CONGRATULATIONS Dow High Ladies’ Basketball  
Class A District Champions! Way to Go!  

Best Wishes tomorrow night—Tuesday, March 7—in the regional semifinals against Marquette! We are rooting for you!

GERSTACKER NOMINATION WINDOW CLOSES THIS FRIDAY—MARCH 10!  

DON’T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO NOMINATE A GREAT MPS TEACHER FOR THIS YEAR’S AWARDS!  
Nominate an MPS teacher today!  
For nomination information go to our website—www.midlandps.org or click on this link: https://new.midlandps.org/pages/employees/employee-awards/gerstacker-awards/  
This year’s Gerstacker Ceremony is Thursday, May 11 at 4:10 pm at Northwood University and will celebrate 62 years of teaching excellence. These awards are made possible through the generous support of the Carl and Esther Gerstacker Donor-Advised Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation.

Do you know Mrs. Sally Brown?  
If you have been a member of the MPS staff or student body at any time between 1965 and now, you have probably come in contact with Mrs. Brown. It is hard to believe but Mrs. Brown has been a substitute teacher with MPS since 1965, which means she has been an MPS sub for 52 years. Wow! Mrs. Brown may have taken a year off here and there during that time, but she began subbing for MPS in 1965 and is still subbing strong today. Thank you Mrs. Brown for your service and your inestimable dedication to MPS students and staff!

Saginaw Valley League Teacher of the Year  
Nomination deadline is Friday, March 24, 2017.

Midland High & HH Dow High teachers ONLY are eligible for this award. For information and the nomination form, please go to the MPS website or click here: https://new.midlandps.org/100142646329-2/

Don’t Miss the Nomination Deadline March 24, 2017!
For the 2017-18 School Year, we are adjusting the start and end times at our Elementary Schools as follows:

Start Time: 8:40 a.m. <> End Time: 3:40 p.m.
⇒ Adams, Central Park, Chestnut Hill

Start Time: 8:55 a.m. <> End Time: 3:55 p.m.
⇒ Plymouth, Siebert, Woodcrest

All Schools
Instruction: 371 minutes per day
Lunch: 45 minutes with 2 minutes passing time before and after (total 49 minutes)

MONDAY, MARCH 20 IS A HALF DAY OF INSTRUCTION for an MPS staff professional development day. Mark your calendar now so you have time to plan ahead. Our schools will let you know your child’s exact release time.

Congratulations to Adams Battle of the Books Team Championship Winner: The Bookstorm!
They won the final Battle of the Books competition achieving a perfect score on March 2nd. Members include: Sophie Cai, Lily Chapman, Anjali Dash, Jaya Khot, Maisy Matthews, Avery Shepard, Lucy Tang, Anise Wu. Way to go!

Parent Teacher Conferences are THIS WEEK—MARCH 7, 8, 9.
⇨ High School: Tuesday
⇨ Middle School: Wednesday
⇨ Elementary: Thursday
All conferences are 5-8:00 pm.

Mr. Will Luzar’s Midland High Physical Education class applied for and received a $5000 grant to purchase a fully accessible upper body exercise machine as demonstrated by MHS student Lexi Nichols, and staff member Michelle Lemmer.

Congratulations to Adams Battle of the Books Team Championship Winner: The Bookstorm!

Midland High Bowlers Cecilia Mosqueda and Courtney Rathbun qualified for the MHSAA state tournament by finishing in the top ten during Regional Competition. Good Luck Chemics!

Kudos to Rich Wall who is on the far left in this photo and David Leonhardt who is next to Rich.

MONDAY, MARCH 20 IS A HALF DAY OF INSTRUCTION for an MPS staff professional development day. Mark your calendar now so you have time to plan ahead. Our schools will let you know your child’s exact release time.

Congratulations to Midland High’s Nick Berchert for his second place victory at the recent Regional SkillsUSA competition! Nick will be moving on to the state level competition in Grand Rapids in April.

Congratulations to HH Dow High’s Richard Wall and David Leonhardt on advancing to the Skills USA state competition!
The team placed second at the Additive Manufacturing Regionals held at Baker College in Flint and will compete in April at the state level. The competition involved computer aided design, printing, and modification of a 3D object.

