

**Midland Public Schools**  
Inspiring Excellence

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Volume 6, Issue 24

# Superintendent Communiqué



February 18, 2019

#MPSinspiringexcellence

Midland Public Schools is proud to have several recent recipients and honorable mentions of the **National Center for Women & Information Technology Aspirations Awards (NCWIT)**. This non-profit organization is focused on women's participation in the field of computing.

The young women below are being recognized for their computing-related aspirations and for their demonstrated outstanding aptitude and interest in information technology and computing; solid leadership ability; good academic history; and plans for post-secondary education.

## National Runner Up

Michigan Winners (41 total in the State of Michigan; 15% are from Midland Public Schools)



Katherine Perry, MHS



Adia Haynes, MHS



Rebecca Kowalczyk, DHS



Brylee Pavlik, MHS



Sarah Menzl, DHS

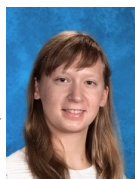


Julia Powers, MHS

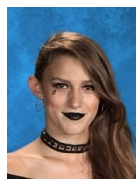


Misa Halphen, MHS

## H. H. Dow High Honorable Mention Awardees



Sasha Konovalenko



Abigail Peterson



Grace Pnacek



Isabella Rhee



Kiran Sequeira



Katie White

Michigan Honorable  
Mention (38 total HM  
State of Michigan;  
45% are from MPS...  
WOW!)

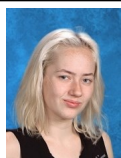
## Midland High Honorable Mention Awardees



Edie  
Haase



Morgan  
Hallberg



Taylor  
Harvey



Logan  
Haring



Hannah  
Jozwiak



Makayla  
Nehrt



Tejaswini  
Srinivas Reddy



Hannah  
Sawicki



Carlie  
Servinski



Ashley  
Siegmund



Caryn  
Wenban

A dinner reception will be held at the end of March at Michigan State University honoring this year's recipients.  
Congratulations to this impressive group of young women! We are proud of you!

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>



**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>

## Proven 4-Year-Old MPS PreSchool Program NOW ACCEPTING FALL REGISTRATIONS

*Have a child who will be 4 years old in the fall? Looking for a quality, proven preschool program that will give your child a great start for their K-12 education?*

*Take a look at the  
Midland Public Schools'  
International Baccalaureate  
Primary Years Preschool Programme  
Space is Limited!*



**IB PYP Preschool:** This tuition-based program is for four-year-old children and includes a child-centered, play-based curriculum designed to be flexible to meet the individual needs of the child. The framework aligns with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, which is an integral part of all MPS elementary schools.

Here are some important aspects of our IB-PYP 4-Year-Old Preschool Program:

- ✓ Highly qualified teachers
- ✓ Research based curriculum-Inquiry led, transdisciplinary framework uniquely adaptable to state and national standards
- ✓ Full day, 5 days a week programme
- ✓ Preparing individual students, using a developmentally appropriate approach, using IB/PYP, for kindergarten and beyond
- ✓ Before/After school care offered onsite by Campfire for a minimal fee
- ✓ Follows Midland Public Schools' calendar
- ✓ This is a tuition-based program

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Here are your **Midland and Dow wrestling STATE qualifiers!**



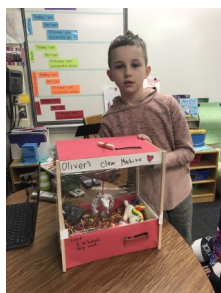
(left-right) Dow Coach Dennis Doyle; **Aiden Belgiorno** wrestling for Dow, finished 4th place at Regionals; **Sam Hine** wrestling for the Chemics, finished 2nd in Regionals; **Sam Martin** for Dow, finished 3rd at Regionals; **Brennan Doyle** for Dow, finished 3rd at Regionals; and Midland Coach Mike Donovan.

**Good luck at State Finals  
at Ford Field in March!**

Have questions about this or any MPS 4-Year-Old Preschool or Young 5's Kindergarten program?  
Contact Amy at the PrePrimary Center 923-6411.

Teachers at **Plymouth** have been working to incorporate more authentic, meaningful, STEM learning into the students' day in addition to **Project Lead the Way** science curriculum. Many classes decided to try something new with Valentine's celebrations this year. In order to support their Unit of Inquiry about force and motion, **3rd grade students** were given the directive to design a Valentine's box that used a simple machine. The box could have motion or not, but students were responsible for explaining what simple machines were used and their rationale for the design. The most popular simple machines were pulleys, wheel and axles, ramps, and levers. Students used the Engineer Design

Process starting with simple research to evaluate changes and improvements that could be made.





## Central Park Elementary's STEM Night



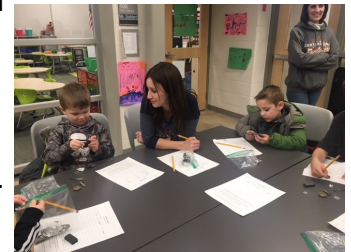
On February 11, Central Park students, families and staff enjoyed an interactive STEM Night together! Many local community organizations helped to make our second annual STEM Night a HUGE success! The Dow High, Midland High and Northeast Robotics teams shared past robots and gave students control of the remotes! The Dow Ambassadors provided an experience with magnetic metals.

The Chippewa Nature Center ran various animal classification centers. Students and families had the opportunity to explore different furs, along with birds, fish and frogs! The Van De Graff machine from the Saginaw Children's Museum was a HUGE hit –providing a “hair raising” experience while exploring static electricity! Snapology provided different maze activities for families to navigate and explore. And finally, Engineering for Kids brought a Whack-A-Potato challenge! All of the activities provided a great evening of interactive STEM learning and family fun! Thank you to our great community partners!



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On Valentine's Day, **Midland High Meistersingers** delivered over 250 singing Valentines to local homes, schools and businesses. This has been a Meistersingers tradition for decades. This year 38 student vocalists were involved in the Meistersinger Singing Valentines.



Kudos, Meistersingers, for sharing your musical message of love and friendship all over Midland!



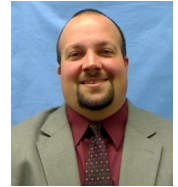


Mr. **Bob Cooper**, Associate Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations



(FFO) has announced his retirement as of June 30, 2019. Bob has done an outstanding job in many different roles throughout his more than 35 years with MPS. From MHS Math Teacher and then Math Department Head to District Math Coordinator to his current role as Associate Superintendent. Bob will be truly missed, but we wish him and his wife, Wendy (Paraprofessional at Adams Elementary), all the best in their retirement!

Mr. **Brian Brutyn** will assume the position of Associate Superintendent of FFO following Bob's retirement. Mr. Brutyn is currently the Associate Superintendent of Administration, Student Services and Innovative Programs (ASSIP). Mr. Brutyn joined the MPS team in 2014.



We are excited to announce that Mr. **Jeff Jaster**, Principal of Midland High School, will assume the position of Associate Superintendent of ASSIP for the 2019-20 school year. Mr. Jaster joined the MPS team in 2002 as a Science Teacher at Midland High. Through his years at MPS, he has served as the MHS Department Head of Science, Assistant Principal at Northeast MS, Principal at Northeast MS, Midland High Principal, and next year in his new position as Associate Superintendent. As you will see on page 6 of this Communique, the Midland High Principal position is currently posted. We look forward to interviewing for the position and finding the best person to serve as the Midland High School Principal.



The **Midland High School Student Council** hosted an event to end violence against women, on February 15, 2019, in conjunction with the One Billion Rising movement. This movement is the largest global movement to end violence against women and children and Midland High has been continuing to draw attention to this important issue since 2014.



In order to spread awareness at Midland High, the MHS student body took a voluntary survey asking them questions about abuse in their own lives. The results of the survey were shared with the student body through large posters throughout the school and an activity called silent statistics. During this activity, members of the council stood silently and held signs with statistics gathered from the student surveys. Announcements were made throughout the week that brought attention to the survey findings.

