Please know we are just as happy as you to know that all of the election rhetoric will end tomorrow! Please allow us, though, to mention one important fact as it relates to MPS.

When you go to the polls tomorrow please be sure to go to the very end of the second side of the ballot.

There you will find two important items for MPS:

- the three open seats for the MPS Board of Education AND the County-wide School Resource Office millage

MPS Receives Another Grant (School Safety)

This fall we applied for a School Safety grant from the Michigan State Police. The grant was designed for infrastructure, not personnel or wages. We are very happy to report our grant request was approved in the amount of $204,603. The grant will cover 687 Lockout Boot Kits that will be installed on classroom doors ([https://thelockdownco.com/products/the-boot/](https://thelockdownco.com/products/the-boot/)) as well as safety and security film (Solar Gard Armorcoat). The safety filming ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2fGgR3252I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2fGgR3252I)) will be installed on glass partitions in our secure entrances throughout the District as well as the glass garage doors at Central Park Elementary. Brian Brutyn was the author of this grant request.

Safety film, door boots, secure entrances, video surveillance, card access readers, panic control locks, digital radios, CrisisGo communication software, cutting edge District Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), ALICE training for staff, tabletop drills, full simulation drill preparation, mental health and wellness initiatives, and School Resources Officers Millage are examples of our work over the past two years to secure and keep our students and staff safe and secure.

Community Stadium Press Box Update

We take the responsibility of being the best stewards we can be of taxpayer dollars very seriously! As such, the District has explored MANY different designs for the new press box. One such design we are exploring and evaluating is a single-floor design, which would alleviate the need for an elevator and bring the build costs into the range of the insurance settlement.

Stay tuned … more to come soon!

October and November give me wonderful opportunities to be in our schools

In October I spent lunch hours in all of our schools having great two-way communication with our staff members. I enjoyed hearing the comments, concerns and suggestions by our MPS team. In November I will visit classrooms in all of our schools. It is always exciting for me to see the great teaching and learning in our MPS classrooms. Here is a photo of my classroom visits at Siebert last week.
MPS Shining Star nominations are being accepted for MPS staff members who you feel make MPS a better place for students. Click on this link to nominate an MPS team member today:

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

Congratulations to both Midland High and Dow High Schools’ Varsity Football Programs for earning a spot in post-season play. It was an exciting regular football season for both high school team spectators.

Best wishes to the Midland High team at State Quarterfinals against Walled Lake Western High School on Friday! We are rooting for you!

During the month of October, Plymouth staff were given "I Caught You" cards to fill out when they saw students doing something kind. The cards were then shared with that student and added to the "We got caught in the kindness web" bulletin board to be displayed throughout the month of October. Both the students and staff enjoyed watching the web get filled in with so much kindness throughout the month.

November Days Off & Elementary Half Day —

⇒ November 6 — NO SCHOOL
(MPS staff in professional development)

⇒ November 8 — MPS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS HALF DAY
(Elementary Parent-Teacher conf. in afternoon & evening)
(Middle & High Schools have full day of school on November 8)

⇒ November 22 & 23 — NO SCHOOL
(Thanksgiving Holiday)
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jennifer Looney graduated from Dow High in 2009. Jenn was accepted to the University of Michigan in December 2008 majoring in Biology. Jenn returned to U of M in 2016 and earned her accelerated Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing. Today Jenn works hard and does amazing patient care as a Registered Nurse in the Neurology Department at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. Jenn has fond memories of her Dow High years and said the DHS faculty and staff were great. She went on to say that her DHS advanced calculus teacher, Jason Watkins, was a huge influence for her and was one of the reasons she got into U of M and is working at the University of Michigan Hospital today.

We love highlighting MPS alumni in our Monday Communiques. If you know of an MPS alumni we could “spotlight,” please contact Cindy at 923-5026 or email youngcd@midlandps.org.

Calling ALL Veterans!

Midland High and Dow High are hosting Veterans’ Day Celebrations on Monday, November 12

We would like to invite men and women from all ranks of all military branches in our community to come celebrate Veterans’ Day with us and share their unique stories with our students.

We welcome those currently serving and those who are retired from military service. Throughout the day, veterans will have an opportunity to sit down with students and share their experiences, stories, etc.

For more information, please contact

Midland High:
⇒ Connie Beson-Steger at stegercl@midlandps.org
989-923-3601

H. H. Dow High:
⇒ Emily Grocholski
grocholskiej@midlandps.org
989-923-3072

Thank you Veterans!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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Mrs. DeShais’ Young Fives Kindergarten class at MPS’s new Pre-Primary Center at Carpenter Street School enjoyed a fall observation walk using their five senses to explore, collect and investigate some of the beautiful nature on the Carpenter playground. The students even made “leaf angels,” under Carpenter’s giant maple tree. A great fall memory!

