



Midland Public Schools

Inspiring Excellence

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Superintendent Communiqué

May 6, 2019

#MPSinspiringexcellence

**Thank you to our dedicated teachers and staff as MPS celebrates this week as
Teachers & Staff Appreciation Week.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION AS YOU HELP OUR STUDENTS BLOOM!



64th annual Gerstacker Teacher Proficiency Awards

Each year since 1956, teacher proficiency awards have been given to recognize contributions by exemplary MPS teachers beyond the ordinary level of professional performance. This year's Gerstacker celebration was held Thursday, May 2. These awards are made possible through the generosity of the Gerstacker Family.

Congratulations to this year's Gerstacker recipients.



Lisa Hohman
Instructional
Literacy Specialist
Central Park ES



Andrea Jozwiak
Business
Teacher
Midland HS



Mike Trebilcock
History/Social
Studies Teacher
Jefferson MS



Lynn Verduco
Kindergarten
Teacher
Woodcrest ES

Also at the May 2 Gerstacker celebration, we recognized and honored our 2018-19 retirees. We have 13 certificated staff members who are retiring this school year. This group of distinguished educators have dedicated 324 combined years of service to MPS students, staff, families & community ... WOW:

Nancy Barnes, Lou Ann Bensinger, Alan Chapple, Bob Cooper, Craig Hawkins, Carrie Keeley, Carla Koch, Paul Kochanny, Kelly Krause, Linda Lipsitt, Shannon Roller, Kathy Romain and Peter Welter.

**Congratulations and best wishes to our
2018-19 MPS Retirees!**



If you didn't get a chance to attend the 2019 Gerstacker Ceremony, here is the link to watch it online. <https://youtu.be/pgbMYMIC1Qk>

This past winter's four

STATE OF EMERGENCY

days have been forgiven!!

Late last week, House Bill 4206 to forgive up to four snow days during the State of Emergency this past winter has been passed by the House, Senate and is expected to be signed by Gov. Whitmer.

**What does this mean for
Midland Public Schools?**

The end of the school year will follow our originally published 2018-19 District calendar.

- ⇒ **High school exams:**
June 5, 6, 7
- ⇒ **Final day for students:**
Friday, June 7
- ⇒ **Records Day for teachers:** June 10

**Thank you for your patience
as we awaited this decision
from Michigan Legislators!**



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>

**H. H. Dow High DECA Team
Competes Among 22,000 Peers
From Around the World**



Congratulations to Sophi Pennex, Lauren Woods, Carly May, Lauren Estes, Anish Middha, Saketh Kamaraju, Irshad Hussein, Charlee Simanskey, Hanna Shewchuck, Adelina Wolok, Weston Johnson, Andrew Brandon, Sentthur S.K.V., Grant Weise, Gabi Donoso, Nicole Peters, Audrey Xu, and Joey Meilink who recently competed at the International DECA Competition held in Orlando, FL. Over 22,000 students from all over the world were in attendance. Dow High had 3 students place in their events. **Saketh Kamaraju** placed in the top 40 for his test. **Nicole Peters and Joey Meilink** were finalists in their events and placed in the top 20. These students are among the less than 1% of Michigan DECA students who placed at the International level. Congratulations on a job well done!

Some impressive Northwood Scholarships ...



CONGRATULATIONS to Charlee Simanskey, HH Dow High Junior, who has been selected as the winner of the Northwood Junior Business Student of the Year scholarship. This honor comes with a \$5,000 per year renewable scholarship to Northwood University, a LAB Camp scholarship, certificate with gift and special recognition. **Congratulations, Charlee!**



CONGRATULATIONS to Hadley Morden, Midland High Senior, who was awarded The Patricia and Robert Naegele Competitive Scholarship from Northwood University for \$40,000. Hadley's essay on the American Dream and its impact on the global free-enterprise society was chosen to advance to the next round of the scholarship competition. Hadley presented her essay to a panel of Northwood University faculty and was chosen to receive the top scholarship of \$40,000 over a four-year period out of over 100 applicants. In addition, Hadley received the Northwood University Presidential Merit Scholarship in the amount of \$12,500 that is renewable for each year she is at Northwood. **Congratulations, Hadley!**

In April, the **Huskie Pack Team**, comprised of three dedicated **Jefferson 7th graders**, were invited to compete at the Michigan Department of Transportation Annual Bridge Building Challenge in Grand Rapids. Teams are required to present the engineering design process used with creating their bridge in a formal presentation to the judges and build a bridge that has the greatest strength efficiency. The novice team placed **11th out of 86** seventh and eighth grade teams across the State of Michigan! Representing Jefferson Middle School was **Sarah Li, John Davis and T'Emi Oshin**. The team is coached by Mrs. Christine Brillhart.



