

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.

January is National School Board Appreciation Month. Please join us in saying ...

Thank you Midland Public Schools' Board of Education!



YOUR MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION (from left to right):
Pam Singer, Vice President; **Lynn Baker**, Trustee; **Brad Blasy**, Trustee;
Scott McFarland, President; **Phil Rausch**, Secretary; **Mary Fredell**, Treasurer;
Jon Lauderbach, Trustee (Michael Sharrow, Superintendent).

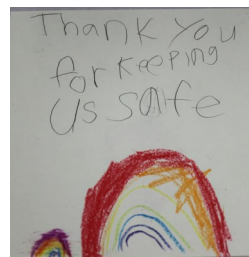
The MPS Board of Education members are elected by MPS voters and must take an oath of office promising to uphold all laws. They are not paid for their service to MPS students, staff, families and community. Their MPS service is entirely voluntary!

Here are just a few of the ways MPS Board members serve: oversee the education of Midland community children, attend monthly Board and study committee meetings, volunteer in schools, attend athletic and other events, set district policy, approve annual district budget and monthly financials, levy local taxes, communicate with local legislators related to K-12 educational matters, and the list goes on and on and on.

One of the small tokens of appreciation Board members received at the January 20 Board of Education meeting were thank you letters from **Ms. Cooper's 1st Grade class at Central Park Elementary**. All of the cards were adorable and thanked the

Board members for different things like keeping our schools safe, keeping our schools looking good, for having awesome teachers, for being nice and much more!.

Here are a couple of the wonderful cards made by Connor and Amelia!



Midland High Interim Administrative Changes

As some may have heard, Ms. Julie Villano, Assistant Principal I at Midland High, has announced her retirement in March 2020. We thank Ms. Villano for her 25 years of dedicated service to the students, staff and families of Midland Public Schools and wish her all the best.

With the retirement of Ms. Villano, we would like to announce the following interim Midland High administrative assignments:

- ➔ Mr. Matt Wenzel will move into the Interim Assistant Principal I position.
- ➔ Ms. Andrea Jozwiak, MHS Business Teacher, will move into the Interim Assistant Principal II position.
- ➔ Ms. Lynnette Johnson, certified, well-qualified teacher, will serve as long-term substitute for Ms. Jozwiak's classes with Ms. Jozwiak's guidance.

These transitions will be effective Monday, February 3, for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.



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>

STEM ... PROJECT LEAD THE WAY ... MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS!

January 27, 2020

Page 2 of 6



A few years ago, MPS adopted a dynamic STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Strategic Plan District-wide. While the District already had a robust STEM curriculum, given the City of Explorers in which we reside, MPS decided to take it a step further. Hence, the MPS adoption of Project Lead the Way (PLTW) STEM Curriculum District-wide.



All MPS elementary students explore STEM applications through PLTW Launch. The 28 elementary interdisciplinary modules bring learning to life in hands-on activities in computer science, engineering and biomedical science. These Grades K-5 learners are creative, collaborative problem solvers ready to work in groups and conquer any challenge.

MPS Middle School students can choose to explore STEM through PLTW Gateway. This curriculum includes 10 units in computer science, engineering and biomedical science. This also is a hands-on program that fosters group interaction and conquering challenges.

As electives, MPS High School students can choose from PLTW Engineering courses. They problem solve in real-life situations and turn their ideas into reality. Again, the students work in groups to solve problems. Through this process they are great collaborators and thinkers—important skills 21st Century employers are seeking.

At the Monday, January 20, Board of Education meeting, we had a dynamic Project Lead the Way presentation from Central Park 1st Grade Students; Siebert 4th Grade Teachers; Middle and High School students. It was wonderful to hear the excitement in these student and staff members' voices for this cutting edge, hands-on, real life STEM



THE GERSTACKER TEACHER PROFICIENCY AWARDS NOMINATION WINDOW IS NOW OPEN!

Don't miss your chance. Nominate a great MPS teacher today!

