



**Midland Public Schools**  
*Inspiring Excellence*

# Superintendent Communiqué

September 14, 2020 ▶ Volume 8 ▶ Edition 07

[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)

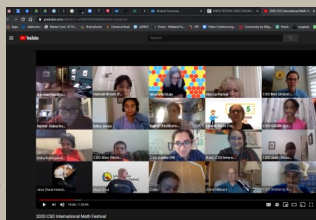
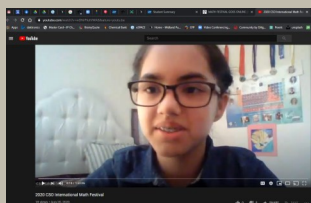
### Kudos to Jefferson Middle School 8th Grade student, Sahiba

**Kaur**, a Chief Science Officer (CSO) at JMS, [the MPS CSO program is in partnership with SVSU]. Sahiba developed and implemented the first ever CSO International Math Festival held virtually in late-August and sponsored by the Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival & SCI Tech Institute. In addition to taking part in the planning, Sahiba also emceed the Math Festival. Sahiba serves on the International Leadership Council and plans to host this event annually!



Adrianne Cole, Director of STEM @ SVSU, recently said, "Sahiba is amazing and now even more people know it!"

Kudos, Sahiba! We are so proud of you!



### MPS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Work Continues

This past summer was a busy one for Midland Public Schools!

Because of the pandemic, not only were we re-creating teaching/learning delivery methods, the healthy return to school, purchasing lots and lots of PPE, but our Board of Education was involved in DEI Workshops in July and August.

At the July 20, 2020 DEI Workshop, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the new District DEI-centered Vision Statement:

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

At the August 3 Special Meeting of the Board of Education, the Board members voted unanimously to adopt the Board DEI Proclamation, "Resolution to Change the System, Eliminate Racism and Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for All." Here is a link to the document:

[https://www.midlandps.org/MPS\\_BOE\\_DEI\\_Proclamation](https://www.midlandps.org/MPS_BOE_DEI_Proclamation)

Here are just a couple of the powerful statements in the Proclamation:

*"4. The Board and School District commit to engaging in deep learning, dialogue, action steps and establishing real relationships and partnerships with families and other organizations that are working to dismantle racism and to ensure all students achieve their full potential and succeed."*

*"5. The Board is committed to honest and transparent transformation of District culture and practices so students, families, community members and staff feel safe, visible, valued, respected and connected."*

At the August 17 DEI Workshop, the Board members discussed the alignment of strategic action plans within the Board subcommittees, potential metrics to track District DEI progress, and the application of the "lens of equity" to future District plans.

Stay tuned. More DEI updates and district initiatives will come your way soon!



**MPS Weekly COVID Update: September 7-11, 2020**

**Number of staff in isolation/quarantine: 1**

**Number of students with confirmed positive test results: 0**

**Number of students in quarantine: 0**

**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



Chip, Chip, Hooray!  
**Chestnut Hill Elementary** would like to recognize and thank Mr. Todd Meyers for volunteering his time before and after school in our parking lots.



Mr. Meyers has just begun his fourth year at CHE, volunteering in our parking lot, to keep our students safe and our traffic flowing. He takes his role seriously and has even contacted the City of Midland to get proper road signage to help our traffic flow during our drop off and pickup times. He



has solicited other volunteers to help out when he knew the traffic would be heavier and in his absence. Several families have mentioned how much his presence in the parking lot and kindness to others is appreciated. His volunteer work makes such a difference in the lives of students and their families. Students look forward to seeing him in the morning. We thank him so much for his dedication and hard work in keeping our students safe.

Thank you to Brett Seamster, Central Park Elementary OP, for sharing this graphic.



Midland Public Schools  
Virtual Learners

## Computer Issues?

If you are having issues logging on, internet connections, Chromebook damage, etc.

Please contact the Help Desk at 989-923-5119 or email them at [help@midlandps.org](mailto:help@midlandps.org)

Having trouble with Canvas? Please check out this link:

<https://www.midlandps.org/Content2/canvas-discovery>

## FREE MEALS FOR ALL MPS CHILDREN 18 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

For F2F & Virtual student weekly menus, click on this link and then on your child's school...<https://midlandps.nutrislice.com/>

Student meals will continue to be provided to children ages 18 and under at no cost to the families through the end of 2020, or until available funding runs out.

A couple of points of clarification:

- ➔ All students who take a FULL meal will not have to pay for their meal.
- ➔ Families only have to put money in their school pay meals account in the following circumstances:
  - ⇒ **Elementary students:** If a student takes just a milk to go with their sack lunch, they will have to pay for the milk.
  - ⇒ **Secondary students:** Any food/beverage from the ala carte line or an additional meal will need to be paid for.

Families are asked to still complete the free/reduced price meal application for the 2020-21 school year. Applications can be completed online: [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com))

### MPS VIRTUAL ACADEMY STUDENT MEALS

**\*\*Meal pickup days are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am to 12:30pm & Saturdays from 9-11 am**

Meals will be available for pick up at the following schools on Tuesdays & Thursdays:

- ➔ Adams Elementary, Central Park Elementary, Chestnut Hill Elementary, Plymouth Elementary, Siebert Elementary and Woodcrest Elementary.

