



# Midland Public Schools

Inspiring Excellence

## Superintendent Communiqué

April 5, 2021 ▶ Volume 8 ▶ Edition 34

[www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org) ▶ (989) 923-5001 ▶ @MidlandPS

### Midland Public Schools District Vision Statement

*Lead with respect, trust and courage.*

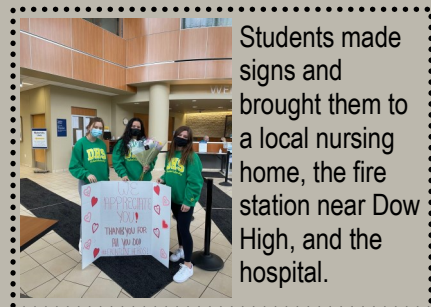
*Ensure an equitable, collaborative  
and inclusive culture.*

*Enable all to achieve success.*

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



Members of **Student Leadership 1 at Dow High** have been working very hard to show kindness, gratitude and appreciation to those in our community who may need a helping hand or even just a smile.



Students made signs and brought them to a local nursing home, the fire station near Dow High, and the hospital.



Students donated food to the Open Door as well as to create birthday boxes for children that may not have the resources to celebrate. The boxes included a stuffed animal, crayons and a coloring book, a McDonald's gift card, and items to make a microwave cupcake with all the fun fixings. Another group raised over \$300 to buy toiletries and necessities for those in need.



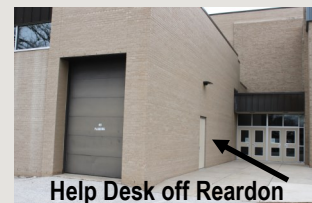
Students have also donated their time and resources to the Humane Society and encouraged others to do so as well. They held a pop can drive and raised \$267 to buy supplies to make blankets for the animals there.



### Administration Center Building Staff Relocated Through Early August 2021

The Administration Center building (600 E. Carpenter) is NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION! The staff is temporarily located in the Central Auditorium building until mid-August. If you need assistance from a member of the Admin Center staff, please feel free to stop by the Central Auditorium building (305 E. Reardon) or you are welcome to call 923-5001.

If you need to take a Chromebook to the MPS Help Desk for service during this time, call 923-5119 or go to the door around the corner from the Central Auditorium garage door off Reardon Street and ring the "doorbell." A friendly member of our Help Desk team will be there to assist you. [Buildings & Grounds, Science Center & Transportation staff will be in their usual buildings during this time.]



Help Desk off Reardon

***We apologize for any confusion this temporary staff relocation may cause, however, please know that all services remain in place and Admin staff are ready to assist MPS stakeholders!***

**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



## Midland High BPA

We are excited to report that shortly before Spring Break, the **Midland High Business Professionals of America (BPA)** group competed at the 49th Annual Michigan Association State Leadership Conference with the theme "Radiate Resiliency." This year's event was held virtually. Please join us in congratulating these MHS Chemics who placed in the top 10 in their event:



Andrew Steger    Emily Genau    Chase Mahabir    Lauren Revord    Matthew Witt    Axel Fisher    Janell Harris    Morgan Hussey



Emma Rudisel    Owen Jozwiak    Ryan Hampton    Matthew Hebert    Emma Buschlen    Aly Hebert    Kelsi Rickman    Lauren Swanson



Lauren McGuirk    Alex Money    Jarrett Wagner    Kendall Wenzell    Eden Özkan    Chloe Rajewski    Gabby Schloop    Madeline Isola

**Congratulations, Midland High BPA!**

## CONGRATULATIONS go out to



**Kourtney Fischer**, Dow High student and **Ty Klopff**, Coleman High and Dow High student (through the CTE Exchange Program) who have been selected as **Junior Business Students of the Year**. This award is presented by Northwood University and includes a \$2,000 per year renewable scholarship (\$8,000 over four years) to Northwood University and the opportunity to attend Northwood's Business camp at no cost.



