MPS Students, Staff & Families:
Let me start by saying this Communique is lengthy and contains very important information:

✓ info about the 2020-21 school year (p. 2)
✓ summer school opportunities (p. 3-4)
✓ CANVAS learning management software (p. 5)
✓ grab & go free meals summer changes (p. 6)
✓ MPS 2020 grads scroll on MCFTA sign (p. 7)
✓ and much, much more!

It is my hope that you read through all 8 pages to glean the important information for your child/family related to MPS. If you have any questions, please reach out to my office via the MPS Connect link below so we can get back to you with the answers.

Graduation Ceremony
Class of 2020
This past week we met with staff from Dow Diamond to discuss graduation ceremonies tentatively set for July 24 at the Loons stadium and the safety protocols this will require. This is presently still our tentative plan. We will make a final decision within the next few weeks. The plan does include safety protocols, social distancing and a limited number of attendees. We are working on live-streaming and broadcasting as well. More detailed information will come your way very soon.

As you know, last week was the final week of school for the 2019-20 school year and many MPS schools ended the school year with some kind of a safe-distancing celebration. Here are a few photos from Chestnut Hill and the Midland High Diploma Drive. We’ve included a link to a slide show of some candids taken during the MHS Diploma Drive by MHS Teacher, Becky King. As we receive photos, we will continue to share the different events in the Communique.

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
At this time, the Governor’s office and the Michigan Department of Education have not yet approved in-school instruction or provided guidance or protocols regarding in-school instruction, but we know how fast the summer goes and we know we must be prepared! As such, we know it is vital that we anticipate, prepare and listen to dialogue from MPS stakeholders, State officials and State educational organizations to glean possible scenarios and mandates for students returning to our MPS classrooms this fall.

2020-21 School Year Planning

MPS is currently preparing for the 2020-21 school year that will require us to create learning environments that have no current design and for which there are no road maps. Our current environment with COVID, the recent disaster with the dams and flooding, current and future state revenue issues, and the horrific death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and events that have occurred after, will require MPS to have multiple strategies, flexibility and intentionality in our structure going forward.

MPS will have a comprehensive plan for in-school learning with safety protocols in place. Our learning plans for next year will need to be agile and flexible. Here are a couple of learning formats we anticipate may be mandated by the State:

- In-school learning could require MPS to use some blended learning formats (combination of in-school and on-line learning)
- The flexibility to transition from in-school learning to out-of-school learning and then back to in-school learning agilely with as little disruption to learning and students as possible should the health status of any/all MPS schools change.
- MPS is also planning courses utilizing a completely on-line format of learning for students for those families who may not be ready for their children to return to in-school instruction. We expect to have this online school ready to launch in July.

2020-21 School Year Planning

**CANVAS — Learning Management System (LMS)**

In order to be as well-prepared as possible should these scenarios occur, MPS has purchased a Learning Management System (LMS) called **CANVAS**. The use of this LMS across MPS will allow a much smoother transition and use than the patchwork of learning formats MPS was forced to use this spring due to the few days’ notice we received before the State-wide COVID closure in March. MPS is confident that **CANVAS** will meet the needs of teachers, students and parents for all aspects of remote learning should it be needed during the 2020-21 school year. *(Please see Page 5 of this Communique for additional CANVAS info.)* Over the next weeks, MPS instructional staff members are participating in **CANVAS** professional development sessions in order to be as prepared as possible for different instructional and learning formats that may be needed.

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) & Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Supports**

During this entire school year (including the pandemic closure), MPS has been investing time and resources into providing supports to students and staff with our

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) strategy — As recently as June 4 and 5, MPS instructional staff and administrators had the opportunity to participate in sessions with Dr. Amy Beasley, our MPS DEI Consultant, and our Curriculum team, regarding racism, anti-racism and our role as educators. This vital work will continue to be in the forefront for all facets of Midland PS.
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) supports — Our SEL supports have been emphasized over the last school year including during our Continuity of Learning Plan (CLP). Your MPS family knows many may be struggling and having a tough time now for many different reasons, but please know we are here to support you and will continue to keep SEL a vital initiative for MPS!

We know that our DEI and SEL supports and work will be essential in this upcoming school year, even more now with recent local, state and national events.

**Health & Safety Protocols and Equipment for MPS Learning Environments**

To be as pro-active as possible for in-school instruction in a safe, healthy learning environment for students, staff and visitors, MPS has developed several protocols and made essential equipment purchases.

