I am pleased to announce that Ms. Tiela Schurman, Assistant Principal of Jefferson Middle School, has been named Principal of Adams Elementary beginning July 31, 2019. (As you may remember, Dr. Lipsitt announced her retirement in February.) Ms. Schurman joined the MPS team in 2016 as the AP at Jefferson. She came to MPS from Arizona with 13 years of teaching/administration public education experience. Ms. Schurman holds a Bachelor’s Degree From Arizona State University and a Master’s Degree from Northern Arizona University.

Midland High placed 1st and 3rd at the 6th Annual A.H. Nickless Innovation Awards

The winning team of Olivia Johnson, Hannah Sawicki, Ian Sandford, and Jared Gonder created a smart mirror device aimed at increasing the independence of individuals with a disability. Replacing a person’s traditional bathroom mirror, the device allows caregivers to upload reminders to a website. These reminders then show up digitally in the mirror and can be acknowledged with the use of a clicker.

The third place team of Aidan Wilber-Gauthier, Nathan Streitmatter, Carlie Servinski, Misa Halphen and John White created a blind-spot detection system for a bicycle. Using a LiDAR sensor, the device detects approaching traffic and signals the rider though a handlebar vibration.

The award, presented by the Nickless Family Charitable Foundation, is an annual competition for high school students ages 13 to 18 in Bay, Midland, Saginaw and Tuscola counties. Its goal is to inspire passion for STEM subjects and challenge students to work in teams to think innovatively and develop solutions to problems impacting the world in areas such as alternative energy, health care, science, technology and life sciences.

First place receives up to five $5,000 scholarships for student team members and a $20,000 STEM education grant for the school; second place receives up to five $2,500 scholarships for student team members and a $10,000 STEM education grant for the school; and third place receives up to five $1,000 scholarships for student team members and a $5,000 STEM education grant for the school.

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 here to connect with me: https://goo.gl/forms/ciB8b7FAMXb4pQxN2
To date for the 2018-19 school year, we have 3,662 approved volunteers who have recorded 16,450 volunteer hours. WOW!

From a suggestion by an MPS staff member who greatly appreciated all of her building’s volunteers but had one she felt truly exemplified the volunteer spirit, we instituted an MPS “STAR VOLUNTEER” program in 2015. Again this year, we asked each building principal to name a person in their building as their Star Volunteer.

Here are our 2019 Star Volunteers:

**Elementary Buildings:**
- Adams: Candace Balis
- Central Park: Lisa Haney
- Chestnut Hill: Ric Shahin
- Plymouth: Sally Youn
- Siebert: Jamie & Scott Ross
- Woodcrest: Becky Duff

**Middle Schools:**
- Jefferson: January Prisby
- Northeast: Larry Adamcik

**High Schools:**
- H. H. Dow: Ansley Dauenhauer
- Midland: Karen Fridstrom/Laurie Witt

“Volunteers don’t necessarily have the time; they just have the heart!”
— Elizabeth Andrew

Thank you, 2019 Star Volunteers and ALL of our more than 3,600 volunteers, for sharing your heart and your time with MPS students and staff!

Isabel Velasquez was selected by the Midland Fire Youth Foundation as the designer of their new Midland Professional Firefighters Local 1315 logo. She was presented with a check on April 8. Phil Hepworth and Jake Sira made a visit to the Commercial Art class at HH Dow High to present the award. Great job, Isabel!

Here is Isabel’s design.

Join us Wednesday, April 17, from 4-6 for the Open House for the AP Studio Art Show and the High School Art Show in the Dow High and Midland High Media Centers. The shows will run from April 17-25.

AP Studio Art students that will be showcased at DHS include Willow Brink, Aidan Gant, Hannah Raneaud, Andrew Sharp and Isabel Velasquez. Students from MHS that will be showcased include Genna Bovill, David Draves and Noah Jacobson.