Congratulations Kourtney & Ty!



## Congratulations to Dow High DECA

In March, 84 members of the Dow High DECA Club competed in the DECA State Conference, held virtually. DECA students competed in a variety of Marketing-based business events where they take a written test and perform a role play. In the role play event, students are given a business case study and have a time limit to prepare a solution to the problem. They then present their ideas to a judge. Dow High brought home a total of 60 medals and had 10 students qualify for the International Competition, to be held virtually in April.

Congratulations to the following students who earned medals:

- ⇒ **Earning a test medal:** Salma Elsaadany, Katherine Gray, Simran Kalra, T'emi Oshin, Logan Skinner, and Michael McGaugh
- ⇒ **Earning a role play medal:** Andrew Budd, Madeline Cha, Max Doty, Nolan Janeczko, Amanda Kammer, Marshall McGaugh, Michael McGaugh, Ryan Murphy, Nick Pate, River Penn, Adam Pfeiffer, Alex Price, Drew Soto, Louie Sun, and Mark VanHeel
- ⇒ **Earning a finalist medal:** Aaron Brown, Lauren Burgard, Madeline Cha, Jonah Dahn, Anjali Debrah, Roofy Elsaadany, Joaquin Garcia Argibay, Isabella Hillman, Simran Kalra, Amanda Kammer, Hannah Kilbride, Alexandra Little, Eddie MacNellis, Abby McNally, Olivia Miller, Maggie Nelson, Jacob O'Connor, T'emi Oshin, Tolu Oshin, Carys Pendleton, River Penn, Alex Price, Tyler Sanchez, Ellie Senkowski, Logan Skinner, Drew Soto, Chloe Stafford, Louie Sun, Thomas VanHeel, Mark VanHeel, Evelyn Wang, Abby Wilson
- ⇒ **Qualifying for Internationals:** Isabella Hillman, Olivia Miller, River Penn, Alex Price, Logan Skinner, Mark VanHeel, Tolu Oshin and Tyler Sanchez ... **Best wishes at Internationals, Dow High Chargers!**







In the March 22 Communique, we shared with you a video montage of Central Park students in Grades 3-5 doing sign language to the song, *Thunder*. Here are a couple more video links of Central Park students signing as they focused on the “feeling” and “seeing” the music through sign language.

These Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd graders are doing sign language to *Baby Shark*, *Happy Birthday* and *You are My Sunshine*.

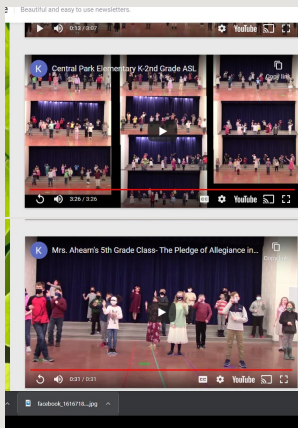
<https://youtu.be/90w2TW8wjRo>

In this moving performance by Ms. Ahearn's 5th Grade class, the students are signing to *The Pledge of Allegiance* rather than to music.

<https://youtu.be/JDJ5vzhro7U>

The Central Park Music Education teacher is Ms. Kelsey Williams. The March Central Park News stated, “While Mrs. Williams has loved every moment of teaching and practicing sign language in music, the thing she has loved most is listening to the kind and beautiful words the kids have used to describe what it means to them to make sure all of their peers feel included in music class.”

**Way to go, Ms. Williams, and Central Park Explorers!**



## APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!

The blue bows that will be tied on trees at MPS schools show our support for Child Abuse Prevention month. This is a time for communities to raise awareness and inspire collective action so our children can lead their best lives. For more info visit [www.safeandsoundcac.org](http://www.safeandsoundcac.org).



