Superintendent Communiqué

November 9, 2020 ▶ Volume 8 ▶ Edition 15
www.midlandps.org ▶ (989) 923-5001 ▶ @MidlandPS

Midland Public Schools
District Vision Statement

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

(Adopted by the MPS Board of Education July 20, 2020)

Midland Public Schools Board of Education Election Results — MPS sincerely appreciates all of the community members who made their voices heard through their vote last week.

Thank you to the seven members of the Midland community who ran for our four open Board of Education seats.

Congratulations and best wishes to these four newly-elected Midland PS Board of Education members.

Midland Public Schools publically thanks these four individuals for their willingness to serve our District’s students, staff, families and community!

Scott McFarland
6-Year-Term

Brad Blasy
6-Year-Term

Lynn Baker
4-Year-Term

John Hatfield*
4-Year-Term

Current MPS Board President

Current MPS Board Trustee

Current MPS Board Trustee

Newly Elected Board Member
(*Photo courtesy Midland Daily News)

Current MPS

Current MPS

Current MPS

Newly Elected

Board President

Board Trustee

Board Trustee

Board Member

Their new terms of office will officially begin January 1, 2021.

MPS Covid-19 Update: Because the District now receives a daily update from the Midland County Health Department, we have added a Daily Update link to the MPS website. 


► Midland County COVID-19 Dashboard: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/abfabc9f43a74363b7ad28a763d4d2b6/

► Michigan.gov School-Related COVID-19 Outbreak Reporting:

https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98163_98173_102480---,00.html

► MDHHS FAQ sheet. Here is the link: http://www.midlandps.org/MDHHS-FAQs

VETERANS DAY

LINK to document with form for those considering moving your child from virtual to F2F learning: https://www.midlandps.org/Return-to-F2F-Key-things-to-know

Virtual/ Hybrid Learning

Interested in having your child move from Virtual/ Hybrid Learning to full Face-to-Face (F2F) Learning in their home school for 2nd Semester?

THE WINDOW TO MOVE TO F2F IS NOW OPEN! (Window closes 11/23.)

The window is now open for MPS virtual/ hybrid families whose child is in the Virtual/ Hybrid Learning model who wish to have their child move to Face-to-Face Learning for 2nd Semester.

Face-To-Face Learning

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
Read by Grade Three Information for Parents of Developmental Kindergarten through Grade 3 students

In 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed the Read by Grade Three Law (Public Act 306). Its purpose is to ensure that all students exiting 3rd grade are at or above grade level proficiency and provides extra support for K-3 students who are not reading at grade level.

Students need strong reading skills to support their learning in all subject areas. Please assist us by reading at home with your child, retell favorite stories, ask questions, and encourage your child to write about what they have read. Please feel welcome to reach out to your child’s teacher or principal if you have questions or need additional information.

Together, teachers and families can ensure that all our young learners achieve reading success!

Read by Grade Three – Parent Awareness Toolkit

Please use the link below to explore information from the Michigan Department of Education. The link contains the following information:

- A Power Point
- Video links
- Facts for Families
- What is the Read by Grade Three Law?
- What is a Good Cause Exemption?
- Essentials for Families - posters
- Bookmarks
- Michigan eLibrary – eResources Supporting Early Literacy

https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_74161-490688--,00.html

Meal Pick Up During the Holidays

Here is the meal pick-up schedule for the holiday weeks at the end of November & December:

- **Holiday Break Meal Pick Up Service**
  - **November 24** – Five Breakfast & Lunch meals will be available 11:30 am-12:30 pm
  - **December 22** – Five Breakfast & Lunch meals will be available 11:30 am-12:30 pm
  - **December 29** – Five Breakfast & Lunch meals will be available 11:30 am-12:30 pm
  - **December 31** – Five Breakfast & Lunch meals will be available 11:30 am-12:30 pm
  - **Every Saturday** – Meal pick up will be available at Central Park and Midland High from 9-11 am.