At Friday afternoon's event, members of the community and MHS students gathered in front of the school to observe 32 seconds of silence to support survivors of abuse. Participants then gathered in the MHS cafeteria where they were served soup donated by Chartwell's Food Service, coffee donated by Live Oak, and hot chocolate and cookies donated by the student council. Brittany Porchert of the Safe and Sound Child Protection Advocacy Center of Midland shared a video and purpose of their organization. Next, Dr. Amy Beasley, the North American Inclusion Leader at DowDupont, and co-worker Joslyn Chulski, introduced by Megan Shaffer, daughter of Dr. Beasley, shared their courageous story of domestic violence and resilience.



The **Midland High Jazz Band** hosted the MSU Octet #1 & 2 February 10 at Midland High. The MHS Jazz Band collaborated with the MSU groups for a fantastic concert that afternoon.

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## MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2015 BOND UPDATE January 31<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### Construction / In Progress:

Chestnut Hill / Siebert New Media Centers:

- Framing and drywall is 100% complete.
- Painting is complete at both media centers.
- Ceiling grid and tile installation is complete.
- All new window glazing has been installed
- All flooring including Chestnut Hill refinishing is complete
- Continuing to install IT and AV Equipment
- Continuing the installing of furniture at both media centers

### Look Ahead:

- Completing all furniture installation
- Finishing IT and AV equipment installation.
- Contractor clean-up and demobilization
- Turn-over to the Owner
- Midland Community Stadium Press Box is out to bid.



Ceiling Grid Installation at Chestnut Hill



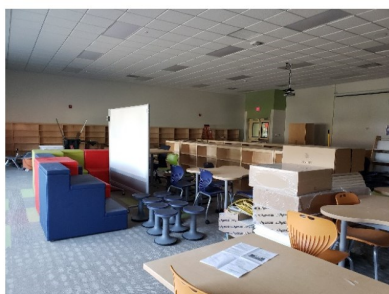
Ceiling Tile Installation at Siebert



Painting and Ceiling Tile is Complete at Chestnut Hill



Carpet installation at Siebert



Furniture delivery at Siebert



Completed Refinished Flooring at Chestnut Hill

### 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 15, 2019.*

For nomination information  
go to our website—  
[www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org)—or  
click on this link:

[https://www.midlandps.org/  
News/223#sthash.J3dEZBCw.  
dpbs](https://www.midlandps.org/News/223#sthash.J3dEZBCw.dpbs)

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:  
Thursday, May 2,  
4:15 pm  
Central Auditorium.

**Nominate Now!**



# 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
Coach, Assistant, Tennis, Boys	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Assistant, Softball	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Assistant, Volleyball	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Soccer	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Assistant, Track, Boys	HH Dow HS	02/26/2019 or until filled
High School Principal	Midland HS	02/19/19
Mechanic's Assistant	Transportation	02/19/19
Paraprofessional	Transportation	until filled
Paraprofessional	Transportation	until filled
Preschool Teaching Associate	Carpenter School	02/19/19
Principal, Elementary	Adams Elementary	02/26/2019 or until filled
Sign Language Interpreter	District Wide	until filled
Supervisor, Special Education	Special Services	02/26/2019 or until filled
Teacher, Elementary	District Wide	until filled
Teacher, Math	Secondary	until filled
Teacher, Special Education	District Wide	until filled

In addition, **we are always looking for**

### **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS AND BUS DRIVERS.**

Click on this link for information about these opportunities:

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

Have a high school student looking ahead to post-secondary opportunities?

**SVSU is holding their annual College Night on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30 in Curtiss Hall.**

There will be representatives from over 40 colleges and universities throughout Michigan and beyond. You and your student will discover the possibilities and learn about financial aid, scholarships, career opportunities, academic programs of study, clubs, organizations, athletics, and more. SVSU's College Night is FREE and open to the public.



Midland Public Schools  
600 East Carpenter  
Midland, Michigan 48640

#### **MPS Website:**

[www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org)

#### **Twitter:**

@MichaelSharrow2  
@MidlandPS

#### **YouTube Channel:**

<http://midps.org/youtube>

#### **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

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

#### ***wise thought to ponder ...***

*"There is nothing which can better deserve your patronage, than the promotion of science and literature. Knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness."*

— George Washington

