

Superintendent Communiqué



Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence

Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent
(989) 923-5026 <> @MidlandPS <> sharrowme@midlandps.org

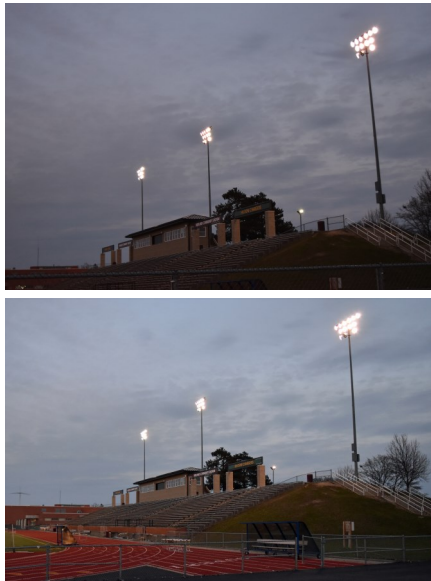
April 27, 2020 <> Volume 7, Issue 38

MPS INCLUSION & DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Everyone in our school community is valued, safe, treated with kindness and respect, and works together to make our community and world a better place.

During this COVID-19 mandated school closure, **MPS is working on several ways to honor and pay tribute to the members of our 2020 graduating class.** One of the tributes is lighting up the MPS Community Stadium lights on Friday nights for several weeks for 20 minutes and 20 seconds beginning at 8:20 p.m. (8:20 pm equates to 20:20 in military time). This tribute is for all Midland Public Schools 2020 graduates! Midland High Athletic Director Eric Albright said in a recent *Midland Daily News* article, "It's an outward sign that we're thinking of all of those students." We heard from a parent of one of our 2020 HH Dow High graduates this past week who made the following statement, "Thanks for helping to arrange the Friday Night Lights celebration at the Community Stadium for our seniors. I know in many ways the District is limited in what they can do so we appreciate this effort. My daughter and her senior friends really enjoyed a chance to connect in a unique way (all in their cars and socially distant) across from the stadium for last Friday's celebration."

Many Districts across the State of Michigan are honoring their 2020 graduates similarly with their Friday night stadium lights.



We are pleased to announce that **Ms. Andrea Jozwiak**, Midland High Business Education Teacher, has been named permanent **Midland High Assistant Principal (AP)**. Ms. Jozwiak was named MHS Interim AP at the end of January with the retirement of Ms. Julie Villano. This is Ms. Jozwiak's 17th year with Midland Public Schools. She earned her Bachelors Degree from CMU in 2003 and her Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from SVSU in 2008. She began her MPS career teaching Special Education, but most recently her role has included Business Education Teacher, BPA Advisor and Lead Teacher in the MHS Business/CTE Department. In 2019 Ms. Jozwiak earned the prestigious Gerstacker Award for Excellence in Teaching. Congratulations Ms. Jozwiak!

As you probably know, last Wednesday was Earth Day. Even more special, it was the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day that was celebrated in 1970. Spring is the perfect time to celebrate the Earth as it is undergoing its annual rebirth.

In a communication home to their families this past Friday, the **Adams Elementary staff members** celebrated Earth Day by getting outside and working in their yards, picking up trash, recycling and going for walks. Check it out!

<https://youtu.be/1LpVkCm588s>



MPS parents for being our valued partner in the education of your child(ren) during the COVID-19 closure!

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>


The MPS 2020-21
Schools of Choice

application window is open for In-District and Out-of-District students.



If you would like more info, visit our website: www.midlandps.org

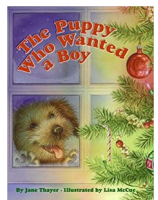
➔ Community

➔ Schools of Choice

MPS Staff members are connecting with students in many different ways these days.

Here are a couple of ways Central Park connected last Friday.

Assistant Principal, Kelly McArdle, reads "The Puppy Who Wanted A Boy" in the recent Central Park newsletter. Enjoy!



[https://](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iBeR5Meno6EwjTe-5kFKkRKKhK9ZEaR9h/view)

drive.google.com/file/d/1iBeR5Meno6EwjTe-5kFKkRKKhK9ZEaR9h/view

ALSO

Central Park's Office Professional Brett Seamster shared his next installment of Recess Break. Check out the fun riddles, tongue twisters & more. Enjoy!

<https://www.smores.com/sfz6d>

The **Saginaw Valley League Scholar Athletes** are presented annually to one female and one male student athlete from each of the SVL member high schools. This award was established to recognize excellence in the classroom and on the playing field. The Scholar Athlete award is determined by a formula that considers a student's SAT score, GPA, athletic participation and athletic awards.


**Midland High 2020
SVL Scholar Athletes**

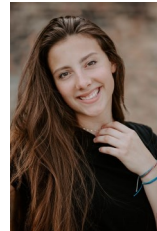
Alyssa Chritz is the daughter of Tony and Angela Chritz. Alyssa will continue her athletic and academic career at the College of Wooster as a member of the basketball team studying biology.



Tyler Pritchett is the son of Jerry and Christy Pritchett. Tyler plans to attend Michigan State University next fall as a member of the cross country and track teams studying engineering.


**HH Dow High 2020
SVL Scholar Athletes**

Alyssa Keptner is the daughter of Paul and Doreen Keptner. Alyssa will continue her athletic and academic career at Trine University to study Chemical Engineering and play both Lacrosse and Volleyball.



Peter Kozerski is the son of Gary and Karen Kozerski. Peter plans to attend Purdue University where he plans to pursue a major in Mechanical Engineering.



Midland High Industrial Education & Building Trades Teacher, Kevin Dodick, was working on a very special project last week. He and a wonderful community partner, Bill Brown, in conjunction with Mr. Brown's son-in-law, the owner of printing company, Things Smith, in Ann Arbor that has great relationships with the hospitals in the Lansing area. They have been asked to make 12,000 face shields. Mr. Dodick got the green light from administration and put the wood shop CNC machine to work during the stay home order. Mr. Brown and Mr. Dodick made 3,500 face shields in three days — approximately 375 an hour.

What a great use of MPS equipment and technology! Way to go Mr. Dodick!



Have a Broken MPS Chromebook?

- ➔ **Virtual Support** — The MPS Technology Team is providing virtual support to staff and families during the extended school shutdown from **8:00 AM-4:30 PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY**. For virtual support M-F, you can call the Help Desk and leave a voicemail message—(989) 923-5119 or send an email to help@midlandps.org.
- ➔ **Limited Device Physical Support** — The MPS tech team is providing support for physically broken devices. Tech Team representatives will be onsite **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the MPS Administration Center (600 E Carpenter Street)**. The drop-off and pick-up point will be the Admin Building Receiving Room doors in the parking lot between the Admin Building and the bus lot. This parking lot may be accessed from either George St. or State St. A cart with bins will be available to help everyone adhere to the minimum 6' personal space rule. We will repair devices as quickly as possible and contact you with the pick-up information when it is ready. Please call the Help Desk at (989)923-5119 in advance and leave a voicemail to let us know about the problem you are experiencing to expedite this process.





Important phone numbers

- Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline 1-855-444-3911
- Michigan Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-8255 or text HOME to 741741
- Michigan Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233

You are enough.

Has anyone told you that lately? Because you are. You are doing a great job at navigating all that life is throwing at us right now. Even if things aren't running as smoothly as you'd like, or emotions seem to be having highs and lows like they are a ride at Cedar Point, or if you feel like you have had more failures than wins lately, you are doing great because you are doing the best that you can. We are experiencing something that none of us have ever lived through before so there is no "right way" to do things. We are all doing the best that we can, and we have to give ourselves permission to let that be enough. It is easier to give our children, their teachers, friends, etc. permission to not be perfect right now. You need to extend that same grace to yourself. Here is a link to an article that has examples of permission slips that every parent and community member need to hear right now.

