In early October, Plymouth Elementary First Grade classes were teaching their unit of inquiry with the central idea of "Cooperation is essential to achieve goals." To support this, both high schools were invited to bring athletes that could speak about the importance of this central idea. The Dow High Football Captains (Spencer Stephenson (#34), Ryan Merry (#53), and Kevin Murray (#77) and Head Coach, Jason Watkins, and Eric Albright, Midland High Athletic Director, and Varsity football players (Levondere Warren (#2), Cade Methner (#6), Ethan Getgood (#13) visited the first graders at Plymouth Elementary. The purpose of their visit was to talk to the young Pioneers about what it means to be a good team member and the importance of cooperation.

No doubt our high school families have been hearing about this event for the past few weeks, but for our elementary and middle school families, this Friday (October 21) at 7 p.m. is this year’s Dow High vs. Midland High Varsity football game at Midland Community Stadium.

Come and be part of this exciting evening and watch the athletes compete, the students in the stands cheer, the bands march, the cheerleaders/pom squads perform and so much more. The stadium will be electric. Don’t miss it!

The Marching Band Showcase has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Midland Community Stadium.

REVISED TIMES:
6:40 opening with Star Spangled Banner. Then marching bands from ten area schools perform their best routines in a showcase of musical talent. MHS performs at 8:45 and DHS at 9:00. An evening not to be missed. Admission is $5 for adults, $2 for (K-12) students, and free for seniors 65 & older.

Congratulations to Dow High Head Football Coach, Jason Watkins, named Detroit Lions/Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan High School Football Coach of the Week for Week 7. In addition to public recognition for Coach Watkins by the Lions organization, the Dow High football program and athletic department will receive a $2,000 donation from the Lions/Farm Bureau Insurance. Congratulations Coach Watkins!

November 8 Election MPS Board of Education
The seats of incumbent candidates Lynn Baker, Yvonne Gorton, Scott McFarland, Jerry Wasserman will be up for re-election on November 8, 2016. A Candidate Forum, hosted by AAUW Midland Branch and the League of Women Voters of the Midland Area, was held on October 11.

Here is a link to view the Forum: https://youtu.be/h4pHGSum2Kg

is a great communications tool for you to connect with me. Every message comes to my desktop. Either I or a member of our staff will do all we can to reply to your message the next work day. Click on the green MPS Connect box on our MPS website (www.midlandps.org) to connect with me!
NEW PROGRAM FOR 3 YEAR OLDS: MATH IN THE MAIL

Math in the Mail focuses on developing mathematical skills in three-year-olds by providing the tools needed in the home environment for parents, guardians, and other caregivers. Children from Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland, and Saginaw counties can be enrolled in the program. Qualifying families enrolled in the Math in the Mail program will receive a free kit in the mail six times per year, which will contain materials, resources, and instructions for several age-appropriate math activities. This initiative is funded by Dow Corning and Hemlock Semiconductor through the Dow Corning Foundation, and represents a collaboration between the Bay-Arenac ISD, Clare-Gladwin RESD, Gratiot-Isabella RESD, Midland ESA, and the Saginaw ISD.

Math in the Mail is part of a region-wide focus to better prepare our students for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) experiences and STEM careers. Kathy Stewart, Superintendent of the Saginaw Intermediate School District, is “truly delighted to have an idea literally planned on a paper napkin come to reality. Without the generous support from the Dow Corning Foundation, Math in the Mail would still be a dream. Now kits are being prepared to send out to families with three-year-olds!”

Superintendent Stewart is excited about children having fun learning early math skills with their families. She thanks those that have, and are, contributing time, talent, and resources to this initiative.

To enroll, families should visit www.mathinthemail.org, or call 989-737-9532.

To qualify for the FREE program, families must

⇒ Live in Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland or Saginaw county
⇒ Have a three year old child in the household (born between December 1, 2012 and September 1, 2013). Children will receive kits for up to 12 months after enrolling.
⇒ Have a household income that is at or below 250% of the federal poverty line

A subscription option is also available for families who do not qualify for the free program. Families can also follow Math in the Mail on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest to gain information and ideas that will help them strengthen their child’s pre-school math skills.
Congratulations to Dow High’s Varsity Debaters Austin Poon and Duncan Donahue who won 4 out of their 6 debates recently at the highly competitive New Trier Season Opener in Chicago.

The 2016 Midland High School Student Council attended Camp Neyati for a leadership retreat recently. The students planned activities for the school year including fundraisers, community awareness events, volunteer opportunities and school-wide events.

Midland High’s Fall Drama Production of “Peter and the Starcatcher” will be performed at Bullock Creek Auditorium on October 27th, 28th and 29th at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $6 for students. They will go on sale two weeks before production at MHS in Eyeball Alley during the lunch hours or at Village Green on South Saginaw Road.

ALL three sections of Dow High’s IB WL 2 HL H (International Baccalaureate World Language 2 Higher Level Honors) traveled to the Theodore Roethke Home and Museum in Saginaw, Wednesday, October 5. Roethke, a Saginaw native, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1929 and later taught at MSU. Recognized for his contributions to American poetry, he specialized in free verse and fixed forms. Most notably receiving the Pulitzer Prize in 1954 for his work The Waking. It was an exciting opportunity for the students as an introductory activity for their in-depth study of poetry.

2016 Fun Run —
271 fourth and fifth grade students from Midland Public Schools and local parochial schools participated in this year’s MPS Fun Run on Friday, October 7th. The Fun Run is a one-mile run on the cross-country course at Stratford Woods Park. The purpose of the Fun Run is to stimulate interest in cardio-vascular endurance among students and to provide them with distance experience. The Fun Run allows students the opportunity to compete and compare their ability with others their age.

The Fun Run is organized by the Midland Public Schools elementary physical education teachers, but the meet could not be done without the help from the MHS, DHS and middle school cross country teams.

MPS Shining Star Nominations are now being accepted for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students. Please take a moment to nominate an MPS staff member today. http://midps.org/shiningstarform

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MPS Website: www.midlandps.org
Twitter: @MichaelSharrow2 @MidlandPS
YouTube Channel: http://midps.org/youtube
Community Flyers: http://midps.org/cf

Reflecting on our lovely Michigan Autumn ...

“I know the lands are lit, with all the autumn blaze of goldenrod.”
— Helen Hunt Jackson

“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.”
— Albert Camus

“Now autumn’s fire burns slowly along the woods and day by day the dead leaves fall and melt.”
— William Allingham