Midland Public Schools 1st Week Went Very Well ... THANK YOU TO ALL MPS STAKEHOLDERS!

Please allow me to share a few messages that our principals communicated last week to their families:

- “We are almost through the first week and are so pleased with the patience and support we have received from our families. Your help has been instrumental in helping us get the year off to a smooth start. Thank you, ... Families!”

- “I cannot thank you all enough for your understanding, your patience and your support during our first week of opening school! We have had so much success with all of the changes in our process because our staff, parents and students read the communications, watched our videos and you are all following our protocols. This was a TRUE TEAM EFFORT ...”

- “As the first week of school comes to a close, I hope that you and your family found it as rewarding and exciting as we did. This pandemic confronts us with so many questions, and our challenge has been finding a way to have school, face-to-face and virtually, at this time. Teachers, students, and families did a great job adjusting to new procedures and different ways of learning this week, so thank you to all.”

- “The ___ team would like to thank our parents and students! Thank you for your patience and flexibility this week as we navigated the first week of school.”

- “It has been a wonderful week! All of the students are doing a great job keeping their masks on and adjusting to a school routine that looks a bit different than previous years!”

We were all a little unsure about what the first week of the 2020-21 school year would hold. Kindness, patience and understanding were seen everywhere last week. We truly are on this journey together and know things may change during 2020-21, but MPS is committed to being agile, flexible and transparent should our District need to pivot and transition if and/or when COVID-19 directly impacts our schools/students/staff. Watch for MPS COVID-19 weekly updates in our Monday Communiques.

MPS Weekly COVID Update: August 31-September 8, 2020

| Number of staff in isolation/quarantine: 0 |
| Number of students with confirmed positive test results: 0 |
| Number of students in quarantine: 0 |

THANK YOU, SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATORS!

Throughout the years, in so many differing ways, SVSU has been an amazing post-secondary educational partner to Midland Public Schools. This summer evidenced another significant partnership with SVSU that has profoundly benefitted MPS staff, which in turn will benefit MPS students. In early August, fourteen SVSU faculty members hosted group CANVAS trainings for almost 80 MPS secondary teachers. SVSU has been using the CANVAS Learning Management System for years, and for these seasoned, professional educators to share their CANVAS knowledge and experience with MPS teachers was invaluable. In a statement from an SVSU press release, “While those sessions took place in early August, organizers say educators formed a network they will maintain moving forward, including when questions arise throughout the school year.” Thank you, SVSU educators, for sharing your time, knowledge and collegiality with MPS teachers!

MPSCConnect 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

— Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent
FREE MEALS FOR ALL MPS CHILDREN 18 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

MPS received the following information last week from the Michigan Dept. of Education: “The US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) announced earlier today the extension of federal waivers allowing flexibilities in child nutrition programs to continue feeding all Michigan children during the pandemic. Effective last week, meals will continue to be provided to children ages 18 and under at no cost to the families through the end of 2020, or until available funding runs out. A couple of points of clarification:

- All students who take a FULL meal will not have to pay for their meal.
- Families only have to put money in their school pay meals account in the following circumstances:
  - Elementary students: If a student takes just a milk to go with their sack lunch, they will have to pay for the milk.
  - Secondary students: Any food/beverage from the a la carte line or an additional meal will need to be paid for.

Families are asked to still complete the free/reduced price meal application for the 2020-21 school year. Applications can be completed online: [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com).

FOR MPS SCHOOL BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS:  [http://chartwellsk12.compass-usa.com/MidlandPublicSchools](http://chartwellsk12.compass-usa.com/MidlandPublicSchools)

MPS VIRTUAL ACADEMY STUDENT MEALS—CHANGE IN PROCEDURES FROM LAST WEEK!

No need to fill out a pre order form at this time. A request signature of confirmation of meal pick up will be provided at each location.

**Meal pickup days will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am to 12:30pm**

Meals will be available for pick up at the following schools on Tuesdays & Thursdays: Adams Elementary, Central Park Elementary, Chestnut Hill Elementary, Plymouth Elementary, Siebert Elementary and Woodcrest Elementary.

**Meal pickup days will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am to 12:30pm**

Tuesdays: 2 Meals breakfast & lunch
Thursdays: 3 Meals breakfast & lunch
Saturdays: 2 Meals breakfast & lunch

**Saturday Pick up locations:** Central Park Elementary & Midland High School only 9:00 am-11:00am

HH Dow & Midland High Schools
International Baccalaureate
May 2020 Results

Congratulations to these hard working students and their teachers!

Dow High exceeded the world average in the following subjects:

- English
- German SL
- Spanish SL
- Spanish HL
- Environmental Science
- History SL
- History HL
- Math SL

Each year, students strive to get perfect scores (7s) in their subjects. This year, Dow High students were awarded 14 sevens!

- 3 in English
- 6 in Spanish HL
- 2 in Spanish SL
- 2 in History HL
- 1 in Psychology

33 HH Dow High students earned the IB Diploma. This was MPS’ largest IB Diploma class!

Midland High exceeded the world average in the following subjects:

- English
- Spanish SL
- History HL
- Biology HL
- Chemistry SL
- Physics SL
- Visual Arts HL

Each year, students strive to get perfect scores (7s) in their subjects. This year, Midland High students were awarded 4 sevens.

- 2 in English
- 1 in Spanish SL
- 1 in Physics SL

7 Midland High students earned the IB Diploma.
**Canvas Reminder:** Students in all grades are learning about Canvas, our learning management system, every day. This is a very important tool that will help students continue to learn both in class and at home. Please ask your child(ren) about Canvas, and have them show you what they know. If they are uncertain, that is ok—reassure them that they will learn how to use it quickly, and we will help them. It is important that all students become comfortable using Canvas soon. It is a helpful tool in face-to-face learning and is critical to remote/distance learning.

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**Thank you, Staples & Midland Community!**

Mr. Brian Taylor, General Manager of the Midland Staples store, called our office several weeks ago to let us know that their store had been hosting a community ingathering this summer and he would have many school supplies to donate to Midland PS.

Mr. Taylor wasn’t kidding! As you can see from the photo below, Staples certainly did have an ingathering and our community was most generous as they purchased the $5 and $10 bags of school supplies that were donated to Midland Public Schools.

Thank you, Mr. Taylor, Staples and Midland Community for thinking of Midland Public Schools’ students with your very generous gifts!

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**Join us for the 2020-21 Parent Information Committee (PIC) Meetings**

The MPS Parent Information Committee is chaired by Superintendent Sharrow to share information and keep lines of communication open with MPS parents. The 2020-21 PIC meetings will be held the 4th Thursday of the month from 12-1 at the MPS Administration Center.

Here are the 2020-21 Meeting Dates:

- 9/24, 10/22, 1/28, 2/25, 4/22, 5/27

(No meetings in November, December, March because of school breaks.)

Parents may attend either in person or virtually. Meetings will also be videotaped for parents to watch when it is convenient.

If you would like more information about 2020-21 PIC meetings, please email Cindy at youngcd@midlandps.org with the following information:

1. your name
2. your email address
3. the MPS schools your children attend

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**Emotional Struggles and Trauma-Informed Practices**

Many of us have experienced or seen someone close to us, children or adults, struggling mentally or emotionally during this COVID-19 time through which we are all living. MPS teachers and staff recently participated in a regional professional learning session on Trauma-Informed Practices with Dr. Stephanie Grant about how to help students who are struggling in this way.

Dr. Grant shared a free video that we wanted to pass along to our parents.

"Returning to Learning During Covid"

https://vimeo.com/ondemand/ticcovidvideoseries

In addition, here is a link to a document for parents, school staff, and others who work with children about talking to children about Coronavirus:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-
JOIN OUR MPS TEAM — Current Open Positions

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus Driver, Substitute</td>
<td>MPS Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Basketball, Girls’</td>
<td>Midland HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Soccer, Girls’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer, Girls’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Learning Facilitator</td>
<td>MPS Virtual Academy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Professional</td>
<td>Juvenile Care Center</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10 Positions</td>
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<td>Adams ES</td>
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<td>Paraprofessional, Substitute</td>
<td>District-wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher, Elementary</td>
<td>District</td>
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MPS District Vision
Lead with respect, trust and courage.
Ensure an equitable, collaborative and inclusive culture.
Enable all to achieve success

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

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.

MCIA
Midland County Inclusion Alliance

The MCIA is a group of compassionate citizens dedicated to fostering a community where everyone thrives by valuing diversity, ensuring equality and cultivating inclusion in Midland County, Michigan.

The MCIA is sponsoring these upcoming events:
⇒ Wednesday, September 16, 2020 — 7:30-8:30 pm
  In conversation with New York Times best-selling author and racial justice leader: Austin Channing Brown at Midland Center for the Arts
⇒ Thursday, September 17, 2020 — K-3rd Grade 7-8 pm & 4th-8th Grade 8-9 pm
Inclusion 101 for families—Free virtual workshops (led by MPS teachers)
Both of these events are free; pre-registration is required https://midlandinclusioncouncil.com/workshop-registration

MCIA recommended book of the month: I’m Still Here by Austin Channing Brown

HAPPY LABOR DAY

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
Email: board@midlandps.org

Wise words to ponder ...
“We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community—and this nation.” — Cesar Chavez