- Safety shields installed at the front desk of school office staff work stations
- MPS bus fleet receiving a coating on its surfaces to prevent COVID from existing
- Temperature sensor tablets and handheld temperature scanners for each school that will scan student and staff temps
- Antimicrobial fogging machines (allows treatment of large areas)
- On-line health self-assessment protocol and form have been developed for MPS
- Increased custodial labor and training and application of cleaners provided
Middle School Summer Support

This opportunity is designed for students needing targeted Math and English/Language Arts instruction to reach grade level status. Students, if invited, are encouraged to participate in the summer support. The learning opportunity will take place during July 6 - July 31. Students will be engaged in a virtual environment facilitated by MPS teachers using online platforms designed to provide individual support for students.

Enrollment in the Summer Support: The Summer Support will be open only to those who are invited to participate. The criteria used to invite students will include the following:
- Classroom data, standardized testing information, teacher perception
- Students who are showing skill deficits in ELA and Math

Students invited to participate in Summer Support will be notified by their building principal no later than June 15, 2020 through email.

Middle School Summer Extension

This opportunity is designed for students who want extension or additional practice in Math and English/Language Arts. Students may opt in to participate in the summer extension if they would like some additional reading and math opportunities beyond grade level. The program will take place during July 6 - 31. Students will be engaged in a virtual environment, facilitated by MPS teachers using online platforms, designed to provide individual extension activities for students.

Enrollment in the Summer Extension: The Summer Extension will be open to the first 50 students who wish to continue learning beyond their current grade level and sign up below.

Students who wish to enroll in the Summer Extension opportunity can CLICK HERE TO ENROLL.

For more information please contact
- Northeast MS: Dirk DeBoer at deboerdr@midlandps.org
- Jefferson MS: Tiela Schurman at schurmanta@midlandps.org

MPS High School Summer Learning Plan

The MPS High School Summer Learning Plan will focus on the following types of support for our students:
- Credit Protection to support students who have incomplete second semester grades,
- Credit Recovery for students who failed a course prior to spring semester 2020, and a
- PSAT and SAT program for students who wish to engage in additional preparation for these examinations.

Info about each program can be found on Page 4 of this Communique with additional details in tomorrow’s SE Communique.
High School Summer eLearning Opportunity

As MPS has for many summers, now that the school year has ended Midland Public Schools will offer the Summer eLearning Program. Through this program, online courses are available to high school students who wish to earn either initial credit or credit recovery in select courses. Registration information is now available. Our online program provides students the opportunity to recover lost credits or explore new learning through online courses which students can work on 24/7! The program will heed all safety recommendations set forth by the state. While these courses do not require students to attend classes daily, student support will be provided by email, phone call or video chat. On-site support will become available based on State of Michigan recommendations but will not be required for daily work, quizzes or tests, however, exams must be monitored. Exams will be proctored onsite (when appropriate) or virtually by appointment. Students should expect to invest 45-60 hours to complete each course, but may work on their course any place that they have an internet connection. Courses will begin on June 15, 2020 and must be completed by August 13, 2020. Students may only register for one course at a time. The cost for each course is $150 for Midland Public Schools’ students and $175 for students outside of the MPS district. If you would like additional information or would like to register for a course, please visit www.midlandps.org/content/Summer%20Program. For more information, contact Principal Jeff Lauer at lauerjm@midlandps.org.

Congratulations to the Dow High Charger 2020 Graduates who were honored on June 2 at a virtual honors evening:

Here is a link to the program: https://youtu.be/zeQAHyL9LsE

Note: We will include a few candidates and last week’s Dow High Diploma Parade link in the Communique as soon as we can.

Congratulations to the Dow High Charger 2020 Graduates

You’ve Earned It!
MPS Responds to Future Remote and Face-to-Face Learning

MPS will be making some changes to how teachers interact remotely with students next school year. We recognize many of you have been working hard, in partnership with your child’s teacher(s), to provide the best learning opportunities for your child during this new remote learning environment. As we look to the fall, we all want students back with us face-to-face every day for the full school year, however, there is still uncertainty about our future learning environment. The prevailing thinking today is that at some point during the school year we will need to flip to remote learning as a health and safety measure, just as we did this year. Up to this point, MPS has been utilizing multiple platforms to engage students online, but based on feedback from parents, students and staff, we recognize the need to streamline. The district has chosen CANVAS, a Learning Management System, that will be utilized by all MPS teachers in the fall.