2018 Great Lakes Bay Bot Bash! The 5th Annual Great Lakes Bay Bot Bash was held at Dow High School on October 14 with 32 robots from Michigan competing in the FIRST POWER UP game. Dow High’s Robotics Team 2619 ‘The Charge’ was one of five local robotics teams hosting the event. Dow’s Team 2619 advanced to the quarterfinals of the competition and was a runner-up for the Safety Award. Midland High’s Robotics Team 5509 ‘Like A Boss’ advanced to the semifinals of the competition.

Fantastic job by both MPS high school FIRST Robotics teams!
This past weekend, our six middle school robotics teams participated in their initial qualifier of the 2018 Rover Ruckus Season. The event, which was held at Bullock Creek High School, was a fun filled day for all 37 teams who participated. All of our Midland Public Schools' teams had a great day.

The Jefferson CyDogs, finishing 3rd after qualification matches, were the 3rd Alliance Captain at the end of the qualifying rounds and invited the Oxford Wildcats and the Lightning Boltz teams to join their alliance. The alliance advanced to the finals and faced the 1st Alliance. After two very exciting rounds, they earned the title of Captain of the Winning Alliance. They were also the 2nd runner up for the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award. The CyDogs advanced to the State Qualifier in Bullock Creek which will be held in December.

The Northeast Viking Vendors, finishing in first place after qualifying matches, were the 1st Alliance Captain. They selected the Jefferson Wired Wolves to be a part of their playoff alliance along with the Waldon Dragons from Lake Orion. Ultimately, they advanced to the finals facing the 3rd Alliance. The Viking Vendors were the recipient of the Think Award, which recognizes the team that best reflects the journey the team took as they experienced the engineering design process during the build season.

The Jefferson Wired Wolves were excited to finish 4th at the end of qualifying matches and were invited to play with the Northeast Viking Vendors 1st Alliance, ultimately finishing as a finalist team. The Wired Wolves were also recipients of the Judge’s Award, which recognizes a team whose unique efforts, performance or dynamics merit recognition, yet doesn’t fit into any of the existing award categories. They were also 3rd runner up for the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award. They will be competing next in early December.

The Jefferson Techno Huskies, in addition to a great robot performance on the field, were able to show their Grow Beyond Earth project funded by NASA and talk about their outreach events at the Farmer’s Market. They were 2nd runner up for the Control Award, 2nd runner up for the Motivate Award and 2nd runner up for the Connect Award. They are excited for their next qualifier on November 17th in Constantine.

The Northeast Zen Vikings also had a great, fun day of competition. They worked diligently to overcome issues with their robot’s mechanical lift and they were excited to cheer on and see their hometown teams. The Zen Vikings are scheduled to attend a 2nd Qualifier in Kingsford, MI in December.

Jefferson Coded Pack, our rookie team primarily made up of 6th grade students finished 18th in the qualifier rounds. Each of the 5 qualifying rounds for Coded Pack showed an increase in personal game points. In the last two rounds their robot was able to launch and land successfully to lead their alliance in points. It was a great day of learning for the team and they were very excited about how they performed and are excited for their next event!

Overall it was a fun-filled day for all of the teams! Congratulations to all of our Middle School FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics teams and best of luck to them in their next qualifier.
Thank you to **Camdyn (Grade 5) and Macy (Grade 3) Sabourin** who shared their slime making skills with **Ms. Lauer’s 4th Grade students at Siebert** during a fun science lesson last week. Camden and Macy voluntarily took action to share their slime expertise with fellow Siebert Bulldogs. It was a fun science lesson during Halloween week with 100 percent success!

**Reminder … Financial Aid Night for Seniors in Midland County is this Thursday, November 8 at 6:00 pm at HH Dow High.** Assistance will be provided to parents and students to complete the FASFA financial aid app for college. To register in advance, contact Joe Moore at moorejg@midlandps.org or 923-5386 so a computer can be reserved for you.

As you know, Halloween is behind us for another year, but below is a photo of **Chestnut Hill Chipmunks** during their parade last week. So many fun memories! Thank you to all the parents who worked at and provided treats for the Halloween parties making special memories for MPS students!

As you know, Siebert and Chestnut Hill Elementary Schools have been undergoing major renovations in 2018 with completion scheduled for summer of 2019. This Halloween, Chestnut Hill staff brought out their own construction gear to celebrate the holiday and the great work that is being done in Chipmunk-land. Thank you, MPS taxpayers, for making the much-needed renovations possible!

As you know, **Tenth grade American Literature students from Midland High recently studied The Great Gatsby and participated in a 1920’s Jazz Club.**

Students studied various themes of the 1920’s through stations that included baseball, fashion, poetry, art, and Jazz. Many students dressed up in 1920’s attire to fully experience life in the Roaring Twenties.

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