The high school shows will include selected artwork from Beginning Art, Intermediate Art, Advanced 2D and 3D Design and non-testing students from IB/AP Visual Art. Come and enjoy the work of our talented student artists!

Congratulations to our April Shining Stars!

**Michael Fair**, Elementary Teacher
Central Park Elementary

**Joanna Huitt**, Paraprofessional
H.H. Dow High School

Thank you to these MPS team members who are being recognized at tonight’s (April 15) Board of Education for going above and beyond to make Midland Public Schools a better place for students.
Midland High kicked off Junior SAT Testing with a feast! Thanks to the new MHS Parent Partners, students were treated to a plethora of food options including protein bars, granola bars, fresh fruit, water and juice boxes galore! A huge THANK YOU to all the Chemic Parents who donated to provide a healthy breakfast for our Chemics.

As well...THANK YOU to Jason Walko, General Manager of the South Saginaw Road McDonald's, who donated over 200 hot English Muffin Sandwiches! As a former Chemic, Jason was happy to support MHS and wished students well on their SAT.

Plymouth Elementary 5th grade students held their IB PYP Exhibition on March 21! The 2019 Exhibition centered around the transdisciplinary theme - Who We Are. Students inquired into the central idea, “Interactions within communities impact people’s lives.” Exhibition groups chose a personal area of interest within or around our community, took a stand and took action to inform others. Inquiries included areas such as: body image, protecting the planet, sports injuries, stressors at school, homelessness, animal abuse, screen time and much more. Students shared their knowledge and expertise during their Exhibition event with interactive technology displays, presentation boards, surveys, video clips and slide shows! GREAT JOB and CONGRATULATIONS to the 5th grade Plymouth Pioneers on a successful 2019 PYP Exhibition!

Parent Information Committee (PIC)
Thank you to the MPS parents who were able to attend last week’s PIC meeting. The topic of the meeting was Mental Health. Thank you to the meeting presenters: MPS Associate Superintendent Penny Miller-Nelson and MPS Psychologist Kristi Hainstock, Ph.D., NCSP. Here is the link for those who would like to view the presentation: https://youtu.be/tw9K6ZVu8jA

The final PIC meeting for the 2018-19 school year will be Wednesday, May 8, at noon at the MPS Administration Center (600 E. Carpenter). The topic of the meeting will be School Performance Index. All MPS parents are welcome! Call Cindy at 923-5026 for information.
Michigan FIRST Robotics 2019 State Championship

H.H. Dow High Robotics Team 2619 The Charge and the Midland High School Robotics Team 5509 Like a Boss competed at the Michigan FIRST Robotics State Championship on April 10-13. The competition took place at Saginaw Valley State University with the top 160 high school robotics teams in the State of Michigan. Teams were divided into four divisions, competing on separate fields, for the initial part of the competition – Dow High was in the Ford Division and Midland High was in the Dow Division.

Team 2619 The Charge, finished qualification matches in 7th place in the Ford Division with 8 wins and 4 losses. They became the captains of the 6th ranked Alliance for the playoffs, selecting Team 5712 Hemlock’s ‘Gray Matter’ and Team 4391 Gladstone’s ‘BraveBots’ as their partners. They played well but lost in 3 matches during the quarter-finals to the Alliance that won the overall Michigan championship. The Charge won the Autonomous Award, which celebrates a team that has demonstrated consistent, reliable, high performance robot operation during autonomously managed actions. This is the 2nd time this season that Dow High’s robotics team has won this award. During the State Championship, The Charge also gave presentations for the Engineering Inspiration Award and the Chairman’s Award competitions. The H.H. Dow High School Robotics Team is ranked 77th out of 539 teams in Michigan.