Toward this goal, it is clear the district must provide a Learning Management System (LMS) to:

- decrease the burden and stress for all stakeholders
- create maximum efficiency by providing a consistent and streamlined experience for staff, students, and families
- continue to provide the highest quality experience possible for each student
- put us in the best position to start school in the fall and respond to any future Executive Orders

A short introductory video that briefly explains our new LMS Canvas can be found at the following link: CLICK HERE.

Additional info and support will be provided to students and families in the fall.

The Midland High Focus newspaper received its critique from the State-wide newspaper contest with great results recently.

Kudos to the Focus student journalism staff and advisor, Jim Woehrle, for receiving the SPARTAN Award (the highest ranking possible for a newspaper in the state of Michigan). This is on top of the 53 individual awards the Focus students received (which we reported in early May). The Spartan Award is for overall newspaper excellence in which a judge from out of state reads three complete issues to determine their ranking. This particular judge scored Focus a 970 of out a possible 1000 points (900 is the cutoff for the Spartan ranking) and said it was a "professional-grade" publication. This is the 27th Spartan Award in Focus history. [An fyi … It's called the Spartan because the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association (MIPA) is based at Michigan State Univ.]

The MPS DSA NOMINATION WINDOW IS NOW OPEN!

NOMINATION DEADLINE CLOSES THIS FRIDAY — JUNE 12, 2020

The Midland Public Schools’ Distinguished Service Awards (DSA) were established to honor MPS support personnel.

Here is the link for 2020 DSA Information:
https://www.midlandps.org/2020-DSA-Announcement

The following MPS employee groups are eligible for nomination: Administrative Assistant/Office Professional, Grounds, Manager, Maintenance, Paraprofessional, Technician, Transportation.

This award is separate from the Gerstacker Teacher Proficiency Award. Support staff only are eligible for this award.

(Please do not nominate an administrator or teacher; they are not eligible for this award.)

Here is a link to the on-line nomination form: https://forms.gle/9m3g9fMTKK1EQt7h9

Nominate a great MPS “support staffer” today!

Thank you to the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation for making the MPS Distinguished Service Awards possible!

Thank you to the Mid-Michigan Violence Prevention Partnership which donates beautiful flowers to our schools annually. Their message, “Be kind to everyone, including yourself.” is most timely this year. Principal Blasy planted the beautiful kindness flowers in front of CPE.
FROM JUNE 30 THROUGH AUGUST 30, the current school closure meal service will change. The meals will still be available, however, we must follow the traditional Summer Meet Up & Eat Up program & sites.

Beginning Tuesday, June 30, meals will be served at only these sites and only on Tuesday & Thursday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Breakfast &amp; Lunch Service</th>
<th>Service Ends</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midland Curling Center-Parking Lot</td>
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<td>9:45 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerstacker Spray Park-Parking Lot</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth Elementary School</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Park Elementary</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windover-Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpenter Pre Primary Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Longview Parking Lot</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>9:45 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Midland Family Center-Parking Lot</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>9:45 AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Midland PS — Upcoming Budget Information and Decisions

In recent reports, you have no doubt heard about the State of Michigan budget issues and the looming shortfalls regarding the School Aid Fund.

This month, our Board of Education will need to adopt a budget for the 2020-21 school year as we are required to do by State law every year. Presently, MPS is in a very strong financial position after many years of working to recover from the Recession of 2007-2011.

The vast majority of our funding is from the State School Aid Fund, that comes from sales tax collection. Currently we are waiting to see the final budget from Lansing. We are told to plan for a $700 to $1,000 per student decrease in funding because of loss of revenue due to the COVID shutdown. This would be the largest per student cut in our history.

Midland PS is dedicated to being good stewards of taxpayer dollars and keeping our spending as close to the students/classrooms as possible. With that always in our spending forefront, we began the proactive process of reducing expenses in our current 2019-20 budget a few months ago. We have and will continue to reduce expenses for the upcoming 2020-21 budget year.

We are also concerned the recent dam failures and flooding could cause our enrollment to decline with homes being damaged or lost.

Our current healthy financial position will assist us in weathering this “perfect storm” of events, if we act proactively to manage expenses responsibly and continue to provide the outstanding educational programming and instruction for which MPS is known. However, we know that as we adopt a balanced 2020-21 budget (required by the State) before the end of June, we will need to earmark some of our unencumbered fund balance (savings account) to achieve a balanced budget.

