



Midland Public Schools

Inspiring Excellence

Superintendent Communiqué

February 1, 2021 ▶ Volume 8 ▶ Edition 26

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)



Woodcrest 3rd Graders Completed a Very Special MLK Day Service Project

Woodcrest third graders recently completed a service project for MLK Day that was intended to share love and kindness. The third graders teamed up with Dr. Gayle

Byker, a local physician and Woodcrest parent, to create greeting cards for long-term residents of Midland nursing homes. Students wrote letters of encouragement and designed cheerful pictures in an effort to brighten the day and lift the spirits of the long-term residents.



**Way to care and
be kind,
3rd Grade Wolverines!**



Kk is for Kindergarten!

**the MPS 2021-22 Kindergarten
Registration window is now OPEN!**

- ☺ Do you have (or know of) a child who will be five (5) by September 1, 2021? (If your child will be 5 years of age between 9/1 & 12/1/2021, we have a waiver for you.)
- ☺ Midland PS has two great kindergarten programs:
 - **Developmental Kindergarten** (also called Young 5's) is perfect for children who may not be quite ready for traditional kindergarten. DK is the first year of a 2-year Kindergarten Program. The MPS DK program is held at the Carpenter Pre-Primary Center.
 - **Traditional Kindergarten:** Is offered at all six MPS elementary schools and is an inquiry-based, highly effective program designed to successfully launch your child's K-12 educational journey.

Click here for MPS Kindergarten information: <https://www.midlandps.org/welcome-to-Kindergarten-2021-2022>

Click here for MPS Kindergarten registration:
[Kindergarten Pre-Enrollment Packet](#)

Register TODAY for Midland PS Kindergarten,
Developmental Kindergarten, and Preschool.
(NOTE: Space is limited in DK & PreSchool.)

Pp is for Preschool!

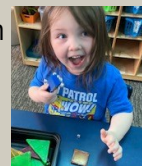
**Register NOW for
2021-22 Preschool!**

**Midland PS has two proven
4-year-old Preschool Programs at
Carpenter Pre-Primary Center**

5-day-a week Preschool

- ☺ Inquiry & play-based 4-year-old preschool
- ☺ Very fairly-priced tuition program

Check it out!



4-day-a-week Preschool

- ☺ GSRP (Great Start Readiness Program) 4-year-old preschool
- ☺ Free for income-qualifying families. (Regional Preschool Partnership)

Click here for Preschool information:
<https://www.midlandps.org/content/Preschool%20Program> or call 923-6411.

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



Business Professionals of America is a dynamic youth organization that provides leadership and business opportunities for high school students and helps prepare them as they make decisions regarding their future careers. Students learn these skills by participating in a variety of realistic, hands-on business experiences that are designed to prepare them for a career in the 21st Century workforce.

In December and January, students from **Midland High School** participated in the first-ever virtual Regional Leadership Conference. At this conference, students competed in business-related events in the hope of advancing to the State level. Midland High was able to take home sixty-two medals and will send thirty-eight students to the State Leadership Conference this spring. **WOW!**

Despite the challenges that a fully virtual competition presented, Midland High captured 1st place in a number of events including Administration Support Research Project, Administrative Support Team, Advanced Spreadsheet Applications, Database Applications, Economic Research Team, Financial Analyst Team, Fundamental Spreadsheet Applications, Fundamental Word Processing, Global Marketing Team, Health Administration Procedures, Human Resource Management, Parliamentary Procedures, Personal Financial Management, Presentation Management and Small Business Management Team.

Business Professionals of America attracts bright, hard-working young people and is leading our students towards a brighter future.



Congratulations to the **HH Dow High Debate Team** that participated in the Novice and Varsity State Finals.

The novice team of **Evelyn Wang, Davis Veith, Joseph He** and **Sarah Li** placed second overall in the State. This was an amazing finish to a great season despite the challenges of COVID, showing that patience, perseverance and resilience pay off.

The Detroit Urban Debate League hosted a Junior Varsity State Final with a Novice Division. The DHS JV team of **Corrine Cai** and **Tony Tang** placed second overall in the state in the JV division. Dow swept the tournament, locking out in the finals with the team of **Sarah Li** and **Joseph He** placing second, and the team of **Evelyn Wang** and **Davis Veith** placing first overall. The following students won individual speaker awards in the combined divisions: **Davis Veith**, 12th; **Joseph He**, 5th; **Corrine Cai**, 4th; **Sarah Li**, 3rd; **Tony Tang**, 2nd; and **Evelyn Wang**, 1st.

Congrats to this very impressive Charger Debate Team and their Coach, Amy Bushey, as they wrapped up their State season; best wishes as they continue on to the National Circuit this spring.



Corrine
Cai

Joseph
He

Sarah
Li

Tony
Tang

Davis
Veith

Evelyn
Wang



Congrats to **Claire Koellmann, Dow High Junior**, who was informed

of her winning painting entrant this past Friday afternoon. Claire submitted her large oil painting called, *Almost but Not Quite*, in November to Scholastic Awards. The painting, which took Claire about 40 hours to complete, is a beautifully painted piece with a great deal of symbolism. For example, the fishbowl shown is the head of the figure in the painting. It shows that we can sometimes remain calm as long



as we give our "interior selves" what we want, but like a killer whale, things can turn badly as soon as our inner self is not "fed." Claire was selected out of over 600 entrees for our region. As a Gold Key winner, she automatically continues onto the National Level in New York City. We celebrate this prestigious award with Claire and hope for good results from NYC just before Spring Break. **Great job, Claire, and best wishes!**

Semester 1 Student Report Cards are now available to view in Home Access Center.

HAC Link: <https://hac.midlandps.org/HomeAccess>

If you have not registered for Home Access Center you must do so before you can view your child's report card on-line.



Report cards will be available in HAC until February 26, 2021 at which time we disable report cards in HAC to prepare for the next marking period.

MHS Teacher, **Monique Albright**, was one of two secondary **2020 Gerstacker Award** recipients. Here she is with the lovely etched crystal vase she received. Looks like she had an adorable helper to open the vase. For many, many years, the Gerstacker recipients have received a beautiful crystal vase, an



"E" pin that stands for "Excellence," a stipend & flowers. These tokens of appreciation are only possible because of the very generous support of the Carl and Esther Gerstacker Donor-Advised Fund. Thank you Gerstacker family for supporting these very special MPS awards for 65 years!



Ms. McKane's CSI class at Jefferson MS participated in a cool virtual field trip

to the Midland Center for the Arts on January 26 that was called "Rocket Power."

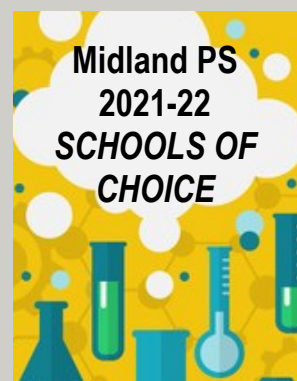
The CSI class is part of the middle school Project Lead the Way science curriculum that was implemented several years ago as part of the MPS STEM Strategic Plan.



2021-22 Midland PS Schools of Choice

The 2021-22 MPS Schools of Choice (SOC) application window opens today—February 1—for both In-District and Out-of-District students.

For 2021-22 Midland PS Schools of Choice information, click on this link <https://www.midlandps.org/schools-of-choice> or call Becci at 923-5024.



Midland PS Food Service remote free meal pick-up continues Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

Tuesdays & Thursdays: Meals are available for pick up 11 to 12:30 at Adams, Central Park, Chestnut Hill, Plymouth, Siebert, Woodcrest & Midland High.

Saturdays: Meals are available for pick up from 9-11 am at two locations— Central Park Elementary & Midland High.

