 7—10-11 am; Grade 6—1-2 pm (Computers may be picked up during the Schedule Walk); Parent Orientation: August 26—5:30 pm
Northeast Middle School	Schedule Pick-up: August 22: Grade 8—8:30 am; Grade 7—10:30 am; Grade 6—1:30 pm (Computers made be picked up on August 22); Curriculum Night: August 27—7:30 pm
HH Dow High School	Schedule Walk: Wednesday, August 28: Grade 9—9 am-1:00 pm; Grades 10-12—1-3:00 pm Curriculum Night: Tuesday, September 10—6:00 pm
Midland High School	Freshmen/New Student Orientation & Schedule Pick-up: August 22—8-11 am Schedule Pick Up: August 22: Grade 12—12-2 pm; August 23: Grade 10 & 11—8-noon Curriculum Night: August 27: 5:00-7:00 pm

Elementary Classroom Teacher Assignments will be emailed to parents/guardians on Monday, August 26.



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>

As you return to the buildings, several new policies and programs will be in place.

#1: All secondary schools (6th – 12th grade) have updated student handbooks. The updates were aimed at creating more consistent and concise guidelines amongst the four secondary buildings. Please take the time to review the new guidelines prior to the school year with your student. Handbooks can be found on your school's individual webpage.

- ➔ Northeast: <https://www.midlandps.org/docs/district/handbooks/20190723UpdatedNMS2019-20StudentHandbook.pdf>
- ➔ Jefferson: <https://www.midlandps.org/docs/district/handbooks/20190724JMS%202019-20%20Student%20Handbook%20Template.pdf>
- ➔ Midland High: <https://www.midlandps.org/docs/district/handbooks/20190723UpdatedMHS2019-20StudentHandbook.pdf>
- ➔ H.H. Dow High: <https://www.midlandps.org/userfiles/4/My%20Files/Dow%20High/Handbook/201920/20190813UpdatedDHS2019-20StudentHandbook.pdf?id=2811>

#2: As MPS has evolved in our district-wide 1:1 technology device program, we continue to develop new policies, procedures, programs, and practices to adapt to emerging trends. A committee of MPS team members have developed an updated 19-20 Student Device User Agreement. In addition, MPS is offering an **OPTIONAL** insurance program for 1:1 devices for the 2019-2020 school year.

The following documents have been posted on the MPS website to assist you in understanding the new user agreement and to aid you in your choice to participate in the optional insurance program:

2019-2020 Student Device User Agreement:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-3r0YzpN_8tRng1vPfnVTAf6GnsV3kF0/view

1:1 Optional Insurance Program F.A.Q.:

<https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/mpstech/11-optional-insurance-program>

Device Repair Costs:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12kB6Inl-or7cX2duwjz0AcLvjAcDWhRdzK8UUoXz6Rg/edit#gid=0>

If you have any questions about the program, please feel free to contact your building administrator or Dave Dziedzic, Director of Technology @ 989-923-5127 (DziedzicDA@midlandps.org).

Are you looking for the bus schedules for the 2019-20 school year?

They are included on each individual school's page of the *Our Schools* newsletter that will be an insert in the August 24 Midland Daily News. Here is the link:

<http://www.midlandps.org/our-schools-august-2019>

I look forward to seeing you soon!



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OUR SCHOOLS



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MPS Website: www.midlandps.org

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This summer, MPS Bond dollars have been working hard at Adams Elementary, Jefferson & Northeast Middle Schools and HH Dow and Midland High Schools.

Adams Elementary received a major building-wide renovation similar to our other elementary schools. All of our secondary schools received updated media centers. The high schools received updated HVAC, science labs and locker rooms.

Thank you to MPS voters for approving the bonds in 2015. The funds have been working hard and making much needed building, technology, infrastructure and transportation improvements District-wide!

Capital funds set aside for District building & grounds improvements have also been working hard this summer! Work has been done at the Community Stadium with scoreboard installation and press box work beyond the insurance settlement, parking lot and sidewalk repairs across the district, a playground update at the Pre-Primary Center, a roof project and several second floor classroom air units at Northeast Middle School, and more.



JMS Media Center



DHS Lockers



Adams Elem. Boiler



Community Stadium



Pre-Primary Center



Northeast Middle School



Welcome back to school.

We are looking forward to greeting more than 7,700 students on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 3!

All school offices are now open. See the headings on pages 2-8 of this newsletter for contact information.

MPS STUDENTS AND STAFF EXPERIENCE KENYA

As part of the Midland Public Schools Inclusion & Diversity (I & D) initiative, and in partnership with Dow Chemical, two MPS students (Robert Perry, MHS Junior and Madeline Hong, DHS Sophomore) and five MPS staff members (Gynde Roberts, DHS Teacher, Mary Hillman, MHS Teacher, Penny Miller-Nelson, Associate Superintendent, Melissa Toner, Technology/Media Curriculum Specialist, and Jen Servoss, Elementary Curricula Specialist) traveled to Kenya in June as part of the I&D Movement.

Robert and Mary, along with Ms. Roberts and Ms. Hillman, worked alongside peers from around the world to help build a foundation for a kitchen at a school, experienced a water walk with the Maasai mamas, worked on a WE College build site and much, much more. Robert & Madeline's reflection upon their return: "Little did we know when we stepped off the plane 8,000 miles from home this past June that our perceptions about such basic things as water, education, and community would never, ever again be the same!"

Penny, Melissa and Jen had a different experience during their time in Kenya. Each day they collaborated with teachers, administrators and business executives from South Africa, Argentina, Louisiana and New York, sharing strategic plans on Inclusion & Diversity and ideas for implementation. During workshop time, the Midland administrative team along with Dr. Amy Beasley, Dow North American Regional Inclusion Leader, and Lee Ann Keller Rouse, President and CEO of Omni Tech International, Ltd. evaluated our current MPS I & D plan, problem-solved and looked at future action and implementation.

Connect with us: → MPS Connect: www.midlandps.org/MPSConnect → Phone: (989) 923-5001 → Twitter: @MidlandPS