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Midland Public Schools is pleased to announce

Ms. Jen Servoss

has been named the Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Specialist with the retirement of



Lou Ann Bensinger.

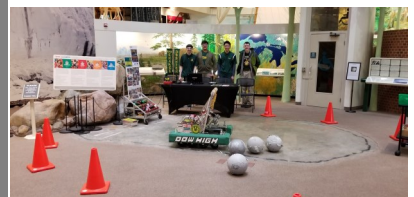
Ms. Servoss joined the MPS team in 1998 and is currently the IB PYP Coordinator at Central Park and Plymouth.

Congratulations to Ms. Servoss as she begins her new assignment July 1.

Dow High's FIRST Robotics Team 2619 The Charge was

invited to host robot demonstrations at the Alden B. Dow Science Museum in Midland during their SPACE! exhibit in mid-April.

Visitors of all ages got to play catch with the robot and learn about key robot design features.



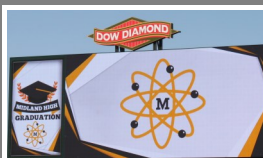
KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE Online



An Important Message from the Michigan Secretary of State's Office Regarding ... Protect MI Child

Are your children safe while online? Michigan families, especially minors, are becoming inundated with advertisements from alcohol, tobacco, pornography, illegal drug and gambling marketers through different internet and cell phone inboxes. Texting their advertisements is the newest marketing effort that many of these companies are using. Thankfully, the Michigan Secretary of State's office offers a free program to stop adult advertisements from reaching your email address and cell number via text. **The Michigan Child Protection Registry is a free do-not-contact service for Michigan's families.**

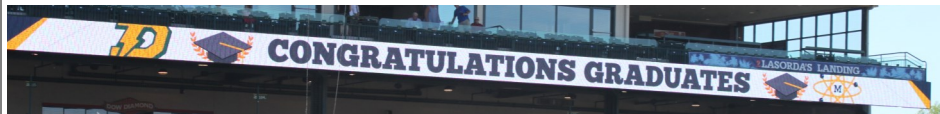
As a strong supporter of this Registry, I would like to encourage you to sign your entire family up for this program and inform your friends and colleagues about how they can protect their children and families from unwanted adult advertising. To sign up only takes seconds. Go to www.ProtectMIChild.com and keep your family safe.



**2019 Commencement
Wednesday, May 29
at Dow Diamond**



Midland High at 4:30 pm; Dow High at 7:30 pm



Graduating Seniors will receive six reserved tickets. Other family and friends are welcome to come and sit in the general seating areas (there is no seating limit in these areas).

In case of inclement weather, commencement will be held at each high schools' gymnasiums at 7:00pm. That determination will occur by 10:00am the day of graduation; parents will be notified via mass email. Because of fire codes, the reserved ticket holders only (6 per student) will be able to attend inside the gym.

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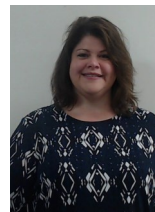


Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence



We were excited to find out last week that we have two MPS teachers in the running for the Fox 66 Golden Apple Awards.

- ⇒ Jolyn Lippie,
Woodcrest ES &
Northeast MS
- ⇒ Shalynn Jones,
Chestnut Hill ES



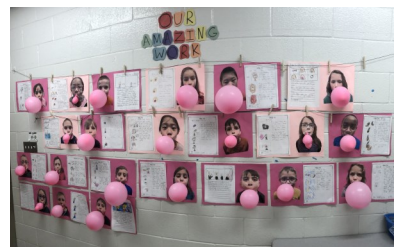
If you know Ms. Lippie and/or Ms. Jones and would like to vote for them, the link is below.



<https://wsmh.com/station/contests/fox66-golden-apple-awards-04-01-2019>

The voting window ends
May 31, 2019

Ms. Shapiro's Second Grade class at Woodcrest Elementary has been hard at work writing informational How-To's. This past week, they all had a chance to try blowing a bubble with bubble gum. Afterwards, they used this experience to write detailed How-To's to help teach others how to do this fun skill!





This year's
**Elementary
Track Meet**
is scheduled



for Tuesday, May 28,
at Northwood University's Track.
The track meet runs from 4:30 until
approximately 7:15 pm.
This fun event is open to all
4th & 5th grade students.