Team 5509 Like a Boss, formed an alliance with 3620 Average Joes from St. Joseph High School, St. Joseph, MI and 1023 Bedford Express from Bedford Senior High School, Temperance, MI. Like a Boss was very excited to compete with 3620 and 1023 on Saturday on the Dow Division Field. All three teams sat together in the stands to cheer their teams on. They won their quarter-final matches and proceeded to semi-finals. They then lost their first match in semi-finals and had to win the next two matches to move on. The alliance successfully won semi-finals and were on their way to the finals. After two close tough-fought rounds in the finals they sadly didn't get a win. The alliance earned silver medals for each student and mentor as Dow Division Finalists. Like a Boss also earned the Team Spirit Award for the Dow Division Field at States. Like A Boss has worked hard to get where they are and have now earned enough points to continue on. Like a Boss is headed to compete at the World’s Championship April 24-27 in Detroit, MI. The Midland High School Robotics Team is ranked 57th out of 539 teams in Michigan.

The cumulative results of the 2019 season and State Championship have qualified both Dow’s Team 2619 and Midland’s Team 5509 for FIRST Robotics World Championship in Detroit, Michigan, which they will attend at the end of April!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE CHARGE & LIKE A BOSS AT WORLDS IN DETROIT IN LATE APRIL!
HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE STUDENT FLYER BOARD RECENTLY???
LOOKING FOR FUN OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHILD FOR THE SUMMER???
THERE ARE LOTS AND LOTS OF AMAZING SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE FOR OUR STUDENTS. https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/

MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2015 BOND UPDATE
March 31th, 2019

Construction / In Progress:

Chestnut Hill / Siebert New Media Centers:
- Media Centers are complete except for a few punchlist items.
- Media Centers have been turned over to Midland Public Schools

Adams Addition & District Wide Renovations
- Fence has been installed at Adams Elementary
- Foundations are complete at Adams
- Started pouring slabs at Adams
- Boxes and crates have been delivered for classroom move out
- Media center work started over Spring Break

Look Ahead:
- Finish punchlist items at Media Centers
- Laydown yard installation at Dow High School
- Starting Media Center Renovations on May 13
- Starting Science Lab Renovations May 20
- Midland Community Stadium Press Box has been awarded and in the preplanning stages.
Join our Team

**MPS Current Job Openings**

Click on this link for current job postings:


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Posting End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Volleyball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Cheer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Cheer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Pom Pon, Fall/Winter</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Tennis, Boys’, Assistant</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Learning Facilitator</td>
<td>PATHS Program</td>
<td>4/23/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Curriculum and Instructional Specialist</td>
<td>Admin. Center</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mechanic’s Assistant</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Central Park ES</td>
<td>4/15/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teaching Associate</td>
<td>Carpenter School</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Language Interpreter</td>
<td>District-wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Grounds (Temporary)</td>
<td>District-wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Science</td>
<td>District-wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, **we are always looking for**

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS AND BUS DRIVERS.**

Click on this link for information about these opportunities:

https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Employment%20Opportunities

**Did you hear the news?** The Auto Tech students at HH Dow High had great results at last weekend’s STS Automotive Competition with a second and a couple of first place finishes! Wow! Stay tuned to next Monday’s Communique for ... **THE REST OF THE STORY!**

**Midland Public Schools now has TWO FLYER BOARDS!**

- **Student Flyers:** Fun student activities, events and opportunities for students: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/
- **Community Flyers:** Information and events that may be of interest to parents & adults: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers

Check back often. Flyers are coming in all the time!

Please keep the nominations coming in for MPS staff members you believe are **Shining Stars!**

Link to Shining Star nomination form: https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form

**MPS Board of Education Members:**
- Pam Singer, President
- Scott McFarland, Vice President
- Lynn Baker, Secretary
- Mary Fredell, Treasurer
- Brad Blasy, Trustee
- Jon Lauderbach, Trustee
- Phil Rausch, Trustee

**wise thought to ponder ...**

“Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children.”

— Sitting Bull

Midland Public Schools
600 East Carpenter
Midland, Michigan 48640

MPS Website:
www.midlandps.org

Twitter:
@MichaelSharrow2
@MidlandPS

YouTube Channel:
http://midps.org/youtube

Student Flyers:
https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/

Community Flyers:
https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers