

Superintendent Communiqué



Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence

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February 3, 2020 <> Volume 7, Issue 25

MPS INCLUSION & DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Everyone in our school community is valued, safe, treated with kindness and respect, and works together to make our



MIDLAND HIGH'S SAVE CLUB PROMOTES KINDNESS DISTRICT-WIDE!!!!

Midland High's SAVE Club has read to over 35 MPS Elementary School classrooms, ranging from kindergarten to second grade, promoting kindness this school year! At each reading, students from SAVE Club read one of three books promoting kindness. Each book has a lesson that goes along with it that promotes the idea of being kind and includes an interactive portion for students. Students from SAVE Club love visiting the elementary classrooms and feel a sense of purpose and pride when interacting with the young students!

#keepitkindmps



SAVE Club Members (from left to right)

Back Row: Evynn Rohde, Ally Noel, Allison Stiffler, Eva Poprave, Mrs. Bank, Andrew Chatman

Front Row: Carin Hoevenmeyer, Maddie Wenzell, Lauren McGuirk, Taryn Vielma, Zander Pellegrino

Not Pictured: Kiley Haring, Alexandria Bressette, Willa Cook, Colin Nagley, Mallory Konieczny, Katie Wing, Jordan Warner, Owen Hacker

Advisors: Ashley Bank and Sarah Dodick



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>

Girls Who Code Club at Adams Elementary

Kudos to **Jamie Brooks and Ellie Haycock**, from **Mr. Fox's computer programming classes at Midland H.S.**, for reaching out to Adams Elementary teachers, Mrs. Schultheis and Mrs. Capua, to set up our Girls Who Code clubs. The high school students are coming to Adams each week to work with interested fourth and fifth grade students to help them learn and get excited about computer programming.



Way to make a difference, Jamie & Ellie!

On January 28, over 275 freshmen World History (WH) students from Midland HS went to see the Golden Globes award-winning Movie, **1917**. As the WH classes are currently learning about WWI, the movie was very timely in connecting curriculum and state standards with real-life cinematography! Thanks to NCG Cinemas for hosting an early showing so that students in all MHS WH classes could attend (as well as staff and numerous parent chaperones). Once students returned, their assignment was to write a movie review highlighting their favorite characters, scenes, connection to classroom curriculum and overall rating. Thank you to the Jen Sisco-MHS ALL-IN Fund for providing the transportation that helped to bring WW1 to life for MHS WH students!



Here are a couple student movie review quotes:

"The movie connected with what we learned in class because it was about the horrible and gruesome fighting of WW1. It gave us a chance to connect and relate to the awful fighting, and see what it was really like. You can only learn so much from reading a textbook, sometimes people need to see something visually before it really clicks in their mind."
Brody Nichols

"I saw trench warfare, which is something we talked about a lot in school. We also saw a dog fight between two planes, which is another thing we learned about in class. It was cool to see everything that we learned about in class in the movie. It was a great opportunity and I really enjoyed watching the movie." Maria Toner



This past Friday night, the **Dow v. Midland Unified Basketball Teams** had their rematch at HH Dow High between the boys' and girls' Varsity Dow v. Midland High basketball games. The Unified Basketball Interscholastic Game included three special education and two general education players who took the court with the same rules as high school basketball games. This second match of the season was an exciting evening with hundreds of students and adults cheering on their Unified Basketball Team.

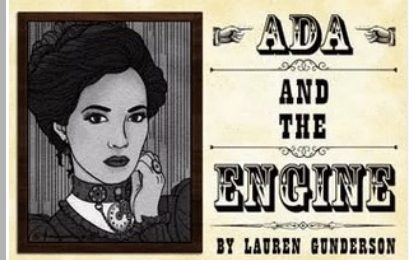


Adams Elementary Culture Club recently learned about China and Chinese New Year. In addition to learning about Chinese New Year, students were able to experience how to use chopsticks, the Chinese instrument zither, and thanks to several Midland Chinese School middle school students who do outreach, were able to try some delicious sticky rice cakes.