33 students who completed six years of science, six years of math (including pre-Calculus), and achieved .5 credit in a selection of technology courses, and .5 credit in a selection of engineering courses, qualified for this endorsement. These classes were taken from grades 7-12. Not only will they receive a certificate and recognition at commencement in the program, they will also have “STEM ENDORSEMENT ACHIEVED” on their high school transcript. A list of the technology and engineering courses that meet the requirement are posted here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/0BzbDMydpcGYEMjNlM2drNExQlZ3T1VpaXF3c1E1amhLUEk0/edit#
We received word last week from the Midland Center for the Arts that their power has been restored and their digital sign is lit and ready to scroll. Here are the dates that the Midland and HH Dow High 2020 Graduate photos will scroll on their digital sign:

Midland High:
June 16, 30 and July 14

HH Dow High:
June 15, 29 and July 13

Thank you Midland Center for the Arts!

NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR 2020-21 YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

Two 4-Year-Old MPS Preschool Programs: (923-5026)
International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme
Proven, inquiry-based reasonably-priced tuition preschool that follows the IB PYP foundation at all MPS elementary schools. MPS invites you to compare our fees against area preschools. We are confident you will find MPS offers a great value!

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)
Results-driven, high-quality, FREE preschool for 4-year-old students from income-qualifying families. Regional Preschool Partnership — GSRP Questions: (844) 492-7707 or (989) 923-8411. GSRP Registration Open: www.michiganpreschool.org
For Preschool forms: www.midlandps.org → Parents → Preschool Program

MPS Kindergarten Program: (923-5026)
Will your child be 5 before 9/1/2020? If so, now is the time to register him/her for the Fall of 2020 Kindergarten class.
If your child’s birthday is between 9/1/2020 and 12/1/2020, we have the waiver for you to complete so your child can be part of the Fall 2020 Kdg. class.

For Kindergarten forms: www.midlandps.org → Parents → Kindergarten

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International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme
Proven, inquiry-based reasonably-priced tuition preschool that follows the IB PYP foundation at all MPS elementary schools. MPS invites you to compare our fees against area preschools. We are confident you will find MPS offers a great value!
Join our Team

**MPS Current Job Openings**

Click on this link for current job postings: [https://www.applitrack.com/mps/onlineapp/jobpostings/view.asp](https://www.applitrack.com/mps/onlineapp/jobpostings/view.asp)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Posting End Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Volleyball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Soccer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Tennis, Boys'</td>
<td>Midland HS</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Professional</td>
<td>HH Dow HS/Juvenile CC</td>
<td>June 18, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher, Elementary</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Summer School</td>
<td>Central Park ES</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Summer School</td>
<td>Plymouth ES</td>
<td>Until filled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you to the Midland Toys for Tots organization who brought a pallet of toys, books and other fun goodies for families to pick up when they picked up the grab & go meals a couple of weeks ago at our elementary schools. MPS is so fortunate to be part of a community that remembers our students in many varied and special ways.

Thank you, Toys for Tots!

According to an MPS Parent… Northeast Staff Rocked It!

Our office received a heart-felt voicemail of thanks the evening of Sunday, May 24, following the flooding. The message went on to say that Principal DeBoer was the first to show up at their family member’s home to help with the cleanup following the flood. They were joined by several members of the Northeast staff shortly after. We have since learned that the home has been condemned because the foundation was “completely blown out” as well as their grandparents’ home that will have to be torn down because of the scope of the flood damage. Northeast staff worked day after day on both homes helping this family through a really tough time. This family was so very appreciative for the help.

**Great job, Viking staff!**

Upcoming Local Food Pantries

- **June 24, 2020**  Blessed Sacrament
- **June 25, 2020**  North Midland Family Ctr.
- **July 2, 2020**   West Midland Family Ctr.
- **July 8, 2020**   Albersgate
- **July 9, 2020**   Coleman Family Center
- **July 23, 2020**  Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- **July 26, 2020**  North Midland Family Center
- **August 4, 2020** Midland High
- **August 21, 2020** Albersgate

As you may know, we have been sharing Dolly Parton reading bedtime stories since mid-March. Click on the link below if your young child would enjoy hearing Dolly read, “Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon” by Patty Lovell; illustrated by David Catrow.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRqJ_UDScPY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRqJ_UDScPY)

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“Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.”
— Lyndon B. Johnson