MPS Connect 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!

Tuesday, November 7
NO SCHOOL
Professional Development Meetings for Teachers

Thursday, November 9
1/2 Day for Elementary Students
(Full day for middle & high school students)
Afternoon and evening Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences

Northeast 8th Grade Students in Mrs. Kessler’s, Mr. Kipfmiller’s, Mrs. Meitler’s and Mrs. Valley’s science classes began the year exploring the engineering and design process. The students designed, built, and launched bottle rockets complete with student created parachutes. Students worked in groups to use technology to refine their parachute designs after many first attempts failed. This STEM activity was followed by drawing models and using the scientific principles related to forces, energy and properties of air molecules to explain rocket flight and parachute deployment.

Two Midland High Math Teachers, Elaine Mahabir and Kendall Root, co-presented this past week at a Michigan Math Teacher's Conference for Exceptional Students. Their breakout session was called "A Day in the Life of Co-Teaching" and their presentation focused on increasing learning for ALL students using high-level engagement strategies, vertical non-permanent surfaces, the 8 Math Practices, student talk in collaborating to solve problems, techniques for interpreting story problems, and much, much more! A true gem for these teachers came during the debriefing/questions section when their participants (fellow math educators) couldn't distinguish between the "Math" teacher and the "Special Education" teacher. Kudos for a job well done in representing dynamic co-teaching pairs in our District.

Roses to the Midland High Drama Department’s cast and crew of Macbeth performed last week in the Central Auditorium!

Have you checked out the COMMUNITY FLYER PAGE lately? Fun seasonal opportunities for students and families come in all the time. Right now there is info on MidMichigan Health Student Volunteers, Rock info, The Nepal Project & lots, lots, lots more! https://new.midlandps.org/pages/community/community-flyers-2/

FREE Poverty Immersion Workshop
Monday, November 6
4:30-7:00 pm
In the Central Auditorium Media Center
Dinner and a tour of Central Park Elementary will follow the 2.5 hour workshop!
RSVP is required.

Click on this link for the flyer with registration and contact info:
Third grade Spanish students from all over Midland Public Schools recently created and sent ambassador butterflies to México through a program called Journey North. Through this program, students from all over North America learn about each other’s schools and way of life while replicating the annual migration of the Monarch butterfly to Michoacán, México and back. Midland, Michigan was a featured location in the update sent to all participating classrooms this fall in part because of our outstanding participation with hundreds of students creating butterflies in their Spanish classrooms. We are proud of the connections fostered through the actions of our students and staff participating in this global partnership.

Amidst the backdrop of intense competition and rivalry recently, Student Leadership classes at both Dow High and Midland High worked together to collect shoes to support an organization called the Alagille Syndrome Alliance. This shoe drive will result in over $1000 being donated to the Alliance, a non-profit organization that serves those suffering from this rare liver condition. Chargers and Chemics collected over 1,838 pairs of shoes in one week, showing the power of Midland students working together to serve others. Charger Spirit and Chemic Pride are alive and well in Midland!

On October 19, all orchestra students from H. H. Dow High and Midland High Schools attended the Grove Music Festival Masterclass. This year’s master teacher was Alicia Valoti, viola professor at Central Michigan University. Six students played for Ms. Valoti and received comments on their playing while the other students observed. The students who performed are pictured from left to right: Maddi Roberts, Emma Brown, Rachel Crowley, Kayla Douglas, (Alicia Valoti), Jashvi Desai, and Tia Li.

Fun thoughts about Halloween:

“Halloween is an opportunity to be really creative.”
— Judy Gold

“I love the spirit of Halloween and the energy that comes with it.”
— Katharine McPhee

“If there was a holiday that deserves to be commercialized, it’s Halloween. We haven’t taken it away from kids. We’ve just expanded it so that the kid in adults can enjoy it, too.”
— Cassandra Peterson

MPS Shining Star Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017-18 school year for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students. Please take a moment to nominate an MPS team member today! http://midps.org/shiningstarform