CHANGE IN MPS E-LEARNING AND STUDENT’S GPA CALCULATION

Midland Public Schools believes that students learn in a variety of ways and from many instructional methods. Whether a student learns best in the classroom setting or through virtual instruction, they should benefit from their efforts equally.

It has been a practice since the inception of our eLearning online program to give a letter grade but not count the grade as part of a student’s GPA. At the time, it seemed like the best solution, but experience has highlighted two unintended issues that negatively impact students.

- The first unintended consequence was that some students were only working to the minimal passing grade rather than working to the best of their ability to earn the highest grade they could.
- The second unintended consequence was that students who failed a classroom course, which negatively impacted their GPA, could not balance the negative impact when they were successful in the online course.

We are changing this past practice beginning this year (2017-2018) so all courses will be included in GPA calculation. Most courses will be calculated at Midland Public Schools 0.2 Level, which means using the 4.0 scale. However, individual courses may be evaluated by the District for the 0.3-Accelerated or 0.4-Honors level based on a comparative relationship with traditional district courses. For example, we offer IB and AP courses online. Similar classroom courses are offered at the 0.3 or 0.4 level and the online courses would be weighted equitably.

We are aware that some students take online courses and do not want them to count towards their GPA. This will be managed in the same manner as classroom courses which allow students to take a course as Pass/Fail.

2017 SNEAKERPALOOZA IS TOMORROW!!!

This year’s Sneakerpalooza K-12 Shoe Give Away for Midland County students will be from 3-8 pm August 22 at Carpenter Street School. Children must be accompanied by their parents. One pair of shoes per student.

The first Our Schools of the 2017-18 School Year was an 8-page insert in Saturday’s (8/19) Midland Daily News.

Please note that each school’s page includes their BUS SCHEDULE.

Here is a link if you would like to view it electronically:

Volunteers! Please sign up today.

United for Success

is our new volunteer system in partnership with United Way of Midland County, made possible, in part, by The Dow Chemical Company.

Please note: United for Success replaces BRAVO. Every MPS volunteer must complete the new United for Success paperwork to help in any MPS schools for the 2017-18 school year.

Visit new.midlandps.org/volunteer to fill out the new volunteer registration paperwork. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Renee Urlaub at urlaubrs@midlandps.org or 989-923-5034. Your assistance is sincerely appreciated!
School Day Beginning and Ending Times

**SOME OF OUR ELEMENTARY START AND END TIMES HAVE CHANGED SLIGHTLY!**

**Elementary**
- Start Time: 8:40 am <> End Time: 3:40 pm
  - Adams, Central Park, Chestnut Hill Elementary
- Start Time: 8:55 am <> End Time: 3:55 pm
  - Plymouth, Siebert, Woodcrest Elementary

**Secondary**
- Jefferson Middle School: 7:55-2:40
- Northeast Middle School: 8:05-2:50
- Midland High School: 7:40-2:25/3:25

Looking for work around your child’s school schedule?

- School Paraprofessionals
- Transportation Paraprofessionals
- Bus Drivers
- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Office Professionals
- Substitute Paraprofessionals

Click on this link for information: [https://new.midlandps.org/pages/district/human-resources/](https://new.midlandps.org/pages/district/human-resources/) or call (989) 923-5021.


Free and Reduced Priced Breakfast/ Lunch applications can be filled out online at [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com). A new application is required every year. A student who does not have a new application on file for the current year will be RESET to FULL PAY as of October 18, 2017. Breakfast and Lunch Menus, along with nutritional and allergy information, can be found at [http://midlandps.nutrislice.com](http://midlandps.nutrislice.com).

Central Park Elementary Open House 6:00-7:30 p.m. 
Monday, September 25
All are welcome!

The Midland High Cross Country Team worked on Saturday, August 12, cleaning trails, trimming trees, clearing brush and spreading mulch at Midland’s Stratford Park readying it for the 2017 fall season. The City of Midland provided the tools & materials and the Chemics provided the muscle.

Wise Words

Wise Thoughts to ponder by Henry David Thoreau:

- “The most I can do for my friend is simply be his friend.”
- “This world is but a canvas to our imagination.”
- “It’s not what we look at that matters, it’s what we see.”
- “Wealth is the ability to fully experience life.”
- “It’s never too late to give up our prejudices.”