



**The M-STEP**  
(Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress 2016)  
**online testing window begins TODAY (April 11).**



The testing windows are set by grade by the State of Michigan.

Our schools have done a great job getting the word out to their families about their child's testing schedule.

Please call your child's teacher if you have questions.

Here is a link to the "Parent Guide to State Assessments in Michigan." <http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/>

This very helpful publication was published by the National PTA.



**As we celebrate National Volunteer Week—April 10-16, please allow us to say ...**

*Volunteers like YOU make OUR MPS-world a better place!*



**THANK YOU MPS VOLUNTEERS!**  
**WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO !!!!!**

From a suggestion by an MPS staff member who greatly appreciated all of her building's volunteers but had one she felt truly exemplified the volunteer spirit, last year we instituted a brand new **MPS "STAR VOLUNTEER"** program. Again this year, we asked each building principal to nominate a person in their building as their Star Volunteer.

*Here are our 2016 Star Volunteers:*

**Elementary Buildings:**

- Adams: Cindy Wejrowski
- Carpenter: Fred Kelly
- Chestnut Hill: Dr. Greg Wright
- Eastlawn: Dave Shannon
- Plymouth: Cherie Grasman
- Siebert: Kimberly Scott
- Woodcrest: Cindy Cummings

**Middle Schools:**

- Jefferson: Karen Kozerski
- Northeast: Rob Schneider

**High Schools:**

- H. H. Dow: Charles Nielsen
- Midland: Shannon Krueger



**Thank you 2016 Star Volunteers for your dedication. Words cannot convey our gratitude for your tremendous contribution!**



**MPS High School Spring Musicals Begin Next Week!**



**Midland High:** *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

April 21 and 22 at 7:00 pm at Bullock Creek HS Auditorium

Tickets are \$8 for students/seniors and \$12 for adults and may be purchased at Village Green and Journeys. Later this week tickets may be purchased during both lunches in Eyeball Alley.

**H. H. Dow High:** *Beauty and the Beast*

April 28 & 29 at 7:00 pm; April 30 at 2:00 pm at Bullock Creek HS Auditorium

Tickets are \$8 for students/seniors and \$12 for adults and may be purchased beginning April 19 during both lunches (10:50 -11:25; 11:50-12:25) at DHS or at the door an hour before the show.

Get your tickets soon. You won't want to miss out on these wonderfully entertaining plays performed by MPS student thespians.

**Jazz & More ...**

a fundraising dinner featuring the *Dow High jazz bands and select band, choir, and orchestra solo &*



*ensemble performances, will be held at the Midland Country Club on **April 30 from 5:30 to 9:00.** Tickets are \$35 each*

and can be reserved online through 4/15. For information go to [www.DowHighMusic.org](http://www.DowHighMusic.org)



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MPS Website:  
[www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org)

Twitter:  
@MichaelSharrow2  
@MidlandPS

YouTube Channel:  
<http://midps.org/youtube>

Community Flyers:  
<http://midps.org/cf>

Adams Elementary	923-6037
Carpenter Street	923-6411
Chestnut Hill Elem.	923-6634
Eastlawn Elementary	923-7112
Plymouth Elem.	923-7616
Siebert Elementary	923-7835
Woodcrest Elem.	923-7940
Jefferson Middle	923-5873
Northeast Middle	923-5772
H. H. Dow High	923-5382
Midland High	923-5181

**"pearls" of wisdom ...**

"Spring won't let me stay in this house any longer! I must get out and breathe the air deeply again."

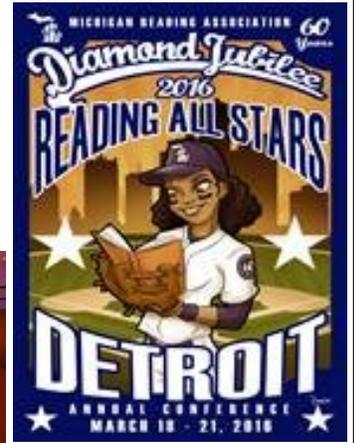
— Gustav Mahler

"Sweet April showers do spring May flowers."

—Thomas Tusser



Midland Public Schools was well represented at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Reading Association Conference held in Detroit, March 18-20. With the conference theme of "Reading All-Stars", 22 **MPS teachers and administrators spent the weekend learning from an all-star roster of state and national literacy leaders, authors, illustrators and effective practitioners.** Session topics ranged from best practices in reading and



writing to developing critical and creative thinking skills. The teachers who attended look forward to sharing their learning with other MPS teachers.

The Michigan Mathematics League administers a series of six tests during the high school year with six questions on each test. Out of 39 participating high schools in Michigan, **H.H. Dow HS ranked 6th and Midland HS ranked 17th.**

Congratulations to these MPS students who finished among the top 38 students in the State:



KennySteinhilber  
Midland HS



Stephen O'Donnell  
H.H. Dow HS



Megan Heydrick  
H.H. Dow HS

**Genius Hour at Northeast:**

The teacher provides a set amount of time for the students to work on their passion projects. Students are challenged to explore something to do a project over that they want to learn about. They spend several weeks researching the topic before they start creating a product that will be shared with the class. Deadlines are limited and creativity is encouraged. We have had projects on Time Travel; Helen Keller; The Science behind Roller Coasters; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; City of the Atomic Bomb, to name just a few. Genius Hour offers a platform that supports inquiry and innovation and helps create life-long learners.



**Thank you MPS Paraprofessionals!**  
Last week we celebrated Paraprofessional Appreciation Day. MPS has more than 200 hardworking paraprofessionals who assist our students, staff and families in so many ways each and every day. Please join us in saying thank you and taking our hats off to honor these dedicated MPS team members.

Top: Eve Glass, Jady King, and Sonja O'Donnell are learning painting techniques.  
Bottom: Kiana Prany and Addy Sandusky are doing research on the history of movies and how to make a movie.

**We have been asked by the Midland County 42nd Circuit Court-Family Division to share the following message:** "Raising children is challenging. Families raising an emotionally impaired or developmentally disabled child experience additional challenges. Sometimes it is necessary for parents to have a "time-out" to re-energize. The 42nd Circuit Court-Family Division is looking for families or individuals to help provide care for children involved with community Mental Health for Central Michigan. Placements would be for 7 days or less. Foster parents can be married or single, and can own or rent their home. Training, payment and lots of support are provided. To learn more about respite foster care and information on licensing, call Jodie Garner at 832-6398 or email [jgarner@co.midland.mi.us](mailto:jgarner@co.midland.mi.us).