The Monday, May 16, Board Meeting was filled with Great Stuff!

H. H. Dow High Principal Pam Kastl and teachers Lisa Bonotto and Sarah Hecklik accepted a beautiful trophy, sign to display at road-side, and a large check for $2,500 for the 2016 Education Excellence Award for their 20-time program from MASB and SET SEG representatives. This is the third year in a row that H. H. Dow High has received this impressive award! Congratulations, Chargers!

IB Primary Years Programme
Coordinator for Siebert Elementary, Amy Sabourin, shared a video entitled, “It’s a Great Day to be a Bulldog.” In this video students shared specific examples of them being caring, principled, risk takers and many more IB PYP traits.

IB Primary Years Programme Coordinator for Eastlawn Elementary, Jen Servoss, and two 5th grade students, Aliviah Gratson & Elayna Benaway, shared taking action through a book drive in which they collected more than 300 books for the Eastlawn Library and two other community libraries. In addition, Eastlawn 3rd grader, McKenna Herkel shared a video she helped to create about bullying with the message, “If you see something, say something.”

This Friday is the last day of school for our Seniors.
Kudos for all your hard work and congrats for all your accomplishments and successes!
We are so happy for you! Best wishes in your next adventures!
See you at graduation on June 3!

Our two high schools shine SILVER in U.S. News High School Rankings for 4th Year in a Row!
The U.S. News Rankings include data on more than 21,000 public schools in 50 states and DC. Schools were awarded gold, silver or bronze medals based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.
When we look at the 850 public high schools in the State of Michigan, this is how the medals were conferred:
Gold: 2.5% (or 7 schools)
Silver: 10.9% (or 93 schools)
Bronze: 17.8% (or 159 schools)
No Medal: 68.8% (or 584 schools)
Congratulations to Dow & Midland High Schools’ students and staff! Your hard work allowed MPS to shine SILVER once again!

The 2016 Distinguished Service Awards nomination window is now open (til July 1). Do you know an MPS paraprofessional, manager, office professional, administrative assistant, bus driver, technician, grounds or maintenance worker who goes above and beyond to make a difference for MPS students? If so, visit the MPS website (www.midlandps.org) for more information and the 2016 Nomination Form.
Nominate an MPS support person today! (Sorry, teachers and administrators not eligible for this award).
A Wonderful Collaboration ... Dow High & Jefferson Middle School 2015-2016 Pen Pals

Emily Hockemeyer's DHS Senior English Class and Kelly McArdie’s JMS Sixth Grade Language Arts Classes have been corresponding since September. They have exchanged journals, cards, writing prompts, etc. The seniors reviewed some writing pieces by the sixth graders using rubrics—and the sixth graders, knowing that their pen pals were the ones who were going to be giving them feedback, worked very hard to produce their best writing. The comments and rubric scores were taken very seriously by both the seniors and sixth graders. Several JMS parents expressed how pleased they were with this opportunity for their child…especially those with reluctant writers.

Last week the two classes had a chance to spend some time together at DHS. The students had lunch together, played kickball, did crafts, and spent time visiting and enjoying each other’s company. The seniors were great hosts. They took their task of being role models seriously and each of the JMS students came away with a very positive experience and wonderful memory.

Jefferson Middle Schools’ 7th and 8th grade choir did a fantastic job performing Schoolhouse Rock Live last week. The students raised $300 to be divided between the American Cancer Society and the family of Thomas Saunders (the DHS student who suffered a traumatic brain injury last year). Congratulations to retiring Director Tracey Kempsell and her very talented students for a wonderfully entertaining production!

CONGRATULATIONS to H. H. Dow High’s Brett Husted who took 4th place in Advanced Automotive at the recent State Level Mites Competition. Way to go Brett!

A great opportunity— FREE SAT Practice Test for students in Grades 10-12 in the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library Youth Services Area on June 22 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Space is limited. Call Youth Services 837-3466 to register.

HH Dow High Choirs have been on the road! On May 13, all choir students attended the opera, "The Magic Flute," at the Michigan Opera Theatre in Detroit. Chamber Singers then went on to Chicago where they participated in a choral clinic with Dr. Eric Esparza from DePaul University. They sang in the Church of St. Vincent De Paul, and reveled in the beautiful acoustics — and ambience — in that historic church. The trip also included a visit to the Shedd Aquarium or Field Museum and an afternoon at the Art Institute of Chicago.

This year’s Elementary Track Meet is Monday, June 6, beginning at 4:30 at the H. H. Dow High Track. Come and cheer on our young MPS student athletes!

(Please note this is a change of venue from previous years—Because of the condition of the Midland Community Stadium track and the resurfacing of the track scheduled for this summer (using bond funds), this year’s Elementary Track Meet will take place at the H. H. Dow High track.)