**Superintendent’s Weekly Communiqué**

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**April 25, 2016**

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<th>After competing in the Michigan State Championship FIRST Robotics competition on April 14-16, the H.H. Dow High robotics team, The Charge (2619), qualified to compete in the FIRST World Championship in St. Louis, Missouri this week (April 27-30)! The team finishes the 2016 Michigan competition season in the top 12% of teams in the State. This will be the 5th trip to the World Championship for The Charge. <strong>Best wishes in St. Louis!</strong></th>
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<td>Each year Michigan State University's Michigan Interscholastic Press Association presents the Golden Pen Award to an outstanding adviser of a scholastic student media outlet. It is the highest honor MIPA bestows on a current advisor. To win the award, an adviser is judged according to documentation and evidence — in portfolio form — provided by students. The recipient is chosen by a committee of previous Golden Pen honorees. The 2016 Golden Pen recipient is Midland High's Journalism teacher and FOCUS advisor, Jim Woehrle. Jim was nominated by his students and was presented the Award at the 2016 Annual MIPA Award ceremony on April 21. <strong>Congratulations Mr. Woehrle!</strong></td>
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| **Correction to last week’s Communiqué**

In last week’s Communiqué we included an article about students from Midland High and H. H. Dow High who competed in the April 8 Math Olympics at SVSU against teams from all across the Lower Peninsula. We failed to include David Z. Wang, an 8th grade student from Jefferson Middle School who competed with the HH Dow High team. **Congratulations goes to David for receiving a 1st Level 1 Placement.**

We sincerely apologize for our oversight and congratulate David for this wonderful achievement! |

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Roses to the cast, crew and advisors of Midland High School’s The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee for their amazing performances this past weekend!

Best wishes to the HH Dow High cast and crew in their production of Beauty and the Beast this coming weekend. Tickets may be purchased at DHS during both lunch hours and at the door for the April 28, 29 and 30 performances at Bullock Creek High School Auditorium.

**Thank you MPS Office Professionals and Administrative Assistants**

National Administrative Professionals’ Day is April 27. The next time you visit any of our buildings, please take a moment to say THANK YOU to these dedicated staff members who work hard every single day for Midland Public Schools’ students, staff, families and community!

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The Saginaw Valley League established an award to recognize excellence in teaching. This award is presented annually to one teacher from each of the Saginaw Valley member high schools. To be eligible for this prestigious honor a teacher must be nominated by letters of support in the areas of creative teaching, involvement in our community, involvement in our school's activities, and enthusiasm & dedication.

Midland High School's recipient of the 2016 SVL Teacher of the Year award is Mr. Marty Hollenbeck!

HH Dow High School’s recipient of the 2016 SVL Teacher of the Year award is Mr. Jason Gehoski!

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The Midland High School Baseball program again tied the game of baseball into its community service as the players repaired fences and painted all of the dugouts at the Northeast Little League complex on April 17. The program has maintained a vision for its annual service day that the players not only experience the satisfaction of helping but also form ties between their school and the community. The high school players were able to give something back to the little league diamonds on which they began their own baseball careers.

Madden Brady, a Northeast eighth grader, was recently installed as State President of the Michigan Society Children of the American Revolution; Mt. Vernon was the venue for the installation ceremony. Madden will spend the next year travelling Michigan and the surrounding states to promote his project of commemorating the WWI centennial and celebrating the efforts of the American Doughboy. The Children of the American Revolution is the oldest patriotic youth organization in the United States. Membership is open to anyone who is under the age of 22 and who is a lineal descendant of a person who rendered aid to the cause of American independence.

One of the standards of the IB Primary Years Programme is “the school utilizes the resources and expertise of the community to enhance learning within the programme” (Programme Standards and Practices, IBO, p. 9).

Siebert Elementary is lucky to have many volunteers who are willing to share their knowledge with the students. Mr. Al Paas is one such volunteer. Mr. Paas often shares his knowledge with both small and large groups of students, allowing them to see connections between subject areas to encourage deeper understanding of content. In this photo, Mr. Paas is showing fourth grade students a model of how the Erie Canal works, allowing them to participate in a hands-on science activity that connects to Grade Four Social Studies content.

“We appreciate the support of our community and volunteers!”

Sister City Committee seeking host families for visiting Japanese teens
The Midland-Handa City Japan Sister City Committee is seeking Midland families who are interested in hosting a visiting high school student from Handa City this summer. Families are asked to host a teen for one week during his/her stay in Midland, to provide lodging, meals and local transportation. Families are also invited to participate in several group recreational and cultural events for all visitors and their host families during the students’ visit (July 23-August 11). For information, please contact Committee Member, Dick Dolinski, at rdolinski@tlc4cs.org or call at 859.2290.