MPS School Safety/Security Initiatives

⇒ ALICE training: All secondary staff attended training on August 28 and all elementary on September 28 in partnership with Midland PD. Administrators from each building will be trained in-depth and practice ALICE techniques in a two-day training in January.

⇒ All buildings have secure entrances, high tech video surveillance, card access controls on doors.

⇒ District has a detailed Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that has been developed from Michigan State Police template with assistance from Midland County emergency responders.

⇒ District continues to work with community partners in mental health training, awareness, intervention assistance and wellness initiatives.

⇒ District has applied for grants to add security devices that secure all interior doors to prevent an intruder from entering classrooms.

⇒ District has purchased, and is in the process of initiating, emergency notification systems, district-wide PA, digital radio communications and emergency alert to all devices on the District’s network.

⇒ County will be participating in a table top emergency response exercise this school year; next year will have a mock emergency response exercise in a school building.

⇒ County districts are attempting to add additional School Resource Officers in our schools through a November ballot initiative. If approved MPS will have 5 total officers covering all school buildings.

Midland Public Schools’ 2017-18 Financial Audit presented at September 17 Board of Education Meeting

⇒ MPS again received the highest audit rating possible—Unmodified Opinion.

⇒ Fund Balance shows responsible planning by the Board of Education and Administration. Recent Fund Balance recovery is great news for staff, students and community!

⇒ Looking to the future: Board and Administration have planned ahead for items that will need to be purchased, replaced and/or repaired.

The Auditors noted they found a culture of excellence at MPS demonstrating both honesty and high ethics!

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
WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

MPS Shining Star Nominations are now being accepted for the 2018-19 school year for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students.

Please take a moment to nominate an MPS team member today!

https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form

On September 17 Midland High School Math Teachers, Elaine Mahabir and Kendall Root, helped film a new video segment on Best Practices in Teaching Mathematics with their Algebra 2 classes. Both Elaine and Kendall have taken part in the "Enhancing Math for Students with Difficulties" series, co-designed by EDC and Alt+Shift. The three-day seminar focuses on engagement strategies, collaboration, co-teaching, assessment and a framework for engaging differentiation in teaching math. The program focuses on fluency and instilling number sense. The captured video will be utilized by ALT+Shift in the Enhancing Math series to highlight strategies and methods of good teaching designed to include ALL students in the learning process. This video will be used to engage other math educators as part of the newly revised "Enhancing Math" series. Thank you to both Elaine and Kendall for sharing your classroom and your expertise with others in our learning community.

Bond Construction Updates!

⇒ Central Park, Central Auditorium, Woodcrest and Plymouth are completed projects.
⇒ Siebert and Chestnut Hill opened this fall with renovated classrooms and infrastructure.
  ✓ Siebert and Chestnut Hill work is ongoing and will not be completed until late spring or summer
  ✓ Siebert and Chestnut Hill will move into their new cafeteria and gymnasiuns in October. At that time construction begins in their old gyms to create a modern day media center/library and their former library will be diverted into STEM/Maker Spaces.
⇒ Spring of 2019 works starts at Adams Elementary as well as HVAC work at Dow High, locker room renovations at both high schools, media center/library renovations at both middle and high schools and science lab renovations at both high schools.
⇒ The district bond proceeds have been used to complete many other projects since its passage by voters in 2015. Here are a few examples: district wide technology infrastructure upgrades, student one-to-one devices, hall locker replacements, boiler replacements, window and door replacements, bus replacements, and much more. We are about 60 to 65% done at this time.

As you can see, much has been accomplished and much is yet to come. Thank you MPS Voters!

Midland Area College Night is being held in Northwood University’s Hach Center TOMORROW September 25 6:00 – 7:30 PM.

More than 70 reps will be there to answer questions.

Registration is NOT required.
At H. H. Dow High, as part of Mary Swanson and Mistine Nasrey's unit on Native American literature, students were able to learn from Ronald Ekdahl, Chief of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He shared many cultural artifacts, gave insight into the students' learning, shared stories and traditions, and helped students make many interesting connections! Here he's showing one of his eagle feathers.

Siebert Elementary Presents at September 17 Board of Education Meeting

Thank you to Siebert Principal Paul Schroll, Teacher Pam Andrews, Students Maria and Roman DeSantis as well as United Way representatives Renee Urlaub and Rebecca Rekeweg who presented great information about the Summer Reading Adventures program that 56 different Siebert Bulldogs attended over eight weeks this past summer. At the Board meeting, the group also revealed that this initiative will continue with School Year Reading Adventures, in collaboration with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters lunchtime program focused on improving literacy!

It's hard to believe we are talking about the holiday season already, however, our wonderful community partners have released information and forms for the 2018 Thanksgiving and Christmas season for those who may need a helping hand.

On the MPS Flyer Board, you will find information and forms to fill out for these programs:

⇒ Christmas Assistance Program by The Salvation Army
⇒ Coats for Kids Program by The Salvation Army
⇒ Community Thanksgiving Dinner by The Salvation Army
⇒ Community Christmas Closet by King's Daughters Home
⇒ Sharing Tree sponsored by United Way of Midland County

Click here for the forms and more information on the above programs:
https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers/