This year's Booster Bash is THIS FRIDAY. Go to www.mpssportsboosters for tickets and info!

On March 4 & 5, 320 band and orchestra students participated in MSBOA District 5 Festival, an annual performance assessment for a panel of experts. Each group is awarded a rating from 1 to 5 with a 1 representing an excellent performance.

**Dow High Results:** Concert Orchestra earned straight 2’s; Green Concert Band earned straight 1’s; Gold Concert Band earned a 1 overall but had a 2 tossed in from one judge; Symphony Orchestra earned straight 1’s; Symphonic Band earned straight 1’s

**Midland High Results:** The Symphony Orchestra, Blue Band, Gold Band and Symphonic Band all earned straight Division 1 ratings from all the judges.

Congratulations to all of the band and orchestra students and directors. Kudos for all of your hard work and representing Midland Public Schools so admirably!

Remaining MPS Schools Exit Focus Schools List

An announcement was made last week by the Michigan Department of Education that

- Carpenter Street School
- H. H. Dow High School
- Midland High School

have exhibited above average achievement/improvement with their lowest performing students and are exiting the “Focus School” designation. Brian Whiston (State Superintendent) made these comments: “These schools have made big strides in raising the academic achievement and improvement of their most struggling students…I commend the teachers, students, principals and parents for their hard work and improvement.”

Great Work Carpenter, DHS and MHS!
MPS Shining Star Nominations are now being accepted for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students.

Has questions or comments? Click on the MPS Connect! icon on our website or call our office at 923-5026. Let’s Connect!

MPS had nine students representing the district in the Michigan Arts Education Association Region 12 Art Show in February. Of the nine, three were selected to move onto the State level to be juried for inclusion in The Michigan Youth Arts Festival in the spring. The works of Marin Tarnowski, Kelsey Rathbun and Natalie Laurin were chosen to move on.

On March 5, judges in Lansing selected work from all the regions in the State for the Michigan Youth Art Festival. Placing in the top 100 in visual arts were Marin Tarnowski’s watercolor, “Sunset in Prague,” and Kelsey Rathbun’s bronze sculpture, “Wonderwoman.” Congrats to all of these talented student artists!

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MHS student participants (Left to Right) Emma Vanderlinden, Juliana Rowley, Christiana Shonts

Congratulations to these MPS students and their teacher, Steve Last, for their hard work and achievements at the recent SkillsUSA Regional Technical Drafting contest. Brian Mealey (MHS) took 3rd place and Noah Barbu (DHS) took 5th place and both qualified for the Skills State Leadership Conference in early April.

Congratulations and best wishes to:

- Tyler Biggs
- Kevin Volesky
- Brandon Angell
- Keaton Trombley

This year was a new record for MHS Welding.

At the recent Regional Skills USA Competition, 81 students competed in five welding categories. Midland High had 13 students compete. Four students are moving on to States in April in Grand Rapids!

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22 Midland High students participated in the American Mathematics Competition in February.

Congratulations to all of these students and especially to Kenny Steinhilber, who advanced to the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME). Kenny took this test last week and is currently awaiting his results. Depending on his score, Kenny has a chance to participate in the United States of America Junior Mathematical Olympiad (USAJMO).

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I have enjoyed reading in our elementary buildings and still have a few more schools to go, as we continue our celebration of March is Reading Month at MPS.

Dow High’s Coaches vs. Charity Fundraiser

The Coaches vs. Cancer DHS girls’ and boys’ basketball team fundraiser on February 19 was highly successful in its first year. T-shirt sales and donations during the game raised $1,575.29 for the American Cancer Society. The blue carnations being held by the athletes were for prostate cancer awareness.

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