<https://imperfectfamilies.com/permission-slips-every-parent-needs/>



Here is a 4 minute video that explains how to perform EFT - Emotional Freedom Technique (tapping) to help reduce anxiety, help your body to slow down and create balance. Tapping the acupressure points engages the body and nervous system and activates the brain. Signals are sent to say "I hear you and I'm here to help" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAcIBdj20ZU>

Be Well,
Your SEL
Team

Danielle Fox, LLMSW & Katie Hilliard, LMSW — Central Park Elementary Family Intervention Specialists
Lori Hallberg, LLPC — HH Dow High Counselor
Jessica Harrold, M.A., & Hayley Stepaniak, LLPC — Midland High School Counselors
Erin Pung, MA/LLP — Plymouth Elementary Family Intervention Specialist

Looking for specific resources during the COVID-19 crisis? [Northeast Michigan 211](https://www.211nemichigan.org/) is a great place to start ... <https://www.211nemichigan.org/>

MPS Music Teacher Tina DeLong shared some great pictures of some of her elementary students enjoying music from home during the closure

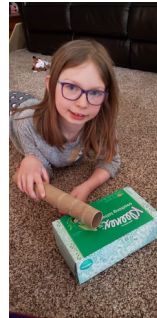
These students are showing the musical instruments they created from items they found around the house.



Logan Carn
Siebert Grade 4



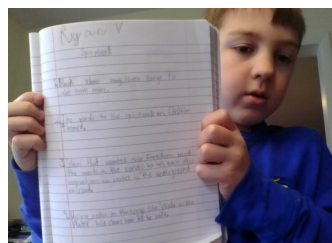
Braxton Cox
Woodcrest Kindergarten



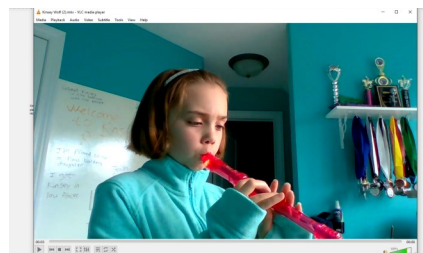
Isla Dittmer
Woodcrest Grade 3



Brooklyn Preston
Siebert Kindergarten



Ryan Voorheis (Siebert 3rd Grader) showing his list of facts he learned about spirituals.



Kinsey Wolf (Siebert 4th Grader) playing a song she learned on the recorder.

As our community journeys through the COVID-19 crisis, the Midland Community Success Panel would like to hear from area residents to understand how you everyone is doing.

The PERMAH **Wellbeing Survey** will help by providing immediate feedback and ideas to increase wellbeing and help to identify ways to best support our community.

Survey link: <https://midland.permahsurvey.com/>



When you take the survey (in about 10 minutes) you will:

- Step on the PERMAH Wellbeing scale and see how the recent changes are shaping your wellbeing.
- Immediately see your results – including your levels of thriving and struggle – and discover why stress doesn't have to undermine your wellbeing or performance right now.
- Create tiny daily wellbeing changes by choosing from 200+ evidence-based wellbeing activities that can help you, your family, your colleagues and our community.
- Download your tailored wellbeing plan packed with tips and questions to help guide your wellbeing journey.

Student Personal Items Located In the School

Our principals are developing formal plans to have student personal items returned to students and/or parents. It is our plan to wait until the Stay Safe, Stay Home Order is lifted before allowing this to occur. If a student has an item they need immediately and cannot wait, we are asking parents to email their Principal. The Principal will retrieve the item for you and have a curbside pickup process. When we do bring students in to retrieve items after the Stay Home order is lifted, we will require a temperature scan and allow only a few students at a time as scheduled. Stay tuned for a communication from your Principal in the near future with additional details.

Future Local Food Pantries

May 21, 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church
3701 Jefferson Ave, Midland
Registration 9:00
Distribution 11:30
Sponsor: Trinity Lutheran



June 24, 2020

Blessed Sacrament Church
3109 Ashman, Midland
Registration: 9:30
Distribution: 11:00
Sponsor: Blessed Sacrament Church

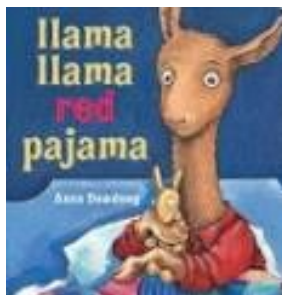
July 23, 2020

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
3516 E Monroe Rd, Midland
Registration: 9:00
Distribution 11:30
Sponsor: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church

(Thank you to Kurt Faust for providing this information!)

Dolly Parton, generous gifter of the Imagination Library books for children from birth through age 5, has recorded herself reading a number of fun children's books. Click on this link if your young child would enjoy hearing Dolly read, "Llama Llama Red Pajama."

<https://youtu.be/sqqEG6mMuqW>



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 ...

"In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours."

— Mark Twain