Best wishes to Nick, Rich and David at States in April!
On March 2, Plymouth Elementary held their first Primary Years Programme Exhibition as a celebration of the fifth grade students’ journey through the PYP process. Students prepared for this event for six weeks by working in small groups to explore a world issue or passion. These exhibits show the extended, in-depth research that students have accomplished as one of the six trans-disciplinary units. The overarching theme for Plymouth's Exhibition was How We Express Ourselves. The PYP Exhibition is a celebration of the PYP journey that this year’s 5th graders began as 2nd graders. It’s a celebration of how their thinking has changed and how they have become empowered to make a difference in both the local and global community. PYP Exhibition is a true example of students collaborating, researching, taking action, and becoming enthusiastic about learning. Thank you to the community mentors who shared & collaborated with our students!

On February 25, students from Northeast and Jefferson participated in the MATHCOUNTS Chapter competition held at SVSU. Jefferson’s team of 4—Jashvi Desai, Caleb Qiu, Andrew Zhou, and Andrew Gilbert—took 1st place and have qualified for States in Warren. Individually, Anne Ginzburg took 10th place, Shubhan Nagarkar took 9th place, Rehan Manjila took 8th place, Caleb Qiu took 3rd place, Andrew Zhou took 2nd place, and Jashvi Desai took 1st place.

District Science Olympiad Regionals Results

Congratulations to the Dow High Science Olympiad team for placing 4th at the recent regionals held at Delta College. Every team member medaled with numerous 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes. Kudos to team members: Danielle Devine, Wade Wilson, Danny Kim, Arhant Shrivastava, Garrett Brillhart, Kevin Cheng, Rebecca Wardin, Apoorva Ojha, Jenna Livingston, Shichi Dhar, Nikhil Melgiri, Gopal Parthasarathy, Matthew Noah, Quinn Lorenz.

The Midland High Science Olympiad team competed at the regional tournament at Delta College. Jacob Miller medaled in three events. Taylor McGuirk, Zach Noel, Emily Yoder and Mary Johnson received multiple medals, including 1st and 2nd place. Emily Kreusch also received a first place medal. Also receiving medals were Laura Lange, Austin Cochran, Blylee Pavlik, and Bronwyn McCoy.

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Kudos to the Dow High Charger football players for volunteering and sharing their Saturday with elementary students at the February 25 MPS Elementary Paddleton Tournament.

A note from Mr. Chris Haney, League President for the Midland Area Hockey League to MHS Coach, Steve Witt: Dear Chemic hockey players, I would like to thank you for making our event a success. We had over 50 kids participate in their first hockey experience yesterday. Your efforts to assist these young players directly contributed to a positive experience for these future hockey players. Several parents remarked afterwards how great it was for you all to be out there assisting their children. So, I sincerely appreciate all of you taking the time out of your weekend to volunteer. Many of these kids will move on to join our Skills Development program and that is heavily influenced by the positive experience they had yesterday. You represented your school, your team and yourselves very well. You should all be proud of volunteering in the community. Good luck at Districts!

Chris Haney, MAHL President

Kudos MPS Science Olympiad Participants!
On February 26, 15 Midland welding students traveled with their teacher, Corey Pawlak, to Delta College for the Regional SkillsUSA competition. Three students competed in each of these categories: Shielded Metal Arc Welding, Gas Metal Arc Welding, Oxygen and Acetylene Torch Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, and Combined Process Fabrication. Eighty-five students competed with the top three in each category moving on to the State level. **Nick Berchert, a Midland High Senior,** earned a silver medal in the Combined Process Fabrication category, commonly referred to as “All Around.” [It is interesting to note that the Midland students were from the only high school that had students competing at this event. The other 70 competitors were high school students who attend Career Centers (Bay Arenac Career Center, Saginaw Career Complex, Tuscola Tech Center, Lapeer Ed-Tech Center, and Genesee Career Institute).] Best wishes Nick at States in April!

On February 28 Dow High students in Erin Royalty’s Computer Technology 2 class attended the ESA’s Ready, Set, Get Hired event. Students participated in three mock interviews, a session on teamwork and a session with small business owners called “What I Wish You Knew.” In preparation for the event, students created employment portfolios, learned about interview skills and career pathways.

