Midland Public Schools Loves March is Reading Month

Our teachers and staff do a great job encouraging the love of reading with our students. They celebrate reading in many different, creative ways. In March especially, our elementary staff members do so many fun events that engage their students in the art and process of reading. One of my favorite things each March since I have been at MPS has been to visit our elementary schools and read some fun “baseball” stories to our students. I usually get to every elementary building during the month of March.

These photos were taken last week when I had the pleasure to read with students at Adams Elementary. The photo on the left was in Ms. Curtis’ 3rd grade class; the photo on the right was in Ms. Lipovsky’s 5th grade class.

Have a special child in your life? Help them celebrate March is Reading Month and read a favorite book with them.

Midland’s FIRST Robotics District Competition at HH Dow High School on March 22-23

Both MPS award-winning high school robotics teams will be competing.

DHS Team 2619
The Charge &
MHS Team 5509
Like a Boss

For more information go to: http://www.first-glbr.org/

Free Entry & Parking!

MPS Spring Break
March 25-29

During Spring Break, the Administration Center will be open Monday-Thursday from 7 am to 5 pm.
Closed Friday, March 29.

The next Monday Communique will be published Monday, April 1.
Congrats to the H.H. Dow DECA Club members who competed in Detroit, March 8-10, at the DECA State Competition. In total, the club brought home 67 medals and 37 students were finalists in their event. (Staff advisor is Erin Royalty)

The following 17 students qualified to compete at the International Conference in Orlando Florida next month: Sofia Maher, Weston Johnson, Charlee Semansky, Nicole Peters, Andrew Brandon, Sophi Pennex, Hanna Shewchuck, Joey Meilink, Lauren Woods, Anish Middha, Senthur SKV, Audrey Xu, Nick Lipsitt, Saketh Kamaraju, Adelina Wolok, Carly May, Lauren Estes. In addition, three students will represent the Dow High school store "The Charger Shoppe" at the International Competition. These students are Irshad Husein, Gabriella Donoso, and Grant Weise.

Great job to all who competed at States and best wishes to those going to Internationals!

Kudos to all MHS DECA members who competed March 8-10 at the DECA State Competition in Detroit. Kyle Kotanchek was an overall finalist in professional selling; Jack Schulz was awarded a medal for his judged event; and Nathan Streitmatter medaled for his judged event, is an overall finalist in Business Services and qualified for the International Conference. (Staff Advisor: Libby Marsh) Congratulations to all who competed. Best wishes at Internationals.

Congratulations to the HH Dow High and Midland High teams who participated at the SVSU Math Olympics on Friday. (MHS staff advisor is Brendon Smith; DHS staff advisor is Terry Schwartzkopf)

Midland High had 36 students participate and earned 1st place at Level 1, 2nd place at Level 2, and a 2nd-place combined score. Individual honorable mention awards were won by Brandon Geib, Ian Porritt, Brennan Eagle, Jacob Miller, and Rebekah Stanley. Zoren Berlanga won 3rd place at Level 1 and John Marinan earned 2nd place for Level 2. The MHS kazoo ensemble was also a huge hit at the talent show after the competition!

HH Dow High earned 3rd Place at Level 1, 1st Place at Level 2 and were Overall Champions. Individual honorable mention awards went to Faith Tabler, Gage Bunker, Neil Janwani, David Lin, Shiva Sreeram, Jashvi Deshai, Sean Anderson, Caleb Qiu. In addition, Shuban Nagarkar earned 2nd place at Level 1; Andrew Zhou earned 3rd place and Stephen O’Donnell earned 1st place at Level 2!

Did you know that a group of Midland High Chemies has been going to the Midland Senior Citizens Center as Cyber Seniors volunteers? This group of about 20 Midland High Chemies spend their time giving their expert advice on how to use "new-fangled" technology?

Way to go, Midland High Key Club and National Honor Society members as you assist area senior citizens conquer their smartphones, tablets, computers and more!

