Young Leaders and three members of Student United Way came together to ensure that every 2nd grader at Carpenter Elementary had a buddy on March 22! United Way is also partnering with Northwood University to impact every second grade classroom in Midland County. Overall, more than 750 books will be distributed to students to encourage a love of reading.

On March 19, 22 Jefferson Huskies competed in the Delta Mathematics Competition. Congrats to these students who placed in their respective grade:

- 6th grade: Andrew Gilbert - 1st place, Omer Khan - 3rd place, Toluwani Oshir - 4th place, Kenneth Gu - 6th place, and Jackson Voss - 8th place.
- 7th grade: Caleb Qiu - 3rd place and Josh Kline - 15th place.
- 8th grade: Scott Gilbert - 1st place, Sasha Konovalenko - 4th place, tied for 5th place, Anish Middha and Jacob Harwood, Samantha Ludwick - 7th place, tied for 8th place, Joel Greene and Bennett Veith, Victoria Leiti - 10th place, and Jason Fagen - 20th place.

It was a great day to be a Husky! Congratulations to all who participated!

March 19 & 20, more than 20 members of the Jefferson Volleyball Team volunteered at Dow Gardens Butterfly Craft Barn. They set-up the stations for face-painting, made butterflies on sticks, butterfly rings, as well as administered butterfly tattoos. The volunteers were enthusiastic, helpful and patient with all of the guests. The cooler weather brought out a lot of families. We heard over and over again on how artful and helpful our volunteers were throughout the day. Both Coach Striker and Coach Smith were in attendance to help assist and coordinate our student athletes during this event. Our students enjoyed their community service and are looking to continue to give back to their community!

Congratulations BPA Students and Coaches on a successful trip to States in March!

Congratulations to Midland High’s 44 BPA students who competed in the State competition. Thirteen of those students earned a trip to compete at Nationals in Boston in May. An additional 36 students placed in the top seven in their respective competitions. Great Job Chemics!

Congratulations to Dow High’s BPA Club who had eight students finish in the top ten of their competitions. Congratulations especially to Drew Hirselj who placed 4th in the State in C++ Programming, earning a trip to compete in Nationals in Boston this May and to Arhant Srivastava on his election to State Executive Counsel Parliamentarian. Great Job Chargers!

MPS High School Spring Musicals Begin Soon!

Midland High: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
April 21 and 22 at 7:00 pm

H. H. Dow High: Beauty and the Beast
April 28 & 29 at 7:00 pm; April 30 at 2:00 pm

Because Central Auditorium is under construction, both plays will be performed at the Bullock Creek High School Auditorium.

Have questions or comments? Click on the MPS Connect! icon on our website or call 923-5026.

Jazz & More...

a fundraising dinner featuring the Dow High jazz bands and select band, choir, and orchestra solo & ensemble performances, will be held at the Midland Country Club on April 30 from 5:30 to 9:00. Tickets are $35 each and can be reserved online through 4/15. For info go to www.DowHighMusic.org
State Solo and Ensemble results from March 19 ...

**H. H. Dow High School:** 44 Dow High band and orchestra students participated in 31 events.
- 4 students performed freshman solos and earned a 1st division rating.
- 17 students performed a proficiency solo. This means they performed their prepared solo as well as scales and sight-reading. All seventeen students earned above an 85, which is the cut-off mark for a 1st division rating. A special shout-out goes to **Ayana Terauchi** who earned Dow’s highest score with a 99/100 on her proficiency 3 flute solo.
- 35 students performed as members of a small ensemble. Dow had ten small ensembles total. One of these ensembles earned a 2nd division rating, but the other nine earned a 1st division rating.
- Four events from Dow High were nominated for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival by the State Solo and Ensemble Adjudicator: **Ayana Terauchi**, Flute solo; **Alfred Kalantar**, Trombone solo; **Grace Ridley**, Piano solo; Saxophone quartet: **Jeff Podhorez**, Keon Beigzadeh, Logan Cummings, Mackenna Greene

**Midland High** orchestra had two events at Band and Orchestra State Solo and Ensemble
- Duet of **Hannah Goff** and **Arianna Hohner** and soloist **Natalie Vinande** with both events earning a Division I rating.
- Midland High had one singer—**Em Thomas**—that earned an Excellent rating at the Vocal State Solo and Ensemble festival in Big Rapids that was also held on March 19.

Five Dow High band and orchestra students were accepted into the Michigan Youth Arts Festival Honors Ensembles. **Alfred Kalantar** was invited to participate in the band, and **Ayana Terauchi, Jacob Thomas, Rachel Lew,** and **Clayton Burlew** were invited to participate in the orchestra. They will represent Dow High at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in May.

The H.H. Dow High School International Affairs Club/Model U.N. participated in the Michigan State University Model United Nations over the weekend of March 18-20, 2016. Seventeen Dow High students were among 800 student delegates representing 40 high schools from a four-state region. Congratulations to the Dow High delegates and their advisor, Ric Shahin.

Dow High’s delegation won six awards.
- **Will Adams:** Most Outstanding Delegate in General Assembly Legal
- **Jonathan Altes:** First Honorable Mention in Social, Cultural, Humanitarian Committee
- **Kevin Kraef:** First Verbal Award, Special Political Committee
- **AnnMarie Moolenaar:** Most Outstanding Delegate in Social, Cultural, Humanitarian Committee
- **Charles Rinderle:** First Outstanding Delegate in Crisis Committee
- **Sam Ungerleider:** Best Delegate in Non-Governmental Organizations

Congratulations to **Northeast Middle School’s, Ella Trosin**, who competed in the 2016 Age Group Short Track Speed Skating Nationals in March in Madison, WI. Ella did very well and is now ranked 5th in the Country for Junior C ladies. She came home with two distance pins for taking 4th in the 1000m and 777m distances.

We have been asked by the Midland County 42nd Circuit Court-Family Division to share the following message: “Raising children is challenging. Families raising an emotionally impaired or developmentally disabled child experience additional challenges. Sometimes it is necessary for parents to have a “time-out” to re-energize. The 42nd Circuit Court-Family Division is looking for families or individuals to help provide care for children involved with community Mental Health for Central Michigan. Placements would be for 7 days or less. Foster parents can be married or single, and can own or rent their home. Training, payment and lots of support are provided. To learn more about respite foster care and information on licensing, call Jodie Garner at 832-6398 or email jgarner@co.midland.mi.us to request info.