63rd Annual Gerstacker Awards for Excellence in Teaching
Monday, April 30, 2018 — 2:00 p.m.
Central Auditorium

Does this date seem a little early and venue seem different to you? If so, you are correct! We are switching things up a bit. We have scheduled the 2018 Gerstacker Ceremony on the afternoon of the last professional development date of the 2017-18 school year in a new venue—Central Auditorium.

Mark your calendars today and plan to join us for this favorite MPS year-end event that celebrates MPS teachers, years of service this year’s retirees and our four 2018 Gerstacker recipients. Everyone is welcome!

Midland High’s Rhapsody Rendezvous tickets are now on sale for the Saturday, December 2, 1:30 & 7:30 pm performances. Go to MCFTA.org to purchase your tickets.

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 DOW HIGH’S MUSIC BOOSTER FRUIT SALE, the Midland County Family Activity Guide, bargain book sale & more! https://new.midlandps.org/pages/community/community-flyers-2/

Community Outreach - Dow High FIRST Robotics Team

The Dow High Robotics Team 2619, The Charge, was involved in several recent community outreach events. The Charge cleaned-up trash along their “ Adopt-a-Street” section of Patrick Road in Midland, helping keep our community looking great! On November 19, The Charge was part of the Nexteer FIRST Robotics Night at the Saginaw Spirit hockey game. The event included robot demonstrations with other local FIRST Robotics teams and activities for kids before the hockey game.

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!
MPS Students Collected Items for Those in Need
Midland County Youth Leadership (MCYL) has a longstanding relationship with Northwood University and wanted to give back to the University that sponsors MCYL and hosts their meetings. Two Midland Public Schools students, Allison Gray from Midland High, and Isabelle Velasquez from Dow High, challenged each other to organize a competitive personal care drive at their schools to benefit NU’s GO MAD Day (in partnership with the United Way). Each school collected toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo and soap.

A total of 171 “Blessing Bags” were assembled on Northwood University’s campus during GO MAD Day by the MCYL. Several United Way partner agencies received these items. The winning classes from each school received a pizza party compliments of Teresa George and Northwood University Student Life.

KUDOS to everyone who participated!

In cooperation with the Midland County Thanksgiving Food Baskets Plymouth, Chestnut Hill, Northeast and Midland High Key Club donated non-perishable food items for less fortunate families in our community. Dow High Key Club and Midland High National Honor Society donated their time by volunteering to prepare the food baskets. 675 baskets were packed and about 375 families were served. Kudos MPS students and families for taking action and making a difference in our community!

In October, hundreds of students from all over the State of Michigan auditioned for the Michigan All-State Honors Ensembles. These bands and orchestras featured the best musicians from all over the State. They will rehearse and perform together at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids in January. The following students passed their auditions with flying colors and were named members of either the honors band or orchestra. Tia Li (Dow High) was named to the High School Honors Orchestra on viola. Quinn McMath (Northeast) was named to the Middle School Honors Band on tuba. Caleb Qiu (Dow High) was named to the High School Honors Orchestra on violin. Abigail Yoo (Jefferson) was named to the Middle School Honors Orchestra on violin. Best wishes to these talented students as they perform in January!

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! https://new.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form/

wise words

Interesting thoughts to ponder from H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

“Protect your enthusiasm from the negativity of others.”

“Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you.”

“Life doesn’t require that we be the best, only that we try our best.”

“Our character is what we do when we think no one is looking.”