**Project Lead the Way** is the new STEM Curriculum MPS is implementing in the next two years as part of our STEM Strategic Plan. These first grade Carpenter students are exploring reflection, refraction, the creation of shadows and color through our PLTW kits!

This Week is National Teacher Appreciation Week!

“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.” Albert Einstein

Thank you, Midland Public Schools’ Teachers, for awakening joy in MPS students every single day!

Invitation ...

Please join us for the 2017 Gerstacker Awards Ceremony

Midland Public Schools and Midland City Education Association invite you to the 62nd annual presentation of the Gerstacker Awards for Excellence in Teaching and ceremony honoring retiring teachers and years of service

Thursday, May 11
4:10 pm
Griswold Lecture Hall at Northwood University

Reception will follow in the Dining Hall Lower Level

These awards are made possible through the generous support of the Carl & Esther Gerstacker Donor-Advised Fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation.
The Midland Section of the American Chemistry Society had their annual awards banquet this past Wednesday (May 3). Midland Public Schools had a number of students and staff who were recognized or received awards.

Congratulations to the following:

**Chemistry Olympiad:**
- Stephen O’Donnell, Dow High
- Michael Moore, Dow High
- Ethan Bruce, Midland High
- Matthew Gordon, Midland High

**Outstanding High School Chemistry Students:**
- Michael Moore, Dow High
- Matthew Gordon, Midland High

**Salute to Excellence:**
- Brian Brutyn, Assoc. Superintendent
- Sean Murray, DHS Robotics Coach

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Congratulations to these students who have been selected for the **2017 Sister City Student Exchange Program** and will be traveling to Handa, Japan for three weeks this summer.

The students selected were **Justin Witt and John White** (Midland High Sophomores) and **Sarah Brandstadt** (HH Dow High Junior).

Thank you to everyone who applied for this program. The selection committee made the following comment, “The quality of all the applicants was very impressive and reflected well on the education they received from the Midland Public Schools.”

Congratulations and best wishes, Justin, John and Sarah. We hope you have a wonderful experience!

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**American Literature Themes Come Alive**

Ms. Rapanos’ Midland High American Literature classes took an all day field trip to The Detroit Institute of Art on Wednesday, May 3rd. While at the DIA, students were able to connect American themes that they have discussed in American Literature to artwork that reflects these themes. The students had a great time and truly appreciated the opportunity to visit the DIA and enjoy the wide variety of art collections exhibited there.

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**Happy Mother’s Day**, Mom
**Dow High’s Jazz and More** was a lovely event Saturday, April 29, celebrating the talented Charger student musicians in Jazz I, Jazz II, Chamber Singers, LaVoz, Honors Orchestra, and Sax to the Max!

**INPUT PLEASE!**

Midland Public Schools is getting ready to revamp our website. As such, we would like input from students, staff, parents, community members. In other words, anyone who accesses our MPS website. Here is the link to a survey https://goo.gl/forms/bZuOZRS1Cq8WdZl52.

We want to hear from you!

The Dow High School Merchandising classes wowed the audience once again with the Prom Fashion Show. This year the students showcased beautiful hairstyles from Mane Hair, creative and unique flowers from Lil’ Pear Tree and stylish tuxedos from Men’s Wearhouse. Thank you to the above sponsors for making this event possible.

On May 4, Mrs. McDonald’s GeoScience students from Midland High had the opportunity to attend the Delta College 1st annual STEM Explorer Deep Dive Student Conference. The five participating MHS students were a part of a capstone event with an incredible opportunity to meet and converse with other STEM enthusiasts, share their Deep Dive project with other schools and a panel of judges, learn more about careers in STEM and be a part of a smaller version of a professional conference. Students were invited to choose and attend breakout sessions that capitalized on their more specific STEM interests. It was a chance to explore some of the STEM career opportunities available within the State of Michigan. Presenters were in attendance from MDOT, Dow, SVSU, the NOAA National Weather Service, and General Motors, to name a few. The afternoon closed with a keynote speaker from Michigan Tech University.

**wise words**

With Mother’s Day on Sunday, thank you, Moms, for all you do! Some wise words to ponder:

“Life began with waking up and loving my mother’s face.”

— George Eliot

“All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.”

— Abraham Lincoln

“I got to grow up with a mother who taught me to believe in me.”

— Antonio Villaraigosa