In our newest installment of **MPS on the Move,** Host Scott Cochran discusses STEM, Project Lead the Way, bond project updates, Robotics, and much, much more. Click on this link to watch this 3 minute clip for lots of great MPS information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmdWh0aeZcY

The Northeast Middle Schools’ Vikings For Friendship group donated $240 to The Bridge thanks to the generosity of the Northeast students. The Bridge Food Center is a new Midland income-based food center focused on bringing quality food to those with limited income. The Vikings for Friendship group raised the money by organizing a snowball war. If you are wondering what a snowball war is, ask a Viking.

The **Adams Elementary first graders** celebrated Dr. Seuss’ birthday with books, games, treats and balloon release! The focus for the party was “Oh the Places You’ll Go” by Dr. Seuss. The first graders had an opportunity to talk about choices; good and bad and how they can affect your life. A great life lesson for all the students. The balloons had a note attached to ask the finder to let us know how far the balloons travelled!

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**Family Stargazing Event**

Tuesday, March 7 7-8:30 pm

This cool Astronomy and Telescope Night will be held at Michigan State University, Midland (1910 W. St. Andrews Road). A variety of telescopes will be available for viewing. Families will learn where to find Venus, Mars, Uranus and the gibbous moon. There is no cost for this fun event. Be sure to dress for the weather! (Inclement weather date is March 8).

March is Reading Month — **Our Elementary Schools Have Enjoyed Kicking Off This Fun Month!**

**Mrs. Carrie Florey** dressed up as the *Cat in the Hat* as she read to several **Chestnut Hill classrooms** on May 2, which was Read Across America Day that celebrated Dr. Seuss’s birthday. Way to help Chestnut Hill Chipmunks get into to **March is Reading Month** mode Mrs. Florey!

**The Adams Elementary first graders** celebrated Dr. Seuss’ birthday with books, games, treats and balloon release! The focus for the party was “Oh the Places You’ll Go” by Dr. Seuss. The first graders had an opportunity to talk about choices; good and bad and how they can affect your life. A great life lesson for all the students. The balloons had a note attached to ask the finder to let us know how far the balloons travelled!

Each year I get in the “swing” of March is Reading Month by reading a great baseball story to our elementary students. This year I chose “Catching the Moon The Story of a Young Girl’s Baseball Dream” by Crystal Hubbard and illustrated by Randy DuBurke. Last week I got to read to Carpenter and Plymouth students; I look forward to reading at Adams, Chestnut Hill, Eastlawn, Siebert and Woodcrest as we make our way through March! Hope you can find a few moments to read to a child near you!
The Jefferson Husky Science Olympiad Team competed at Delta college this past weekend. The team placed third in the region. All members earned medals in various events. Team members that competed were Adair Cleland-Host, Adam Gardner, Brooke Cochran, Chris Bowerson, Grant Wang, Jessy Thomas, Joshua Thomas, Kathryn Ault, Maggie Meyer, Maggie Nelson, Marty Peterson, Mia Frickey, Naisha Hasan, Sebastain Park, Tai Moore.

This year’s ‘BASH’ is March 24 at 6:30 at The Great Hall Banquet and Convention Center on Bay City Road

(Please note the change in venue for this year’s Booster Bash.)

Go to www.mpssportsboosters.com for tickets and info!

Students in Madame Rankin’s French classes at Midland and Dow High Schools show off the beads they received in the Mardi Gras parade of talents. To earn the beads, the students had to showcase one of their many skills. Some of the extraordinary talents they demonstrated included singing, playing musical instruments, speaking and writing in ten different languages (not including English and French!), athletic skills, art and more. Midland Public Schools has truly gifted students!

Siebert Elementary is preparing for their IB Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) authorization visit in a couple of weeks. The POI – Program of Inquiry is our scope and sequence. Several Dow High IB art students created this great resource for Siebert under the guidance of Mr. Curt Gledhill!

A “Kid Lab” conducted by Mrs. Toner’s Midland High IB/AP Psychology students took place at MHS on March 1. For a better understanding of human development theories, the students designed an activity or observation plan for children from ages 8 months old to 9 years old. At the conclusion of the Kid Lab, the students wrote a lab report analyzing the observed outcomes of their planned activities and experiences applying the theories. The day proved to be a wonderful way to see the human development theories in action. Special thanks to the parents who allowed their children to participate in this learning activity.

In honor of March is Reading month: Wise Words from Dr. Seuss:

“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.”

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you go.”

“Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!

“A person’s a person, no matter how small.”