Meals will be available for pick up at the following schools on Saturdays:

- ➔ Central Park Elementary & Midland High School

# of virtual student meals  
Tuesdays: 2 Meals breakfast & lunch  
Thursdays: 3 Meals breakfast & lunch  
Saturdays: 2 Meals breakfast & lunch



**SHINING STARS RETURN ...** When MPS had to close our schools in March for COVID-19, we temporarily suspended the Shining Star program. We are excited to reinstate the Shining Stars that recognize MPS staff members who go above and beyond to make MPS a better place for students. If you would like to nominate a deserving MPS team member, please complete and submit the Shining Star nomination form.

Here is the link: <https://www.midlandps.org/Content2/shining-star-nomination-form>

Our first 2020-21 Shining Stars will be recognized at the September 21 Board of Education Meeting!





## Inclusion 101 for Families

### FREE Virtual Workshops

**Thursday September 17**

K-3rd grade 7:00-8:00 pm

4th-8th grade 8:00-9:00 pm

#### Led by Midland Public Schools' teachers,

these introductory webinars will equip families with age-appropriate tools and information on diversity, equity, inclusion and the importance of an inclusive community.

Participants will receive an email with a link to the Zoom session 30 minutes before the workshop start time. This event is free; however, pre-registration is needed for participants to receive workshop link. Click here to register:

<https://midlandinclusioncouncil.com/workshop-registration>

## Join us for the 2020-21 Parent Information Committee (PIC) Meetings

The MPS Parent Information Committee is chaired by Superintendent Sharrow to share information and keep lines of communication open with MPS parents. The 2020-21 PIC meetings will be held the 4th Thursday of the month from 12-1 at the MPS Administration Center.

Here are the 2020-21 Meeting Dates:

**9/24, 10/22, 1/28, 2/25, 4/22, 5/27**

(No meetings in November, December, March because of school breaks.)

Parents may attend either in person or virtually. Meetings will also be videotaped for parents to watch when it is convenient.

If you would like more information about 2020-21 PIC meetings, please email Cindy at

[youngcd@midlandps.org](mailto:youngcd@midlandps.org) with the following information:

1. your name
2. your email address
3. the MPS schools your children attend



## Midland Neighboring Week

**September 28 through October 4, 2020**

## Hello Neighbor!

Midland Public Schools does not take for granted the very special community in which we reside! Our community, neighbors, businesses and organizations support our students, staff and programs in so many differing and very special ways each and every year. As such, it is no wonder this very special community takes a week every fall to celebrate **Neighbors**. The 2020 Neighboring Week is sponsored by the Midland Area Community Foundation and the Cultural Awareness Coalition. The Neighboring Week organizers shared this message about the 2020 Neighboring Week, *"We focus on inclusivity within our community. We strive to build a sense of belonging and connection between all people who are in the community—it's important to know our neighbors! We ask that you join us in Neighboring Week to create friendships, build bonds, and support all people within our community."*

Midland Public Schools' students are getting involved in Neighboring Week through their MPS art class. We have shared this form with MPS Art teachers and asked that during the week of Sept. 21 their students complete this fun short form (including sharing a little piece of their own artwork). Then, during Neighboring Week (9/28-10/4), the student will leave the form on the porch of a neighbor as a greeting. (Of course, parents are asked to accompany young children as they leave the form at their neighbor's home.)

If your child doesn't have an MPS Art class, or if they would like to complete another form or two to share with their neighbors, please feel free to print this form for your child to complete and share with their neighbors. <http://www.midlandps.org/hello-neighbor>

Here is a link with community information about this special week in Midland.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kdkOs7T\\_N4qsdM\\_BtTsu3yNg1Tv7Lfsy/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kdkOs7T_N4qsdM_BtTsu3yNg1Tv7Lfsy/view?usp=sharing)



### HAPPY NEIGHBORING WEEK!

Hi, my first name is \_\_\_\_\_

My family and I live in your neighborhood.

I am a Midland Public Schools \_\_\_\_\_ grade student in our neighborhood MPS school.

As Midland celebrates Neighboring Week (9/28 to 10/4),

I wanted to say **HELLO NEIGHBOR** and hope **YOU** are having a nice day!

I also wanted to share this piece of artwork that I made just for **YOU**.







# Midland Public Schools

Inspiring Excellence

## JOIN OUR MPS TEAM — Current Open Positions

MPS Employment Opportunities Link:

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

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### MPS District Vision

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Position	Location
Bus Driver, Substitute	MPS Transportation
Coach, Assistant, Basketball, Girls'	Midland HS
Coach, Assistant, Soccer, Girls'	HH Dow HS
Coach, Head, Soccer, Girls'	HH Dow HS
Electronic Learning Facilitator	MPS Virtual School
Paraprofessional, ESL Tutor	District
Paraprofessional, Instructional Support	Adams ES
Paraprofessional, Media Center	Midland HS
Paraprofessional, Special Education	10 Positions
Paraprofessional, Substitute	District

**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>

### Food Service Workers Needed at MPS Schools

Interested in working in the food service dept. when your child is in school? Click on this link for more information and to apply: [www.compassgroupcareers.com](http://www.compassgroupcareers.com)

Under search jobs, the key word is #418143.



### Census 2020

The Census 2020 window closes very soon, but it is not too late to complete the questionnaire if you haven't had a chance to do so.

Go to [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov) to fill out the form that takes only about ten minutes to complete.

United States  
**Census  
2020**

The MCIA is sponsoring a very special event this week!



**Wednesday, September 16, 2020 — 7:30-8:30 pm**



In conversation with New York Times best-selling author and racial justice leader: **Austin Channing Brown** at **Midland Center for the Arts.**

This event is free, however, pre-registration is required.

<https://midlandinclusioncouncil.com/workshop-registration>

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

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

### Wise words to ponder ...

"If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants."  
— Isaac Newton