The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is asking for parent/caregiver feedback

The opinion of parents and caregivers of school-aged children matters when it comes to reporting on how well schools serve Michigan’s children.

The Michigan Department of Education is inviting feedback from that group on Michigan’s new, online “school transparency dashboard.” The dashboard is designed to show the performance of every public school in Michigan, including public school academies (charter schools).

The new dashboard is designed especially for parents and other caregivers. It will report on more than 20 different factors—or measures—that parents and other stakeholders have said are important to them when evaluating the quality of a school. The survey allows participants to view components of the new dashboard, then answer questions about the way information is presented, the usefulness of certain features, and unique interests.

Click the link below (or type the survey URL into your web browser) to access the online survey:

http://surveymonkey.com/r/MDEESSA_Dashboard2017

Survey details: You can complete the survey on any computer, tablet, or mobile device; The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete; All answers will be confidential.; Survey must be completed by November 15, 2017.
MPS Middle School FTC Robotic Teams
Compete at Bullock Creek Qualifier

31 teams from across Michigan competed at the Great Lakes Bay Region qualifying tournament at Bullock Creek High School this past weekend. The 2017 challenge is called Relic Recovery and the teams designed, programmed and operated robots that picked up glyphs, moved relics and balanced on a board. The groups competed four teams at a time with two teams on an alliance in each match.

Both Northeast and Jefferson had an outstanding performance with three MPS teams qualifying for States in mid-December at the FIRST in Michigan State Tournament in Battle Creek:
- Team 9931 Viking Vigilantes of Northeast
- Team 10309 Jefferson TechnoHuskies
- Team 10615 Jefferson CyDogs

In addition, our MPS teams earned many awards and celebrated numerous noteworthy accomplishments:
- Jefferson CyDogs finished in 3rd place and captained the 3rd alliance. They also earned the Connect Award for their connection to our local community, schools, FIRST and the business world. The highlight of the day for the Jefferson teams is when the CyDog team picked their sister teams - the TechnoHuskies and Wired Wolves - to be a part of their playoff alliance. The alliance played very well and advanced to the semi-finals.
- Jefferson TechnoHuskies, finishing in 8th place after qualification matches, was part of the 3rd alliance and earned the Inspire Award for being a strong ambassador for FIRST programs on and off the playing field.
- Northeast Veteran team, the Viking Vigilantes, were part of the three-team alliance that won the tournament’s overall championship round and also were awarded the Think Award for reflecting their journey of the engineering design process via their Engineering Notebook entries.
- Jefferson Wired Wolves rookie team finished 16th and had an outstanding performance from a reliable robot. They also played in the playoffs as part of the 3rd alliance.
- Northeast Savage Vikings rookie team earned the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award for their ‘out of the box’ thinking with regard to robot design. This team will be competing at another qualifying tournament in just two weeks, looking to earn a spot at the State Championship,

The Fall 2017 season marks a season of growth for our middle school robotics program with approximately 65 MPS middle school students participating. The FIRST program is much more than robots; it is founded on the core value of gracious professionalism and having fun!

Best wishes to the teams heading to States in December.

Congratulations to all of our middle school teams who participated this past weekend and represented MPS so admirably! WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!
This season the Midland High Girls swim team (Coach Hall) and the Dow High swim team (Coach Allen) joined efforts in order to raise $400 and collect several personal items to give towards the Midland High School Caring Closet. The staff and students of Midland High School would like to thank everyone involved for the generous donations.

The Midland High School volleyball team currently has compiled a record of 50-9 this season winning both the Saginaw Valley League and the MHSAA District title along the way. The Chemics will play in the regional tournament starting November 7th.

Best wishes!

Northeast Middle School students in the Careers and World of Tech classes worked together to make six corn hole games. The World of Tech students constructed and painted the game boards and the Careers class made the corn-filled bags.

The games will be available for student use at school parties and during lunch breaks.

H. H. Dow High's Drama Department is presenting Alice in Wonderland in the Central Auditorium November 16, 17, 18 at 7:00 pm with a matinee on the 18th at 3:00.

Tickets will be on sale at the Auditorium’s Box Office before each show.

H. H. Dow High Career Fair

H. H. Dow High Sophomores attended a career fair last week in the Dow High gym.

It appears Culinary Arts, Department of Natural Resources and Physical Therapy were among the students’ favorite careers.

Here are the H. H. Dow High Car Show results from last week. Congratulations to...

Best of Show & Best Restore:
- Gracie Liphard 1968 Camaro

Best Accessories & Most Modified:
- Robert Sova 1975 Chevy C-10

Muddiest Truck
- Katelynne Morse 2004 Dodge 2500

The first nine-week marking period ended November 3. The expected date for elementary, middle and high school report card publication via Home Access Center is November 15. You will receive an email from the MPS Info Systems Department when report cards become available.
Congratulations to Jessica Kline (HH Dow High) and Ethan Bruce (Midland High), on winning the "best poster" award recently at the The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society event. Jessica and Ethan were summer interns at the MSU Stem Center. The poster highlights their summer research on redox flow batteries. Adina Dumitrascu, PhD, was their mentor and this work was done in collaboration with Tom Guarr, PhD, at the Organic Storage Lab at the Michigan State University Bioeconomy Institute in Holland, Michigan. (This information and the photo were from the MSU St. Andrews Facebook page.)

Midland County Youth Leadership is an exciting opportunity for all Midland County FRESHMEN

This two-day leadership development program through Northwood University will take place March 16-17, 2018. Midland County Youth Leadership applications are due December 20, 2017. Got to this link for information: www.northwood.edu/about/youth-leadership-program/”

Midland Public Schools hosted a one-mile Fun Run for all Midland 4th and 5th graders on Friday, October 13th at Stratford Park.

It was a beautiful day to run the mile and 341 MPS and Parochial students competed. The purpose of the Fun Run was to stimulate interest in cardiovascular endurance among students and provide them with distance experience. The Fun Run also allowed students the opportunity to compete and compare their ability with others their age. The Fun Run is organized by the elementary physical education teachers. Cross country teams volunteer their time and expertise.

Some fun Halloween MPS staff memories

Plymouth staff dressed as "Waldo" on Halloween, in honor of the Where's Waldo? children's puzzle book series. Many students enjoyed the festivities by asking "Who is the real Waldo?!” all day.

Jefferson staff dressed up as their indomitable Lead Administrative Assistant, Mary Marshall.

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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

Interesting thoughts to ponder:

“Once we accept our limits, we go beyond them.”
— Albert Einstein

“Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.”
—Theodore Roosevelt

“The time is always right to do what is right.”
— Martin Luther King Jr.

“Judge a man by his questions rather than his answers.”
—Voltaire