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Midland High Drama presented **Ada and the Engine** on February 1 at the West Michigan Theatre Festival and earned a standing ovation. Taking home awards were **Emma Massey** for performance and **Kennedy Danner** for technical achievement for costumes. At the Festival's Technical Olympics, **Tara Estrada** won the lighting category, **Lincoln Danner** won the sound category, **Kennedy Danner** won the props category, and **Lincoln Danner** won the overall achievement award



This award-winning cast and crew will be presenting **Ada and the Engine**, the story of the woman who created computer programming, for local audiences this week at Central Auditorium —

☆ Friday, February 7 @ 7 pm

☆ Saturday, February 8 @ 7 pm

Tickets are available for purchase at the door (\$12 for adults and \$8 for students) or at <https://centralauditorium.ludus.com/>. Don't miss your chance to see this great show.

The difference between zero and one is the whole world.

THE GERSTACKER TEACHER PROFICIENCY AWARDS NOMINATION WINDOW IS NOW OPEN!

Don't miss your chance. Nominate a great MPS teacher today!

The nomination window CLOSSES FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020

For nomination information go to our website—www.midlandps.org—or click on this link: <https://www.midlandps.org/gerstacker-awards>

**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 is

**Thursday, April 30 at 4:15 p.m. at Central Auditorium
and will celebrate 65 years of Midland Public Schools' teaching excellence.**

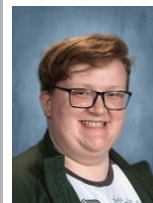
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The Dow High Poetry Club, Verses the World, congratulates **DHS Senior Rin Dunlap** on winning the Dow High 2020 Poetry Out Loud Competition.



Best wishes Rin at the State Poetry Out Loud competition in mid-March!

On January 28, **Midland High** held its annual National Honor Society (NHS) Induction Ceremony. Congratulations to this year's inductees: **Kayla Ware, Jordan Deckrow, Katelyn Corrior, Quinn Zastrow, Nick Feige**. (Nick Feige is not pictured. He was unable to attend the ceremony.) History Teacher Shelli Wixtrom was the guest speaker at this year's event. Below are current MHS NHS members:



Kaitlyn Bremer	Therese Joffre	Maylee Rielle
Meredith Brookens	Tommy Johnstone	Evynn Rohde
Abby Chapman	Luca Jolly	Drew Scheffer
Alyssa Chritz	Eric Kalishek	Carlie Servinski
Katelyn Corrior	Tegan Kareus	Jackson Shinske
Caleb Cummings	Timmy Kipfmiller	Ashley Siegmund
Kennedy Danner	Jillian Krawczak	Madison Smith
Jordan Deckrow	Ryan Kreusch	Halle Sodini
Haleigh DeForest	Madeleine Lang	Jenna Spencer
Maddie Dollard	Joey Le	Rebekah Stanley
Sophia Donoghue	Erika Leasher	Ella Trosin
Ethan Dotson	Sophie Lewis	Taryn Vielma
Morgan Ehrmantraut	Abigail Maier	Paul Volesky
Nick Fiege	Jacob May	Elizabeth Wandor
Maxx Fisher	Allie McMillan	Kayla Ware
Corbin Fleming-Dittenber	Shane McQuarter	Ashley Welsch
Olivia Freidinger	Jack Miller	Caryn Wenban
Meggie Gandy	Makayla Nehrt	Aidan Wilber-Gauthier
Adrienne Gray	Ally Noel	Emily Witt
Zach Green	Katelyn Nylund	Nathan Witt
Edie Haase	Christina Owens	Hannah Woehrle
Misa Halphen	Ty Passalacqua	Brady Woods
Carter Hazen	Kailee Pavlik	Sam Yoder
Andrew Heye	Ryan Pelletier	Quinn Zastrow
Kevin Hoefer	Tyler Pritchett	

Wondering about Dow High National Honor Society 2020 inductees? DHS's ceremony will be held in March. Stay tuned.



Kudos to the **Midland High Honors Government Classes** who contributed over 500 hours of volunteer service in the Midland community during the 1st Semester. Way to go, Chemics!

Thank you (AGAIN) Adio Chiropractic!

In September, you may remember that our friends from **Adio Chiropractic** collected and donated backpacks and all kinds of school supplies. The elementary schools who received those backpacks and supplies were so grateful to have the wonderful supplies to assist the students in their education. Friday of last week we received another very, very generous donation from Adio Chiropractic. This time the staff of this generous community partner collected all kinds of warm winter coats, hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. The students who need a warm coat and/or hats, gloves, etc. will certainly make good use of the beautiful, warm winter clothing. Thank you, Adio Chiropractic, for thinking of MPS students!



The MPS Schools of Choice application window for 2020-2021 is now open for In-District and Out-of-District students.



If you would like more information, go to our website and click as follows:

www.midlandps.org

→ Community → School of Choice

Contact Jana at 923-5024 with questions.



Nominate a great MPS team member for a SHINING STAR today!

MPS Team Shining Star Nominations are now being accepted for the 2019-20 school year for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students. Please take a moment to nominate an MPS team member today! <https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form>

MPS inclusion & kindness corner
Way to be the "I" in KIND, **Kristen Cohee, 3rd Grader in Mrs. Griffin's**

class at Adams Elementary. Kristin was recognized for being the "I" in KIND by holding open the doors for other students when there was a "traffic jam" in the Adams Elementary halls.



Way to go, Kristen!

Theresa Joffe, Midland High Senior, is asking for assistance from MPS parents.

Theresa is doing a project for a competition about an app for preventing distracted driving in teens and is hoping for MPS parents to take a short 4-question survey. Here is the link:

<https://forms.gle/MbJJUvXA485e8UDc6>

Theresa would love YOUR input!



Exciting Times at Adams Elementary! Beginning today, students and staff at Adams will be enjoying their PE classes and eating their lunch in the brand new, modern additions.

Thank you MPS voters who passed the 2.95 mills Bond exactly five years ago who have made these wonderful additions possible at all six MPS elementary schools!



This coming Saturday's (Feb. 8) edition of *Midland Daily News*, will include the MPS third quarterly *Our Schools* newsletter insert for the 2019-20 school year.

Don't get the newspaper, but want to check out all of the great things happening in all 11 MPS schools? Click on this link to read this edition: <http://www.midlandps.org/2020-02-ourschoolsnewsletter>



2020-2021 DISTRICT-WIDE KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE IS TOMORROW



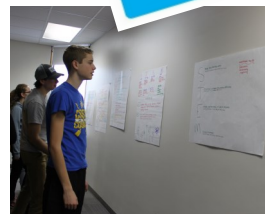
NIGHT (2/4/2020) AT ALL SIX MIDLAND PS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

BEGINNING T 5:45 p.m.

For more information, see Page 5 of this Communique.

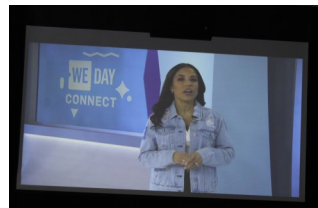
On January 29, our wonderful community partner Dow, Inc. and national partner WE hosted a WE Day Connect Viewing Party for approximately 100 Midland Public Schools' high school students! These MPS students, as well as several teachers, joined students, educators and community groups from around the world and tuned in live to WE Day Connect at Central Auditorium.

In the morning, MPS students interacted in different workshops.



In the afternoon, the students were part of a virtual learning event and heard from students from around the world who are doing great things and making a difference in their communities and around the world.

Thank you, Dow and WE, for hosting this wonderful event!



MPS is gearing up for the 2020-2021 school year for our youngest learners.

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4-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS ... MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAS TWO HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS TO GET YOUR CHILD'S K-12 EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY STARTED ON THE RIGHT TRACK!



→ **IB-PYP PRESCHOOL** combines the Inquiry-based PYP foundation used across MPS elementary schools in this high-quality, well-priced tuition preschool.

IB-PYP 4-year-old Preschool Registration opens February 3.

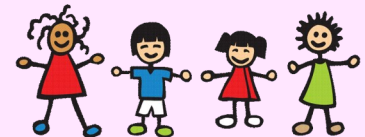
→ **GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM (GSRP)** is a free preschool for qualifying families that gives students a high-quality educational foundation.

GSRP Pre-Registration is now open. Please apply at www.michiganpreschool.org

MPS PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE for both the IB-PYP and GSRP 4-year-old programs is **Monday, March 9 at 5:30 p.m.** at the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center (1407 W. Carpenter St.)

Call the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center with any questions you may have **989-923-6411**.

KINDERGARTEN & Y5 DEVELOPMENTAL KINDERGARTEN



→ Will your child be 5 years old before September 1, 2020?

→ Will your child be 5 years old between September 1 and December 1, 2020, and you plan to apply for the Waiver?

→ Is your child attending Young 5's Kindergarten this 2019-20 school year?

Did you answer **YES** to any of these questions?

IF SO ... plan to attend KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION at your neighborhood school (Adams, Central Park, Chestnut Hill, Plymouth, Siebert or Woodcrest) on **Tuesday, February 4, at 5:45 pm.**

Kindergarten Orientation in your neighborhood school is for Kindergarten and Y5 Developmental Kindergarten student families!

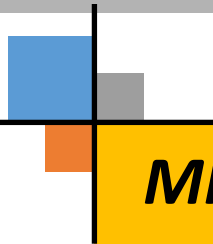
WHAT TO BRING TO KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION: Your child's ...

- original birth certificate (we will make a copy at orientation)
- immunization record
- proof of residency (utility bill, rent receipt, lease agreement, etc. with parent name & address)

Y5 DEVELOPMENTAL KINDERGARTEN APPLICANTS:

- Y5 Developmental Kindergarten Application drop off night is February 6 from 4:30-6:00 pm at the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center (1407 West Carpenter Street)
- Y5 Developmental Kindergarten Application window ends February 28

Have questions before tomorrow's Kindergarten Open House? See page 6 of this Communique for your elementary school's phone number. Office staff are happy to help!



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, Volleyball	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Tennis	Midland HS	until filled
Coach, Assistant, Track	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Volleyball	Midland HS	until filled
Coach, JV, Boys', Soccer	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Volleyball	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Girls' Lacrosse	Midland HS	02/11/2020
Paraprofessional	Northeast MS	02/11/2020
Teacher, Elementary	District	until filled
Teacher, Industrial Education	District	until filled

In addition to the job openings above, **BUS DRIVERS & PARAPROFESSIONALS** are needed in our Transportation Department.

**Interested in working with children? Want the same days off as your child?
Consider becoming a member of the MPS Transportation Team!**

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



A few details about being part of our Transportation Team:

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

Salary:

Bus driver: \$14.22/hour starting salary ... within four years: \$18.01/hour

Para: \$ 9.65/hour to start ... with steps to \$13.12

Call MPS Transportation with questions and to apply! 923-5041

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 **TODAY**

MPS FLYER BOARDS

Have you checked out the **MPS Student or Community Flyer Boards** under the Community tab on the MPS website lately?

Student Flyers: <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/>

Community Flyers: <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/>

Midland Public Schools
600 East Carpenter
Midland, Michigan 48640

MPS Website:

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:

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

wise thought to ponder ...

*"Diversity is about all of us,
and about us having to
figure out how to walk
through this world together."
— Jacqueline Woodson*

