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

Please keep the nominations coming in for MPS staff members you believe are Shining Stars!

Link to Shining Star nomination form: https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form

 Superintendent
 Communique
 February 25, 2019

#MPSinspiringexcellence

MPS 2018-19

12 weather days used as of February 13, 2019
- 6 weather that are forgiven
- 3 weather-related days that the district has applied to the State Supt. for approval

3 makeup days that need to be rescheduled

Midland Public Schools’ staff, students and families should plan that

JUNE 10, 11, 12 WILL BE REGULAR SCHOOL DAYS

to make up the three inclement weather days that need to be rescheduled.

However, please keep in mind that winter is not over and should we need additional inclement weather days, June 13 and 14 may also be needed to be scheduled as regular school days as well. Watch the website and this Communique for future updates.

This past week, Mrs. Bank’s American Literature class at Midland High and Ms. Groulx’s 6th-grade Writing class at Northeast MS had the opportunity to ‘Google Hangout’ with Caroline Mulvaney (2014 MHS graduate) as part of their joint Chrome Pals venture.

Caroline was their mystery guest on location. Students in both classrooms asked questions to determine her locations and whereabouts. Caroline was on a trip to Belize where she is studying stress-less ecotourism. During our streamed chat, she showed our students around her hostel, which is operated by the local youth. All funding helps support youth education and youth programs. Caroline is currently teaching ESL (English as a Second Language) to students in China. She has her own blog and is currently working on translating her poetry into music. Chrome Pals is a joint online venture connecting two different MPS English classes in two different buildings with a common mystery guest who connects English Language Arts to real life experiences and careers.
Proven 4-Year-Old MPS PreSchool Program

NOW ACCEPTING FALL REGISTRATIONS

Have a child who will be 4 years old in the fall? Looking for a quality, proven preschool program that will give your child a great start for their K-12 education?

Take a look at the Midland Public Schools' International Baccalaureate Primary Years Preschool Programme

Space is Limited ... Register Now!

IB PYP Preschool: This tuition-based program is for four-year-old children and includes a child-centered, play-based curriculum designed to be flexible to meet the individual needs of the child. The framework aligns with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, which is an integral part of all MPS elementary schools.

Here are some important aspects of our IB PYP 4-Year-Old Preschool Program:

✓ Highly qualified teachers
✓ Research based curriculum Inquiry led, transdisciplinary framework uniquely adaptable to state and national standards
✓ Full day, 5 days a week programme
✓ Preparing individual students, using a developmentally appropriate approach, using IB PYP, for kindergarten and beyond
✓ Before/After school care offered onsite by Campfire for a minimal fee
✓ Follows Midland Public Schools’ calendar
✓ This is a tuition-based program

Have questions about this or any MPS 4-Year-Old Preschool or Young 5’s Kindergarten program? Contact Amy at the PrePrimary Center, 923-6411.

This past Thursday, the February Parent Information Committee’s (PIC) topic was PRODIGY. The parents who were able to join us for the meeting learned about the MPS Kindergarten through Grade 5 pilot program that focuses on MPS gifted students. We thank Central Park Third Grade student, Henry Kosick, and teachers Kelly Krause (PME), Elizabeth Owens (CHE), Jillian Struble (CPE), Amanda Ladach (CPE) and Lisa Lauer (SIE) for presenting and sharing information about the program with parents.

PRODIGY: Promoting Rigorous Opportunities Develop Innovative Gifted Youth

Check out the MPS YouTube channel later this week when this PIC meeting has been posted for viewing http://midps.org/youtube.

THE GERSTACKER TEACHER PROFICIENCY AWARDs NOMINATION WINDOW IS OPEN UNTIL MARCH 15!

For nomination information go to our website—

www.midlandps.org—
or click on this link:

https://www.midlandps.org/News/223#sthash.J3dEZBCw.dpbs

To nominate a teacher, you may also send a personal letter via US Mail to:

Gerstacker Committee, Midland Public Schools Superintendent’s Office, 600 E. Carpenter, Midland, MI 48640

This year’s Gerstacker Ceremony is Thursday, May 2, at 4:15 pm at Central Auditorium.

2019 SAGINAW VALLEY LEAGUE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Saginaw Valley League established this award to recognize excellence in teaching.

This award is presented annually to one teacher from each Saginaw Valley member high school.

Nomination window closes March 15!