**Wear Blue Day is EVERY Friday in April!**

<p><b>1. PARENTAL RESILIENCE</b></p>	<p><b>2. SOCIAL CONNECTIONS</b></p>	<p><b>3. CONCRETE SUPPORT IN TIMES OF NEED.</b></p>
<p><b>5 PROTECTIVE FACTORS</b></p> <p>FOR PREVENTING RISK OF CHILD ABUSE.</p> <p>SOURCE: Prevent Child Abuse America</p>		
<p><b>4. KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING &amp; CHILD DEVELOPMENT.</b></p>	<p><b>5. SOCIAL &amp; EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE OF CHILDREN.</b></p>	<p><b>LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE 5 FACTORS:</b></p> <p><a href="http://preventchildabuse.org/resource/mentor/">preventchildabuse.org/resource/mentor/</a></p>

## 2021 Graduation Information

Gatherings in outdoor stadiums are now allowed at up to 20% capacity. Here is what this means for the 2021 Midland PS Graduation Ceremonies:

- ⇒ Thursday, May 27, at Dow Diamond
- ⇒ Midland High at 4:30 pm
- ⇒ HH Dow High at 7:30 pm
- ⇒ Because of the 20% capacity at outdoor stadiums, each graduate will be allowed TWO guest tickets for in-person attendance @ Dow Diamond
- ⇒ Rain date: Friday, May 28 (MHS 4:30; DHS 7:30)



We are looking forward to celebrating this wonderful accomplishment with Midland High and Dow High 2021 Grads!

**Siebert Elementary** has had some hardworking helpers making a huge difference on their school grounds recently.

**THANK YOU TO ...**

- 😊 Pack 3722 Bear Den members, **Clinton Daveluy, Sawyer Jezior, Lucas Lykowski, Hank Brod**, and their helpers/siblings **Gus, Wyatt, and Lucas** who cleaned up around the Siebert grounds the week before spring break. Thank you, Pack 3722!



- 😊 **Scarlett and Owen Hough** asked their dad if they could pick up trash around Siebert during their spring break. They ended up collecting four grocery bags of trash. Thank you, Scarlett & Owen!



## NOMINATE A DESERVING TEACHER FOR THE 2021 GERSTACKER

### EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS TODAY!

Nomination Status: 37 nominations have been received to date. Thank you!

For nomination information go to [www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org).

Nomination form: <https://forms.gle/mRVpC3MeHPr5cwfd7>

You may also submit a nomination letter to:  
**Gerstacker Committee, Midland Public Schools,**  
**Superintendent's Office, 600 E. Carpenter, Midland 48640**  
**The nomination window CLOSES FRIDAY, APRIL 16.**

The Midland High School Drama group is streaming two virtual productions in mid-April:



⇒ *The Revolutionists* by Lauren Gunderson was recorded in mid-March



⇒ *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde will be recorded on April 9th.



**Both shows will stream the weekend of April 17th.**

Click on this link to purchase access to these performance from the comfort of your home:  
[CentralAuditorium.AnywhereSeat.com](https://CentralAuditorium.AnywhereSeat.com)

Thank you for supporting our high school Thespians this year... our limited size, socially-distanced and masked casts & crews! We may not be able to gather in our beautiful Central Auditorium to see these performances, however, the talent and hard work of the cast and crew will shine during these COVID-safe performances.

## JMS Huskies Combine NCAA's March Madness & March is Reading Month

This year, Jefferson Middle School started a fun inaugural "Book Madness" event to combine the Huskies love of NCAA March Madness with March being National Reading Month. They took the 16 most checked out books/series from the JMS library and turned them into a NCAA style bracket. Staff and students participated by filling out brackets and voting week after week for their favorite books. The week before spring break, the event culminated in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* beating out *Harry Potter* for the championship. In addition, the three students with the best scoring brackets won a book of their choice. The staff member with the best scoring bracket won the coveted Book Madness trophy to be displayed in their classroom until next year's competition. The student winners were **Jamison Geisler, Tyler Place, and Sierra LaLonde**, and our staff winner was **Mary Zeitler**. The Huskies students and staff look forward to continuing this fun event next year!