Thank You, Chartwells Team!



Did you know that Midland PS has TWO flyer boards?

➔ **Student** — focuses on activities for students <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/>

➔ **Community** — focuses on information for parents <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers>



Our **Parent Information Committee (PIC)** met Thursday of last week for our January meeting. Thank you to the 16 parents who were able to join us. The topic was DEI and Restorative Practice. If you were unable to join us, here is a link to the video. <https://youtu.be/HP6wEqWVSCE>

SHINING STARS ... Have you seen or heard reports from your child of an MPS staff member who goes 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. <https://www.midlandps.org/Content2/shining-star-nomination-form>



Own your own home and need assistance with roof repairs?

Midland County Habitat for Humanity has partnered with Home to Stay to offer roofing assistance to help home owners with roof repairs.

Applications are being accepted until March 1.

Click here to view the brochure: <https://www.midlandps.org/userfiles/5/My Files/Roofing Initiative Flyer 2021.pdf?id=5543>
Click here for the application: <https://midlandhabitat.org/home-repair/roofing-initiative/>





Midland Public Schools

Inspiring Excellence

JOIN OUR MPS TEAM — Current Open Positions

MPS Employment Opportunities Link:

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

Position	Location
Bus Driver, Substitute	MPS Transportation
Paraprofessional, ESL Tutor	District
Paraprofessional, Special Education (7 positions)	District-wide
Paraprofessional, Substitute	District
School Psychologist	District
Student Support Specialist	District
Teacher, Special Education	District

Looking for Scholarships? The Midland Area Community Foundation (MACF) has 250 different scholarships worth over \$750,000 available to students.

Be sure to apply for the scholarships you are interested in on the MACF website

<https://www.midlandfoundation.org>

before the February 15 deadline!



Kudos MPS Mechanics
Jon Patten (Head), Logan Trickle,
Andrew Kirchoff

Did you know MPS has a fleet of
over 50 school busses?

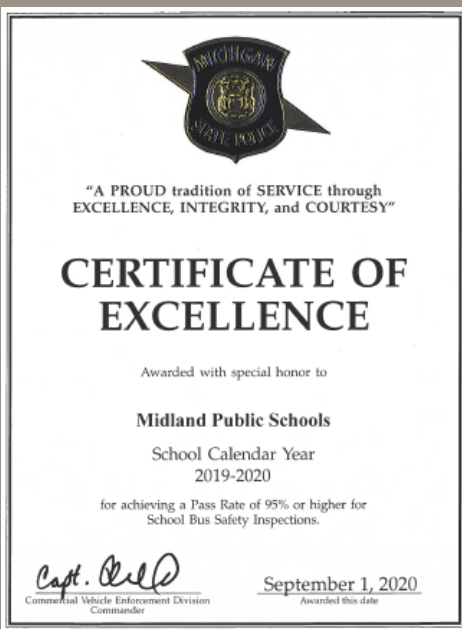


Which means there are a lot of very large engines, tires, transmissions, belts, rotors, blinking lights ... you get the picture.

Last week, we received this
“Certificate of Excellence”
in the mail from the Michigan State
Police that read, “Awarded with
special honor to Midland Public
Schools for 2019-20 for achieving a
Pass Rate of 95% or higher for
School Bus Safety Inspections.”

Please keep in mind, not only do our
mechanics keep our bus fleet in
outstanding repair, safe and road-
ready, but also our other district
vehicles (front-end loader, salt truck,
pick-ups, vans, lawn mowers, etc.)

Keep up the great work
Jon, Logan & Andrew!



February 1, 2021

Page 4 of 4

MPS District Vision

Lead with respect, trust and courage.

Ensure an equitable, collaborative
and inclusive culture.

Enable all to achieve success.

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

Email: board@midlandps.org

Wise words to ponder ...

“I think a hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.” — Christopher Reeve