Link for info: https://www.midlandps.org/News/230#sthash.4LakjaM6.dpbs

Nominate Now!
CSO Presentation at Monday, February 18, Board of Education Meeting

Thank you to Adrianne Cole, Director of STEM at Saginaw Valley State University, MPS Chief Science Officer Advisors Jennifer Lenon, Thomas McNamara, Michael Servinski and Christine Brillhart and Midland Public Schools student Chief Science Officers (CSO) who presented information about the goals of the CSO program, local & worldwide impact, opportunities for students, and thank yous to their financial supporters—The Dow Chemical Company Foundation and Nexteer Automotive at the Monday, February 18 Board of Education meeting.

Great information was shared about this exciting STEM program by these student Chief Science Officers:

- H.H. Dow High School: Shichi Dhar, Mary McLaughlin, Ava Nelson
- Midland High School: Taryn Vielma
- Jefferson Middle School: John Davis, Sahiba Kaur, Sienna Mattichak
- Northeast Middle School: Emily Kraenzlein

On January 26 fifteen students represented Midland Public Schools as members of the All-State Bands and Orchestras at the Michigan Music Conference. These students had to pass a blind audition to earn this honor, which recognizes them as some of the best young musicians in the State. Pictured with the director of the Middle School All-State Honors Orchestra, Laura Joss, are Lucas McLeod (JMS), Austin Benchley (JMS), Boaz Qiu (JMS), Hope Ridley (JMS), Maia Figueroa (JMS), and Zaky El-Nachef (JMS). Members of the Middle School All-State Honors Band are Shubhan Nagarkar (JMS) and Grant Wang (JMS). Cara Gallagher (MHS) and Justin Taylor (MHS) represented Midland in the High School All-State Honors Band. Members of the All-State High School Honors Orchestra are Tia Li (DHS), Abigail Yoo (DHS), Madeline Poupard (DHS), Caleb Qiu (DHS), John Merinan (MHS), and Qiunn McMath (MHS). Honorable mention students included Tai Moore (JMS), Audrey Fanning (JMS), and Peter Redman (DHS). Kudos to all of these talented MPS student musicians for representing MPS so admirably!

Congratulations to our February Shining Stars:

Diane White, Math Teacher, HH Dow HS

Marty & Laura Hollenbeck, cross country coach and retired MPS PE teacher. Laura was a volunteer coordinator for MPS. (Unfortunately, we do not have a photo of Laura.)

Thank you to these MPS team members who do an outstanding job, going above and beyond to make MPS a better place for students!

To MPS Parents:

Here is a link to a proposed new school finance plan for the State of Michigan. Check it out!

“A Road-map to Making Michigan’s School Funding Approach Fair for All Students.”

http://www.midlandps.org/docs/district/Roadmap%20to%20MI%20School%20Funding.pdf
Last week the Tittabawasee Valley Fife and Drum Corps visited 5th graders at Siebert Elementary to teach them about traditional military music, dress, flags, and life during the American Revolution. Students had a chance to ask lots of questions and were invited to attend the free concert over the weekend. The fife is so high pitched it carries over top of the sounds of war, and the large snare drums are so low pitched soldiers could hear it from a distance.

Mrs. Jones’ 1st graders at Chestnut Hill Elem. celebrated the 100th Day of School by dressing up as someone who is 100 years old. What a fun memory for these 1st Graders!

You’re Invited to Booster Bash 2019!
Saturday, March 9 — 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Inn Midland

Click here for ticket info:
MPSsportsboosters.com

Be a champ and help support MPS athletes by attending Booster Bash 2019!

Proceeds go to support the high school athletic programs at BOTH Midland and Dow High Schools. Uniforms, balls and other athletic equipment, tournament fees, scholarships for athletes, and coaches’ clinics are all funded by the Boosters. Enjoy a DJ and dancing, live and silent auctions, raffle, and a small-plate buffet and dessert bar. Tickets are $50 ($25 is tax-deductible) and include two drink tickets. To buy tickets or find more information on how you can support our athletes, go to MPSsportsboosters.com.

THE ROBOTS ARE COMING … THE ROBOTS ARE COMING … FROM ALL OVER MICHIGAN

Mark your calendars for Midland’s FIRST Robotics District Competition March 22-23 at HH Dow High School.
Both MPS award-winning high school robotics teams will be competing… HH Dow High’s Team 2619 The Charge & Midland High’s Team 5509 Like a Boss.

The 2019 competition is called “Destination: Deep Space,” presented by The Boeing Company, where two competing ALLIANCES collect samples on Planet Primus in unpredictable terrain and weather patterns that makes remote robot operation essential to their mission on the planet. For more information go to: http://www.first-glbr.org/

Entry and Parking are Free!
Everyone is welcome to come, watch and cheer for their favorite teams & robots!
Over 50 students from Mrs. Bank’s Midland High American Literature classes enjoyed exploring American Art at the Detroit Institute Arts last Friday. Students examined art from various decades and artists and applied the themes in the artwork to the themes they have read about in class this year.

Central Park Elementary has an exciting addition to their family! Luna Hope is a beautiful Bernedoodle puppy born November 8, 2018 and currently going through therapy dog training. The Central Park Explorer staff and students are looking forward to Luna joining their team for the 2019-20 school year! Thank you to the Laura Ludington Hollenbeck Foundation for providing the financial support to bring Luna Hope to Central Park!

First Robotics 2019 Dean's List Award Nominees

Congrats to these 2019 FIRST Robotics Dean's List Award Nominees—Peter Kozerski and Tommy Boomgaard, DHS 'The Charge', and Aman Thamminana and Haleigh DeForest, MHS 'Like a Boss'! They will find out during the upcoming competition season if they will advance as semi-finalists for this award. The FIRST Dean's List Award celebrates outstanding student leaders whose passion for and effectiveness at attaining FIRST ideals is exemplary.

High School Robotics Teams Wrap Up Build Season

The Dow High FIRST Robotics Team 2619, 'The Charge', and the Midland High FIRST Robotics Team, 'Like a Boss', bagged their robot February 19 at the official conclusion of the 2019 robotics build season. Student team members designed, built, and programmed their brand-new robots over the last six weeks in preparation for this year’s “Destination: Deep Space” game. ‘The Charge’ and ‘Like a Boss’ will both compete on March 8 & 9 at Kettering University and on March 22 & 23 at Dow High School.

On Saturday, the Plymouth Elementary Atomic Thinkers competed at the Region 6 Destination Imagination Tournament - taking first place for their level and category! The team, led by Ms. Kelly Krause, consisted of 3rd & 4th graders Elliot King, Cameron Randall, Allison Thompson, Azlan Zook, Finley Pickering, Reid Plaxton, and Hawa Kourouma. They competed in the Engineering: Monster Effects category. The team has been working since fall: writing & revising a script, creating a set, designing & testing a weight-bearing structure and planning a special effect.

Ms. Lauer’s 4th Graders at Siebert Elem. visited different centers around the classroom that were set up to explore all five sense receptors. Students then learned how the senses send messages to different parts of the brain which control how the body functions.

Central Park Elementary has an exciting addition to their family! Luna Hope is a beautiful Bernedoodle puppy born November 8, 2018 and currently going through therapy dog training. The Central Park Explorer staff and students are looking forward to Luna joining their team for the 2019-20 school year! Thank you to the Laura Ludington Hollenbeck Foundation for providing the financial support to bring Luna Hope to Central Park!
Join our Team

MPS Current Job Openings

Click on this link for current job postings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Posting End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Central Park Elem.</td>
<td>3/5/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Softball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Track, Boys’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Tennis, Boys’</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Assistant, Volleyball</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach, Head, Soccer</td>
<td>HH Dow HS</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Jefferson Middle School</td>
<td>2/25/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teaching Associate</td>
<td>Carpenter School</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal, Elementary</td>
<td>Adams Elementary</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counselor</td>
<td>High School</td>
<td>3/5/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Language Interpreter</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor, Special Education</td>
<td>Special Services</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Elementary</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Math</td>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher, Special Education</td>
<td>District Wide</td>
<td>until filled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, we are always looking for
SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS AND BUS DRIVERS.

Click on this link for information about these opportunities:
https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Employment%20Opportunities

Midland Public Schools now has TWO FLYER BOARDS!

✓ **Student Flyers**: Fun student activities, events and opportunities for students: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/

✓ **Community Flyers**: Information and events that may be of interest to parents & adults: https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers

Check back often. Flyers are coming in all the time!

wise thought to ponder ...

“What I enjoy most is doing something I’ve never done before.” — Karl Lagerfeld