Pictured from left to right: Sierra LaLonde, Jamison Geisler and Mary Zeitler.



Tyler Place was also a Book Madness winner but wasn't available when the photo was taken.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR 2021-22 PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN!**

Space is filling up in Midland PS Preschool and Developmental Kindergarten!

Here is the link for more info:

<https://www.midlandps.org/content/guide-to-enrollment>

**Woodcrest March's Reading Month has blasted to new heights.** Before March's Reading Month began, students created their own planets for our Read for the Woodcrest Galaxy program.

They named their planet and gave three or more fun facts. For example one second grade planet was called the *MineCraft Planet*—Fun Facts: 1. It is made out of blocks; 2. We have animals and trees on our planet, so we have oxygen; 3. Our planet is as large as Jupiter; 4. We have 2 Moons. If you dig really deep you have a chance of finding gems; 5. Our planet has craters; 6. Our Planet is Blue and Green. The moon's names are Magma Moon and Ender Dragon Moon.

Spirit Days were also part of March's Reading Month. Each Grade Level was a color and their stars surrounding the planet were that color. Mrs. Hall also had the students make rockets and spaceships to surround our galaxy. It was fun for all. Our Galaxy had many stars and many moons. Here is a photo of a 2nd Grade Galaxy and Mr. Staleys class. Second grade used a minute system to reach stars. 75 minutes was equal to a star. 150 stars equals a moon. As you can see, 2nd graders have been reading out of this world.







# Midland Public Schools

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## JOIN OUR MPS TEAM — Current Open Positions

MPS Employment Opportunities Link:

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

### MPS District Vision

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

Position	Location
Administrative Assistant	Adams ES
Administrative Assistant	Midland HS
Building Manager	Jefferson MS
Bus Driver, Substitute	MPS Transportation
Coach, Assistant, Football	HH Dow HS
Director of Bands (after school/evening)	Midland HS
National Honor Society Advisor	Midland HS
Paraprofessional, Special Education (8 positions)	District-wide
Paraprofessional, Substitute	District
Principal, Assistant, Elementary	Central Park ES
Teacher, Business Education	District
Teacher, Elementary	District
Teacher, Music	District
Teacher, Special Education	District
Teacher, Secondary English	Midland HS
Teacher, Summer School, Lead	Central Park ES
Teacher, Summer School	Central Park ES

**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>

### New MPS Team Members and/or New/Additional Assignments

- Alisha Truax, Paraprofessional, Jefferson MS
- Richard Weaver, Freshman Boys' Basketball Coach, Dow HS
- Ashley Burr, Varsity Girls' Track Coach, Dow HS
- Patrick Dalton, Assistant Girls' Tennis Coach, Midland HS
- Nicole Rickard, Student Support Specialist, Multiple Buildings
- Sonya Hogan, Elementary Teacher, Siebert ES



*Welcome!* We look forward to working with you!



**CHARTWELLS**, Midland PS food service provider, is hiring workers/cashiers in MPS schools No nights, weekends, holidays! Flexible schedules available. 4-5 hours daily, Monday-Friday.

GO TO: [www.compassgroupcareers.com](http://www.compassgroupcareers.com) and insert job number **457063**

### SHINING STARS

If you would like to nominate a deserving MPS team member, please complete the Shining Star nomination form. <https://www.midlandps.org/Content2/shining-star-nomination-form>



**2021-22 Midland PS Schools of Choice application window is now open for In-District & Out-of-District students.**

If you would like more information, go to our Midland PS website: [www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org) →Community →SOC



### MPS Board of Education Members:

- Scott McFarland, President
- Phil Rausch, Vice President
- Pam Singer, Secretary
- Jon Lauderbach, Treasurer
- Lynn Baker, Trustee
- Brad Blasy, Trustee
- John Hatfield, Trustee

Email: [board@midlandps.org](mailto:board@midlandps.org)

### Wise words to ponder ...

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope."

— Lady Bird Johnson