*The nomination window **CLOSES FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020***

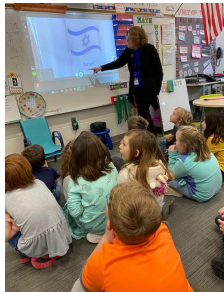
For nomination information go to our website—www.midlandps.org—or click on this link: <https://www.midlandps.org/gerstacker-awards>

To nominate a teacher, you may also send a personal letter via US Mail to:
**Gerstacker Committee, Midland Public Schools Superintendent's Office,
600 E. Carpenter, Midland, MI 48640**

This year's Gerstacker Ceremony is

Thursday, April 30 at 4:15 p.m. at Central Auditorium
and will celebrate 65 years of Midland Public Schools' teaching excellence.

First graders at Central Park Elementary took part in an International Day experience as part of their **Where We Are in Place and Time** unit of inquiry. This provocation led the students on a journey to Israel, Spain, Nepal, Botswana and China. Students were engaged in a variety of cultural customs and traditions to better understand that previous generations influence who we are today.



Midland High staff would like to thank our Chemic PARENT PARTNERS team for orchestrating and organizing the MOBILE Coffee Carts during Exam Week!

Thanks to ALL the parents who donated breakfast snacks, goodies and beverages! The parent teams brought so much cheer and encouragement as they traveled the hallways between exams! Thank you also to Grove Tea Lounge for generously donating the coffee!



Shining Stars

Congratulations to our **January 2020 Shining Stars**. These MPS team members were recognized for going above and beyond to make MPS a better place for students.

Geri Stajdl,
Classroom
Teacher, Plymouth
Elementary



Karen Dastick,
Paraprofessional,
Jefferson Middle
Media Center Para



**Congratulations,
Geri & Karen!**

Thank you, Masons!

Recently, Chestnut Hill received a visit from Mr. Thomas Sova who brought a tote filled



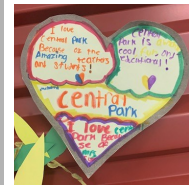
with hats and mittens as part of the Mittens from Masons program from Masons Centre Lodge #273 out of Bay City. This group delivers these hand-made warm winter hats and mittens to schools across three counties. Thank you, Mr. Sova and Masons, for including Chestnut Hill Elem. in your Mittens from Masons program!



Sixty-five students from Mr. Last's and Mrs. Jozwiak's Computer Technology classes at MHS recently earned certification as Microsoft Office Specialists in Word 2016. This certification improves career readiness and gives students the tools to build a bright future. Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certifications are the only globally recognized credentials that validate technical expertise in business productivity applications within the Microsoft Office Suite. Microsoft Office Specialists tap into the full features and functionality of Microsoft Office, resulting in increased job candidate marketability, improved academic performance, and enhanced confidence & productivity in the workplace.



Last week, **Central Park Elementary** completed an amazing school-wide collaboration. Students were asked to write on cut-out hearts what they like about their school. The student body added the hearts they created to the 252 feet of vines Ms. Peil and Ms. LaMee put up in the hallway! What a great project!



Roses to the organizers, performers, emcees, advisors, back stage crew and everyone involved in this past Friday's **H. H. Dow High Ren Fair**.

CHARGERS DEFINITELY GOT TALENT!

An evening of performances by very talented Dow High Chargers was enjoyed by all who attended.

2020 MPS High School Graduation Ceremonies

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

Dow High will have the early start time.

Midland High will have the later start time.

Watch for more information as the date gets closer.



FIRST Lego League Jr. (Grades 2,3) Boomtown Build Season Now in Progress!



Our youngest robotics team students have kicked off their new season, Boomtown Build! Using Legos and engineering design practices, the students will create a safe, healthy, happy community. They will also design and build a new structure for their new city. Teams will showcase their cities at their FIRST LEGO League Expo on March 14. With the addition of Chestnut Hill and Siebert Elementary to the program, we are excited that FIRST Lego League Jr. is now in all MPS elementary schools!



MPS is gearing up for the 2020-2021 school year for our youngest learners.

January 27, 2020

Page 5 of 6



Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence

4-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS ... MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAS TWO HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS TO GET YOUR CHILD'S K-12 EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY STARTED ON THE RIGHT TRACK!



→ **IB-PYP PRESCHOOL** combines the Inquiry-based PYP foundation used across MPS elementary schools in this high-quality, well-priced tuition preschool.

IB-PYP 4-year-old Preschool Registration opens February 3.

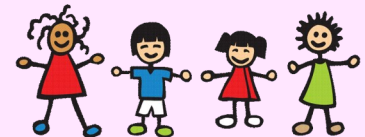
→ **GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM (GSRP)** is a free preschool for qualifying families that gives students a high-quality educational foundation.

GSRP Pre-Registration is now open. Please apply at www.michiganpreschool.org

MPS PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE for both the IB-PYP and GSRP 4-year-old programs is **Monday, March 9 at 5:30 p.m.** at the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center (1407 W. Carpenter St.)

Call the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center with any questions you may have **989-923-6411**.

KINDERGARTEN & Y5 DEVELOPMENTAL KINDERGARTEN



→ Will your child be 5 years old before September 1, 2020?

→ Will your child be 5 years old between September 1 and December 1, 2020, and you plan to apply for the Waiver?

→ Is your child attending Young 5's Kindergarten this 2019-20 school year?

Did you answer **YES** to any of these questions?

IF SO ... plan to attend KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION at your neighborhood school (Adams, Central Park, Chestnut Hill, Plymouth, Siebert or Woodcrest)

on **Tuesday, February 4, at 5:45 pm.**

Kindergarten Orientation in your neighborhood school is for Kindergarten and Y5 Developmental Kindergarten student families!

WHAT TO BRING TO KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION: Your child's ...

- original birth certificate (we will make a copy at orientation)
- immunization record
- proof of residency (utility bill, rent receipt, lease agreement, etc. with parent name & address)

Y5 DEVELOPMENTAL KINDERGARTEN APPLICANTS:

- Y5 Developmental Kindergarten Application drop off night is February 6 from 4:30-6:00 pm at the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center (1407 West Carpenter Street)
- Y5 Developmental Kindergarten Application window ends February 28

Join our Team

MPS Current Job Openings

Click on this link for current job postings:

<https://www.applitrack.com/mps/onlineapp/jobpostings/view.asp>

| Position | Location | Posting End Date |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Assistant Principal | District | until filled |
| Coach, Head, Tennis | Midland HS | until filled |
| Coach, Assistant Track | HH Dow HS | until filled |
| Coach, Head, Volleyball | Midland HS | until filled |
| Coach, JV, Boys', Soccer | HH Dow HS | until filled |
| Coach, Head, Volleyball | HH Dow HS | until filled |
| Paraprofessional (2 positions) | Siebert ES | 01/28/2020 |
| Paraprofessional | Midland HS | 01/28/2020 |
| Paraprofessional (2 positions) | Transportation | 01/28/2020 |
| Paraprofessional | Central Park ES | 01/28/2020 |
| Preschool Teaching Associate | Carpenter Pre-Primary | 01/28/2020 |
| Teacher, Elementary | District | until filled |
| Teacher, Industrial Education | District | until filled |
| | | |

MPS NEEDS SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS!

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**

Nominate a great MPS team member for a SHINING STAR today!

MPS Team Shining Star Nominations are now being accepted for the 2019-20 school year for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students. Please take a moment to nominate an MPS team member today! <https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form>

Midland Public Schools' District and individual school Annual Education Reports (AER) are available to view on the MPS website (www.midlandps.org →Community →AER) or at this link: <https://www.midlandps.org/annual-education-report>.

The AER, which is published annually, includes student assessment information, accountability, teacher qualification data, National Assessment of Educational Progress Data and Civil Rights Data. If a paper copy is desired, please contact the MPS Administration Center at 923-5001 or the individual school for which you would like the AER.

ANNUAL
NOTICES

MPS
FLYER
BOARDS

Have you checked out the **MPS Student or Community Flyer Boards** under the Community tab on the MPS website lately?

Student Flyers: <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/>

Community Flyers: <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers>

Midland Public Schools
600 East Carpenter
Midland, Michigan 48640

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>

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|-----------------------|----------|
| Administration | 923-5001 |
| Adams Elementary | 923-6037 |
| Carpenter Pre-Primary | 923-6411 |
| Central Park Elem. | 923-6836 |
| Chestnut Hill Elem. | 923-6634 |
| Plymouth Elementary | 923-7616 |
| Siebert Elementary | 923-7835 |
| Woodcrest Elementary | 923-7940 |
| Jefferson Middle | 923-5873 |
| Northeast Middle | 923-5772 |
| H. H. Dow High | 923-5382 |
| Midland High | 923-5181 |

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

wise thought to ponder ...

Let's all join Magnolia's
Chip Gaines ...

#makeKINDNESSloud &

"... kindness: It's contagious."