Midland High Senior, John Marinan, earned multiple math honors last week. The results from the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition were announced, and his score placed him #60 in the entire State of Michigan! His score on the American Math Competition was also high enough that he advanced to the American Invitational Mathematics Exam. Congratulations to John for both achievements!

DOW Science Mentor, Jeff Foisel, shows Adams’ 3rd grade student, Erin Murphy, how to properly wear goggles for a third grade STEAM project designing a bubble wand that will make square bubbles.
MSBOA BAND AND ORCHEstra RESULTS

Congratulations to the approximately 800 band and orchestra students who participated in MSBOA Band and Orchestra Festival on March 1, 2, 8, and 9. These students traveled to Bay City Western High School or Bullock Creek High School to perform for a panel of three adjudicators who judged them on tone, intonation, rhythm, technique, and expression. They were also judged on their ability to perform a new piece of music after only 5 minutes of study. Performances were ranked on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 signifying a superior performance. All of these students did an amazing job.

- The Jefferson 8th Grade Band earned a first division rating.
- The Jefferson 8th Grade Orchestra earned a first division rating.
- The Northeast 8th Grade Band earned a first division rating.
- The Northeast 8th Grade Orchestra earned a third division rating.
- The Midland High Blue Band earned a first division rating.
- The Midland High Gold Band earned a first division rating.
- The Midland High Symphonic Band earned a first division rating.
- The Midland High Symphony Orchestra earned a first division rating.

(Note: Dow High’s great results were in last week’s Communique.)

The MHS Meistersingers, Chorus and the NE Viking Choir all received top ratings at MSVMA Choral Festival last week! The students have worked very hard to overcome lost rehearsal time from snow days, and it paid off! The judges were especially impressed with the high level of sight reading ability displayed by all three choirs. Congratulations to all choir members!

First graders in Mrs. Noey’s classroom at Plymouth Elementary took action as a part of their PYP unit: Sharing the Planet and collected 101 items for the Midland Humane Society. We learned that contributions made by individuals can impact society. We were excited to make a difference in the lives of the cats and dogs at the shelter!

Congratulations to the Jefferson MathCounts Team who placed 9th in the State at the March 9 MathCounts event in Warren. This is the team’s 3rd straight top 10 finish! Congratulations, Huskies! We are proud of you.

Adams’ Elementary student, Maks Terrill, shared a special “Talking Feather” with his 3rd grade class during their Morning Meeting. The 3rd graders study Native American Culture as part of their Michigan History Unit. Maks did a wonderful job sharing about his culture and demonstrating his strong communication skills with his class.
SPOTLIGHT ON MPS ALUMNI

In February, HH Dow High 2017 Alumni, Shengyi (Melody) Wang, competed in the Copenhagen Business School (CBS) Global case competition as part of a team from Northwood University. They were declared semi-finalists and ranked top 9 globally. **Congratulations, Shengyi. We are proud of you!**

Article and photo courtesy of Northwood University: [https://www.midlandps.org/nu-students-competing-globally](https://www.midlandps.org/nu-students-competing-globally) (Ms. Wang is pictured farthest on the right)

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**2019-20 SCHOOLS OF CHOICE**

The application window for the first round Schools of Choice for 2019-20 is open until March 29, 2019.


Families will be notified of the status of their application mid to late April.

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**MPS Excellence Represented at MRA 2019**

Midland Public Schools had the opportunity to showcase the talent of two of our excellent educators at the 2019 Michigan Reading Association Conference. **Midland High School's teacher leader Jim Woehle** presented on the Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Poem and **H.H. Dow High School's teacher Chelsea Berg** presented on Writing from the Inside Out: Teachers as Models. Thank you, Jim and Chelsea, for sharing your knowledge with Michigan's educators.

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**Roses to the over 40 Jefferson Middle School students who performed, worked backstage and ran the sound and lights this past weekend as they delighted audiences with their production of "Schoolhouse Rock Live, Jr.!" (Directors: Kelly & Larry Jacobs)***

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Ester Bateman (JMS), Lynn Heil (JMS), and Amy Rankin (MHS) were selected to present two sessions to educators from the 14 states represented at Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Language. In the first presentation, they shared techniques for empowering students to take charge of their learning and to help teachers build a collaborative classroom community. They also shared their expertise on increasing literacy in world language. In addition to positive feedback from session attendees, Sra. Bateman, Sra. Heil, and Mme Rankin were pleased to hear their presentations referenced in other sessions.

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**March 18, 2019 Page 4 of 6**
Northwood University partners with United Way and Siebert Elementary for a “March is Reading Month” event

Northwood University read to local second grade students at Siebert Elementary on March 5 and donated three e-readers.

To commemorate March is Reading Month, Northwood University’s Leadership team collaborated with their Student United Way chapter to read to students at Siebert Elementary. Fourteen Northwood University volunteers were paired to read with 14 second grade students. Additionally, a free box lunch was provided and each child received a literacy kit that included two books, a reading workbook, writing journal and personal dry erase board.

“This has just been a great opportunity for our students to get together with adults who are interested in helping them read and learn the 1,000 most common words,” explained Siebert Elementary Principal Paul Schroll. “We typically start with some fun games, then we start reading and get to work on learning those 1,000 words.”

Northwood University also donated three e-readers that were given to students selected by Principal Schroll, who selected the students based on merit and outstanding performance in the program.

“Northwood University values our partnership with United Way of Midland County to sponsor the Story Adventurers Summer Reading Program. We’ve been thrilled to watch the students continue to cultivate their skills and love for reading as the school year progresses,” shared Dr. Kristin Stehouwer, Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer/Chief Academic Officer at Northwood University. “Being a good reader is life-changing, and we are pleased the students will be able to use their new e-readers at home to continue their learning adventures daily.”

Story Adventurers originally launched as a summer reading program for Siebert Elementary students summer 2018. Story Adventurers was initially designed to decrease the risk of “Summer Slide,” the learning loss that can occur when students do not engage in educational activities during the summer months. Due to the success of the summer reading program, Story Adventurers was extended through the school year to continue to track the students’ progress.

Volunteer opportunities are available for Story Adventurers. To get involved, contact Rebecca Rekeweg atrekeweg@unitedwaymidland.org or 989.631.3670.

At last week’s PIC (Parent Information Committee) monthly meeting, an overview of Personalized Learning opportunities at MPS was presented.

Melissa Toner, MPS Instructional Technology and Media Curriculum Specialist, shared information about online tools and blended learning opportunities available to MPS students. Midland High students, Hadley Morden and Julia Gaffke, in Andrea Jozwik’s blended learning Advanced Business class, shared information about the Advanced Business class and why they felt it was a good fit for them. MPS offers several blended learning experiences, which combines multiple modes of instruction, including online and face-to-face instruction.

Jeff Lauer, PATHS (Personalized Academics Through High School) Director, shared information about the MPS PATHS program, which is now in its 2nd year and offers an option for high school students that do not, or cannot, flourish in the traditional high school model to be successful by tailoring a plan to earn their high school diploma.

This presentation will be available to view soon on our YouTube channel: http://midps.org/youtube. PIC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 12-1:00. For more info, contact Cindy at 923-5026. All MPS parents are welcome!
Join our Team

MPS Current Job Openings

Click on this link for current job postings:


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<th>Position</th>
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<th>Posting End Date</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Pom Pon, Fall/Winter</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Tennis, Boys', Assistant</td>
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<td>Sign Language Interpreter</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
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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

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

Dates for our High School Spring Musicals ...

🌟 April 11-13: “Newsies” by Midland High
🌟 April 25-27: “Cinderella” by HH Dow High

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

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

— Mark Twain