

# Superintendent Communiqué



**Midland Public Schools**  
Inspiring Excellence

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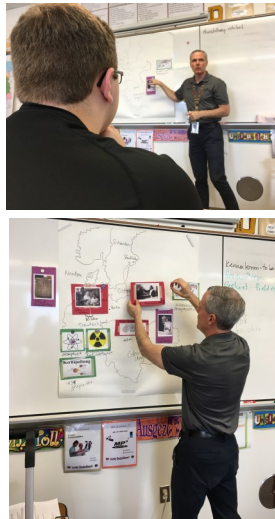
## MPS INCLUSION & DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

*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.*



As you know, MPS is working hard to foster a district culture and atmosphere of inclusion and equity in all of our schools.

Throughout my six plus years at MPS, I have witnessed staff and students displaying and celebrating inclusion and diversity in so many ways. A week or so ago during my classroom visits at **Dow High**, I witnessed this in action as I sat in on **Herr Smith's German class**.



When my office asked Herr Smith for an overview of his impressive lesson to share in the Communiqué, here is what he said, *"We've been doing a unit in my German 2 and 3 classes on significant contributions from a minority group. ...I chose three women who had made significant contributions to not only German culture but to their respective fields. The first was the German artist from the first half of the 20th century: Käthe Kollwitz. We're just now starting with the Austrian physicist Lise Meitner. She worked for thirty years with Otto Hahn on nuclear physics though she had to flee Germany because she was Jewish. She and Hahn continued their work by correspondence (she had fled to Stockholm). Hahn succeeded in being the first to split the atom, using theory and instructions supplied to him by Meitner. Hahn ended up winning the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1944 but Meitner was ignored by the committee, probably because she was a woman. So today what we were doing was discussing experiences that the students had where they had done something they were proud of but had not gotten the recognition they felt they deserved. This got us into the topic and provided some necessary general vocabulary. We'll work on Meitner's story the next couple days. Our third significant woman is going to be Sophie Scholl, who together with her brother Hans were the leaders of the White Rose resistance movement in Germany during the Nazi era. She was captured and executed but is a national hero."*

## WDYT ... SCHOOL START TIMES?



Sleep experts have determined a shift in sleep cycles (circadian rhythms) beginning in the teen years that make it difficult for teens to fall asleep early.

Ideal sleep time appears to be from 11:00 pm to 8:00 am for teens.

For younger children, ideal sleep times are much earlier.

The majority of US and Michigan high schools start their day at 7:30 am or earlier and middle schools at 7:45 am.

Research indicates sleep deprivation in teens leads to increased risk factors for obesity, cardiovascular issues, mood swings and depression.

Would you be in favor of MPS considering school start times for our middle and high schools between 8:00 and 9:00 am and elementary schools between 7:30 and 8:00 am? (Knowing, of course, school end times and after-school activity times would need to be adjusted accordingly.) Here is the link for the one-question poll.  
<https://forms.gle/Z9EzNwxiU7yDKf7z6>



**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>

**Plymouth Elementary 2nd graders** learned about Midland's city government from Mayor Maureen Donker when she came to speak to them in conjunction with their current PYP unit, *How We Organize Ourselves*.

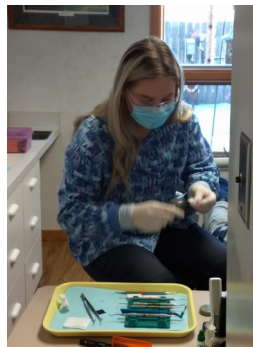
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They learned more about the structure of Midland's government, other departments and workers within the city government, and how those people all work together to make Midland a safe and productive community to live in. They also learned about her role and responsibilities daily and over her duration as mayor. She spoke a lot about how every single citizen can help to make Midland a great place to live, work, play, and help.

Chloe Stensrud has been named Dow High Work Based Learning Student of the Month. Chloe was nominated by her colleagues at Dr. Dulude DDS for her outstanding work ethic and contributions to their office. Chloe's primary responsibilities include: assisting the doctor with patients, charting, set-up and tear down of operatories, as well as greeting and dismissing patients. Occasionally, Chloe fills in at the front desk, answering phones, scheduling and checking patients in and out. Chloe's colleagues point out that she is very self motivated, she sees what needs done and she takes care of it. She is always working. When asked what they enjoy most about having Chloe on staff, her colleagues said, "Her smiling face and seeing her interact with all of our patients. We are a very family friendly office and our older patients love talking to her about her future plans and extra curricular activities." Congratulations, Chloe! Keep up the great work!



**THANK  
YOU  
to the  
folks  
at  
Midland**



**Furniture Garage** for their donation of two beautiful sectional couches for the lobby of Midland Public Schools' Central Auditorium. What a lovely first impression our guests will receive when they attend performances and events in this venue!



## SHINING STARS 2019-20

As we have done for the past several years, at the October through May Board of Education meetings, we will recognize Shining Stars—MPS employees who go above and beyond to make MPS a better place for students.

For October our Shining Stars were Verona Jankowsky, Woodcrest Paraprofessional, and Mary Sanborn, Siebert Kindergarten Teacher.

At tonight's Board of Education meeting, we will be presenting the November Shining Stars to the Manager of Fiscal Services, John McClelland, and HH Dow High Special Education Teacher, Carol Bremmer.

Congratulations to these four dedicated, deserving MPS team members for all they do each and every day for MPS students, staff, families and community!

If you would like to nominate an MPS team member you feel makes MPS a better place for students, here is the link to the Shining Star form: <https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form>







Did you know that MPS has a **Parent Information Committee that meets monthly**? This group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at noon at the MPS Administration Center.



Each month focuses on a different timely, informative topic. Our November 6 PIC meeting focused on the MPS Inclusion & Diversity plan. Thank you to the 13 MPS parents who were able to join us. If you are interested in attending in the future, please contact Cindy Young at 923-5026 or [youngcd@midlandps.org](mailto:youngcd@midlandps.org). Here is the link if you would like to view the November PIC meeting. <https://youtu.be/i0N2wuGJl6I>

## MIDLAND HIGH'S GOT TALENT!

**You are cordially invited to Rhapsody Rendezvous 2019**  
**Saturday, December 7 at 1:30 & 7:30, Midland Center for the Arts**



2019 marks the 65th year of continuous production of Rhapsody Rendezvous.

Rhapsody Rendezvous is an annual talent showcase produced by the Midland High School Music Parents Association. What began as a fundraiser for the band in 1955, quickly developed into a detailed and outstanding production, which includes the entire MHS music department. Now a beloved fundraiser tradition for the Chemic Band, Orchestra and Choirs, we are looking forward to celebrating the 65th Annual MHS Rhapsody Rendezvous on December 7.

The show will include groups and soloists from the music department, such as Orchestra, Jazz Band, Meistersingers, Chorus and Marching Band. Other auditioned acts from the Midland High student body will also perform. A highlight of the evening is the much anticipated and top secret Faculty Skit.

Don't miss the hottest ticket in town!

Adult tickets are \$15.00; student tickets are \$7.00.

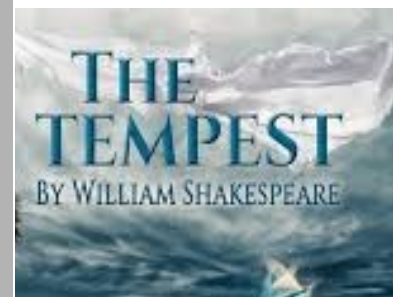
Where and how to buy tickets?

Midland Center for the Arts: Box Office

Hours: Mon–Fri: 9:00 to 5:00; Sat: 9:00–4:00

Midland Center for the Arts:

Website: [www.mcfta.org/event/rhapsody-rendezvous/](http://www.mcfta.org/event/rhapsody-rendezvous/)



As the King of Naples and some family members are returning from the King's daughter's wedding, their ship is wrecked in a storm. The passengers and crew are thrown into the furious sea. Don't miss the excitement, magic, intrigue and romance set on a deserted island (well almost deserted).

Ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and senior citizens. Tickets may be purchased at <https://centralauditorium.ludus.com/> as well as at the door before the performances.

On Saturday and Sunday, November 9-10, six current Dow High band students, and one former Dow High band student, rehearsed and performed with the CMU Honor Band under the direction of the newly appointed Director of Bands, Dr. Christopher Chapman.

Congratulations and thank you to:

Lower level L to R: **Brendan Dastick, Grant Wang, Magumi Togashi, Shubhan Nagarkar, Heather Van Dort;**

Upper level L to R: **Mr. DeRees, Emilia Teed, Joel Greene** (attended MPS through freshman year)





## Midland High School Music Department displayed their Chemic Pride #keepitkindmps

On November 9, 14 MHS Chemic Music Department students gave someone in need a helping hand by doing some fall yardwork. These students spent their morning doing fall clean up by raking and clearing almost two acres for a very thankful Chemic family. Way to spread kindness, Midland High Chemics!

(Front L - R): **Sydney Grabinski, Emma Massey, Sophia Waugh, Rachel Cauchy.**  
 (Center L - R): **Amelia Sutherland, Hannah Herzog, Helen Haight, Megan Huff.**  
 (Back Row L - R): **George Hageage, Joey Pelletier, Quinn McMath, Zane Denslow, Elizabeth Wandor.** (Hannah Woehrle, not pictured)

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## Siebert Elementary Principal and Students Continue to be the "I" in KIND

Mr. Schroll Displays Kindness in Action as he cleans the snow off cars during last week's snowy Monday.



Siebert students in Mrs. Kip's and Mrs. Shaffer's classes are being the "I" in KIND as they make cards, stories, pictures, and comics for a fellow Siebert 4th grader who is in critical care in the hospital.



Congratulations to these six exceptional athletes for signing their letters of intent for sports at **Dow High's** first signing ceremony of the 2019-20 school year. **Alyssa Keptner** will play Lacrosse at Trine University, **Haley Jaster** will play volleyball for Northwood, **Hailey Tanis** will play golf for the University of Dayton, **Anna Jensen** will be rowing at the University of Texas, **Collin Che** will swim for Wayne State University and **Claire Newman** will swim for the University of Michigan. All six of these students are not only great athletes but exceptional students academically and wonderful individuals. Dow High is so proud of each one of them.



The **Jefferson Wired Wolves** competed in their second event in Marshall this weekend. They took their challenges from the previous event and worked through them, finishing regular



rounds undefeated! They ended as Finalists with a narrow loss in the play-offs. In addition to their triumphs on the field, the Wired Wolves received the Promote Award, the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award and took 3rd in the Think and Motivate Awards. They will be joining several of their MPS compatriots at States in December. Congratulations and good luck to those playing this coming weekend!



Don't miss this Saturday's "Merry & Bright" Midland Santa Parade that begins at 10:00 from the Midland High parking lot and travels downtown. Watch for the MPS contingent that will include school reps, the high school bands and a big yellow MPS school bus!



# 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
Coach, Assistant, Soccer, Girls'	Midland HS	until filled
Coach, Assistant, Drama	HH Dow HS	11/26/2019
Coach, Head, Tennis	Midland HS	until filled
Paraprofessional	Woodcrest ES	11/26/2019
Paraprofessional (two positions)	Chestnut Hill ES	until filled
Paraprofessional (two positions)	Central Park ES	11/19/2019
Paraprofessional	Midland HS	11/26/2019
School Psychologist	District	until filled
Teacher, Special Education	District	until filled

In addition to the job openings above,

**BUS DRIVERS** and **PARAPROFESSIONALS** are needed in our  
**TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT** for the 2019-20 School Year!

### Requirements:

- ➔ High school diploma or GED
- ➔ Pass criminal background check
- ➔ **DRIVERS:** Pass pre-employment drug test, physical/back assessment
- ➔ **PARAS:** Pass physical/back assessment & Work Keys

### Additional Details:

- ➔ Flexible schedule, no experience required, AM & PM routes available, paid training, regular & sub drivers and paraprofessionals are needed

### Salary:

- ➔ Bus driver: \$13.54/hour starting salary ... within four years: \$17.15/hour
- ➔ Paraprofessional/Sub Paraprofessional: \$9.65/hour to start with steps to \$13.12

### Want to know more?

- ➔ Contact MPS Transportation (923-5041) today for info or to apply!

**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](http://www.edustaff.org) TODAY

**MPS  
FLYER  
BOARDS**

Have you checked out the **MPS Student or Community Flyer Boards** under the Community tab on the MPS website lately? The Student Flyer Board includes fun activities for students; the Community Flyer Board has important events & opportunities for parents. Here are the two links: **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](http://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>

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:

- ➔ Pam Singer, President
- ➔ Scott McFarland, Vice President
- ➔ Lynn Baker, Secretary
- ➔ Mary Fredell, Treasurer
- ➔ Brad Blasy, Trustee
- ➔ Jon Lauderbach, Trustee
- ➔ Phil Rausch, Trustee

### wise thought to ponder ...

*"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings."*

— William Arthur Ward