Dow High This Week — For those MPS families who do not have children at Dow High, we wanted to mention that for this week (November 9-13), all Dow High students will participate in virtual learning with their regular teachers. This move to full virtual learning for the Chargers for this week was a combination of the current number of instructional staff members across the district currently in quarantine and the unavailability of substitute guest teachers to staff the classrooms. Dow High students will return to face-to-face learning on Monday, November 16.

For those Dow High families affected by the closure, free breakfast/lunch meal pickup is as follows this week: November 9, 10, 12—Today, Tuesday and Thursday—from 10 am to noon. No pre-ordering is required. DHS main entrance is the meal pick-up site.

SHINING STARS … Have you seen or heard reports from your child of an MPS staff member who goes 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
CTE — Building Trades 2020-21
We find so many things in our world this year just a little different, which is also the case with our Building Trades build project. Because of the unknowns this year, instead of the trades class building a house, they will be building a garage on the Midland High property. As you can see, the foundation is laid and walls are going up. Great job, Building Trades students and teacher, Kevin Dodick!

Important November Calendar Dates
Elementary & Pre-Primary Only 1/2 Day*
Wednesday, November 11 (Elem Parent-Teacher Conf)
All Students 1/2 Day*
Wednesday, November 25 (Staff Records Day in pm.)
NO SCHOOL — Thanksgiving Holiday
Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27
*1/2 days— release times will come from your child’s school.

Midland High’s Focus Finalist for Pacemaker Award — WOW!
We received the exciting news from Mr. Jim Woehrle, Midland High English Teacher and Newspaper Advisor, that on Thursday, November 5, The Focus Midland High School newspaper learned it is a finalist for the Pacemaker Award—the nation’s highest honor for scholastic journalism. The award is granted by the National Scholastic Press Association. A total of 60 newspapers around the country were chosen as finalists, and The Focus was one of only two from the entire State of Michigan. This is the fifth time that The Focus has been a finalist, and the first time since 2008. Just being a finalist is an incredibly high honor. The 24 winning publications will be announced later this month.

The Focus team sent multiple issues of their newspaper from the 2019-20 school year to the NSPA for judging.

NSPA’s Twitter announcement

Congratulations & Best Wishes, Mr. Woehrle and The Focus Team!
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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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus Driver, Substitute</td>
<td>MPS Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Soccer, Girls’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer, Girls’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion</td>
<td>District Administrative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional, Special Education (8 positions)</td>
<td>District-wide</td>
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<td>Paraprofessional — Title I</td>
<td>Central Park ES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional, Substitute</td>
<td>District</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>District</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Social Worker</td>
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<td>Teacher, Special Education</td>
<td>District</td>
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MIDLAND PS NEEDS SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS!

This school year, MPS has about 60% of the number of substitute teachers we have in a traditional school year. That figure is probably not surprising giving the pandemic our world is currently facing.

This year, however, more than ever, MPS needs substitute teachers! Subs are needed to cover for the traditional reasons when a teacher must be out of a classroom, however, even more this year, for our District to continue F2F learning, it is essential that we have a good pool of guest teachers.

As of November 1, the daily rate of pay for MPS substitute teachers was raised to $100 per day or $14.28 per hour. If you are interested in finding out about becoming an MPS sub teacher, please click on this link https://account.edustaff.org/apply/ or call MPS Human Resources—989-923-5027.

MIDLAND PS NEEDS BUS DRIVERS!

Interested in driving a big yellow school bus and getting students to and from school safely? If so, MPS NEEDS YOU to join our team! Bus driver salary range: $15.72 to $19.51/hour.

TRAINING IS PROVIDED!

Call 923-5041 TODAY for training & CDL info.

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

MPS Board of Education Members:
- Scott McFarland, President
- Pam Singer, Vice President
- Phil Rausch, Secretary
- Mary Fredell, Treasurer
- Lynn Baker, Trustee
- Brad Blasy, Trustee
- Jon Lauderbach, Trustee

Email: board@midlandps.org

Wise words to ponder …

“The willingness of America’s veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude.” — Jeff Miller