The MPS Elementary PE staff will
send an information/permission
slip to 4th/5th grade families.
Please return the permission slip
by May 17.

On Saturday, April 20, **25 Adams Culture Club members and their families** attended the South Asian Student Association's Holi Festival at Saginaw Valley State University! Each year, the Holi Festival celebrates the beginning of spring with an explosion of color! It is a Hindu Festival celebrated in India, Nepal and other South Asian countries. The Holi Festival at SVSU is the largest in Michigan and Culture Club had a blast immersing themselves in the culture of South Asia! Students and their families had the opportunity to try Indian food, get henna tattoos, watch cultural dances and hear songs (both traditional and contemporary), and throw colored powder and water balloons, all in the spirit of friendship and spring! Students were surrounded by the culture as they shared the day with community members of the Tri-Cities who are from many parts of South Asia. Happy Holi!



This past weekend, students from Midland High School attended the Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California. While attending the conference students had an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete against other students from across the country and be recognized for their dedication and hard work.

Midland High School students successfully represented Michigan and were awarded the following: 2nd Place—Global Marketing Team (**Tommy Johnstone, Jarrett Wagner, Tegan Kareus, Abby Chapman**); 4th Place—Integrated Office Applications (**Corbin Fleming-Dittenber**); 4th Place—Human Resource Management; Microsoft Office Specialist Certification—**Owen Jozwiak** (Excel) and **Corbin Fleming-Dittenber** (PowerPoint). Representing the 10% percent in Open Events—**Lane Gauthier and Hannah Woehrle. Eden Ozkan, Nathan Witt, Ryan Kreusch, Ryan Hampton, and Maxx Fisher** participated in multiple leadership development and community service activities held throughout the conference. Congratulations, Chemics, for your outstanding results and representing MPS so admirably!



Summer eLearning Opportunity — Once school has ended for the year, Midland Public Schools will once again offer the Summer eLearning Program. Through this program, online courses are available to high school students who wish to earn either initial credit or credit recovery in select courses. While these courses do not require students to attend classes daily, students must take all tests and exams onsite at the

PATHS Learning Center located in Midland High School. Students should expect to invest 45-60 hours to complete each course, but may work on their course any place that they have an internet connection. Courses will begin on June 17, 2019 and must be completed by August 15, 2019. Students may only register for one course at a time. The cost for each course is \$150 for Midland Public Schools' students, and \$175 for students outside of the MPS district. If you would like additional information or would like to register for a course, please visit www.midlandps.org/content/Summer%20Program.

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	Building	Posting End Date
Administrative Assistant	Central Park ES	5/14/19
Coach, Assistant, Cheer	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Assistant, Football	Midland HS	5/07/2019
Coach, Assistant, Pom Pon, Fall/Winter	HH Dow HS	5/14/2019
Coach, Assistant, Tennis, Boys'	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Cheer	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Soccer, Boys' JV	HH Dow HS	5/07/2019
HVAC Technician	District-wide	until filled
Mechanic's Assistant	Transportation	until filled
Paraprofessional	Central Park ES	5/6/2019
Preschool Teaching Associate	Carpenter School	until filled
Sign Language Interpreter	District-wide	until filled
Teacher, Industrial Education	District-wide	until filled
Teacher, P.R.O.D.I.G.Y. Program (3 positions)	ADE, PME, WCE	until filled
Teacher, Science	District-wide	until filled
Teacher, Summer School (32 positions)	Elementary	until filled
Teacher, Summer School (7 positions)	Plymouth ES	until filled
Teacher, Summer School (6 positions)	Central Park ES	until filled

In addition, we are always looking for

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS & BUS DRIVERS.

Click on this link for information about these opportunities:

<https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Employment%20Opportunities>

Please keep the nominations coming in for MPS staff members you believe are

Shining Stars!

Link to Shining Star nomination form:

<https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form>

Midland Public Schools now has TWO FLYER BOARDS!

✓ **Student Flyers:** Fun student activities, events and opportunities for students:
<https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/>

✓ **Community Flyers:** Information and events that may be of interest to parents & adults : <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers>

Check back often. Flyers are coming in all the time!

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Midland Public Schools
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Midland, Michigan 48640

MPS Website:

www.midlandps.org

Twitter:

@MichaelSharrow2
@MidlandPS

YouTube Channel:

<http://midps.org/youtube>

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 ...

*"Reading is to the mind what
exercise is to the body."*

—Joseph Addison

