The 2020-21 School Year Launches in Just One Week …

Our schools have been emailing (and will continue to email this week) many messages to their families that are filled with important information for both our Face-to-Face and Virtual learners. Please continue to watch for and read carefully the information from your child’s school office regarding when you can expect to receive your child’s elementary classroom assignment, pick up information for student Chromebooks, curriculum nights, important forms that need to be completed and submitted to your school office (device agreement, technology insurance for those interested in purchasing, temperature screening form, COVID-19 School Health Screening Agreement, etc.), and much more.

For MPS Face-to-Face (F2F) learning families ... here is the link to information regarding important processes for COVID-19 cases, exposure, privacy and contacts, cohorts, the spread, close contacts, staying home. It is vital that our F2F families become familiar with resources. [https://www.midlandps.org/Covid-19HandoutSet](https://www.midlandps.org/Covid-19HandoutSet)

**AS WE RETURN TO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK WE ARE ASKING FOR EVERYONE’S PATIENCE & FLEXIBILITY.**

ALL of us (students, staff and families) will be getting used to new routines and safety protocols and may be a little on edge. **Please be respectful and kind to each other.** We will answer your questions, hear your concerns and do all we can to make our return to school as positive and successful as we possibly can for ALL.

---

**WELCOME TO MPS!**

This past Thursday, Midland Public Schools welcomed 33 new-to-MPS educators to our team. As we do each year at our annual New Teacher Orientation, in the morning we presented information about the District and our District’s initiatives. In the afternoon, the new staff members had the chance to meet with the principal and staff members in their new buildings. Please join us in welcoming new MPS team members to your school.

---

**Free/Reduced Meal Application**

To qualify for free/reduced breakfast and lunch prices for the 2020-21 school year, families must complete a new application each year. (Only one application is needed per family.) **Applications can be completed online: [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com).**

---

**MPSConnect** is a convenient communications tool for you to connect with me. Every message comes to my desktop. Either I or another MPS staff member will do all we can to reply to your message within the next work day. 

[https://www.midlandps.org/content2/706](https://www.midlandps.org/content2/706)  

— Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent
MPS has open seats in 4-year-old Preschool Programs

MPS has proven programs that provide a SOLID EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION for our community’s youngest learners!

Two 4-Year-Old MPS Preschool Programs

⇒ 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) 923-6411
GSRP Registration Open: www.michiganpreschool.org

For 4-year old Preschool Info, call 923-6411 OR click on this link https://www.cpp.midlandps.org/12/Content2/prekregistration

The Visibility Project
As MPS families know, our District has made a strong commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). The Visibility Project is a collaborative project of Midland community members to create opportunities for stories of diversity to be heard via podcasts with the impact to create a more inclusive mindset both as individuals and as a region. In upcoming Communiques, we will share links to The Visibility Project podcasts. We hope you will take some time to listen to these podcasts to hear heartfelt Diversity messages. Here is a link to their inaugural podcast: One of the speakers in this podcast is MPS Board of Education Vice President, Pam Singer. https://soundcloud.com/thevisibilityprj/epi-000.

Have you driven by HH Dow High this summer?
If you have, you know there has been ongoing construction on the DHS front elevation. Nothing had been done to the front elevation since the building was constructed in the 1960’s and the brick and cement work was beginning to show signs of stress and instability. A transformation has taken place to this beautiful building’s “front porch” making it not only visually appealing and modern, but also structurally sound for decades to come.

Thank you MPS Voters for approving the bond and making this project possible!

Elementary Before/After School Care & The ROCK After School Program
As has been the practice in the past, before and after school care are available at all MPS elementary schools (of course, using safety/health COVID-19 protocols). The care providers handle their own registration. Here is a list of the providers at MPS schools and their phone numbers:

Quality Time (by GMCC) — 832-7937 x 2237
Central Park Elementary, Chestnut Hill Elementary, Siebert Elementary, Woodcrest Elementary

NOTE: Quality Time Program will begin September 8.

Campfire — 832-2295
Pre-Primary Center at Carpenter Street School, Adams Elementary, Plymouth Elementary

The Rock After School Care for Grades 6-12
The Rock After School Program is for students in grades 6-12. Students can choose activities from a semi-structured program including homework assistance. No fee is charged for the ROCK programs, however, fundraising is done throughout the year to support the program.

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED PRIOR TO ATTENDING THE PROGRAM. For those interested in attending the Community Center ROCK program, ask the ROCK about transportation options.
For info: https://conta.cc/30TvBKn or call 835-2542.

Ms. Ann Sheffer, the Midland Public Schools Multi-Tiered System of Support Specialist, asked that we include a link to this resource from ‘VeryWellFamily.com’.

“Back to School:
Your Healthy Kid Toolkit”
https://www.verywellfamily.com/back-to-school-healthy-kid-toolkit-5070659

This great website has some useful tips and information for families regarding return to school for students.
## MPS District Vision
Lead with respect, trust and courage.
Ensure an equitable, collaborative and inclusive culture.
Enable all to achieve success

### Position | Location | Posting End Date
--- | --- | ---
Bus Driver, Substitute | MPS Transportation | Until filled
Coach, Assistant, Soccer, Girls’ | HH Dow HS | Until filled
Coach, Head, Soccer, Girls’ | HH Dow HS | Until filled
Coach, Assistant, Wrestling | HH Dow HS | Sept. 1, 2020
Coach, Assistant, Swim, Boys’ | Midland HS | August 25, 2020
Electronic Learning Facilitator | Midland HS | Until Filled
Paraprofessional, Special Education | Chestnut Hill ES | Sept. 4, 2020
Paraprofessional, Special Education | Central Park ES | Sept. 1, 2020
Paraprofessional, Substitute | District-wide | Until filled
School Psychologist | MPS Special Services | Until filled
Teacher, Special Education | Northeast MS | Until filled
Teacher, Special Education | Midland HS | Sept. 4, 2020

### Food Service Workers Needed at MPS Schools
Interested in working in the food service dept. when your child is in school?
Click on this link for more information and to apply:
www.compassgroupcareers.com
Under search jobs, the key word is #418143.

### August Our Schools & New Bus Schedule
In last Monday’s Communique, we included a link for the August Our Schools Newsletter that was an insert in the Midland Daily News online and print editions this past weekend.

The NEW BUS SCHEDULE is included on each elementary, middle and high schools’ Our Schools’ pages.

Our Schools Link: http://www.midlandps.org/OurSchools202008

2020-21 Updated Transportation Schedule Link: https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Transportation

Important Note: Chestnut Hill & NE families, please refer to this Transportation Schedule link. There were a few minor changes to your school’s bus schedule printed in the Our Schools.

### MPS Website: www.midlandps.org
Twitter: @MichaelSharrow2 @MidlandPS
YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/MidlandPublicSchools
Student Flyers: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/
Community Flyers: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers

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

### Wise words to ponder ...
“Diversity: the art of thinking independently together.”
— Malcolm Forbes