

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

June 2, 2020

THE EDUCATION & WELLBEING OF ALL MPS STUDENTS

Dear MPS Students, Staff and Families ...

As a public school district entrusted with the education and wellbeing of over 7,700 Pre-K through Grade 12 students and a workplace for 1,000 employees, Midland Public Schools is dedicated to the welfare of all MPS students and employees! Midland Public Schools' overarching focus is to provide the best education possible for ALL STUDENTS. We know the best education possible not only includes the traditional subjects, electives and extracurriculars, the best education possible also reflects a strong, enduring culture of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Social Emotional Learning in all of our schools for all of our students!

The Midland Public Schools' Board of Education and Administration recognizes and values that we serve a diverse population of students, staff and community members with varying backgrounds, ethnicities, color, family situations, socio-economic situations, and so much more. You have our pledge that MPS—your family's school district—will continue to foster and emphasize Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in all facets of Midland Public Schools. The events we have been seeing in our Nation this past week are the latest tragedies in the long line of injustices that disproportionately affect citizens of color in our nation. We must continue to learn from each other in order to build a better school district, community, state and nation.

Our Schools should and will continue to be a safe place for our students to come and learn and our staff members to come and work. Midland Public Schools will continue to emphasize Social Emotional Learning (SEL) strategies, such as empathy and compassion for all students. All MPS stakeholders—students, staff, families and community—must work together positively to foster change, understanding, and address any and all issues that do not support our District's core beliefs.

I think we are all feeling the weight of our current world—the COVID pandemic, our economic downturn, our community being ravished by recent floodwaters, the recent tragedy in Minneapolis and now the extreme rioting across our Country. As I view the myriad of news coming at us from all directions, it can be easy to feel that all of these trials may be difficult for us as individuals, a school district, a community, etc. to recover from and see a light at the end. However, now that I have been among you for seven years, Midland Public Schools, located in our grounded, strong mid-Michigan community, will not only recover, but will be stronger and better in the future. As with all we do, I know that all MPS stakeholders—staff, students, families, community—will continue to work together keeping our emphasis on the education and wellbeing of ALL MPS STUDENTS—the future of our community, state, nation and world!

Please stay safe, strong & healthy!

Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent



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