

Midland Newsletter



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March 2021

Administrator's Message

by Christine Gent, School Nurse

As I write this we are closing in on the 1 year anniversary of the date COVID-19 closed our schools, and what a year it has been! The unprecedented pandemic left all of us –healthcare, school, and public professionals, as well as the general public – with no clear roadmap of how to bring us back to “normal”. That first day school was cancelled I remember feeling the same way I felt while watching the movie ‘Titanic’ after the point that it hit the iceberg and the Captain commanded all the engines to be shut down. We shut down the school because the governor told us to but then what? We drifted through the next few days and weeks not having any idea how much damage Covid-19 would inflict on life as we knew it.

Since last summer, your School Board and Administration have been proactive in implementing policies and procedures that follow the strictest of CDC’s guidance to try to keep exposure and transmission to a minimum. Our main goal is to do whatever it takes to keep our doors open so to be able to educate our district’s children face to face AND to provide them some socialization so that they can continue to develop some sense of normalcy amongst the chaos Covid-19 creates.

Today our District, as well as our three counties are experiencing the lowest illness rates since school began. While we have certainly had our ups and downs, the overall health of our student population is very good. The Corona virus aside, if anything good has come out of all this it has been the dramatic decrease in contagious illness seen both at the school and across the nation. Never in 19 years as your school nurse have we made it this far through a school year with such a low incidence of strep throat AND more remarkably, without a single confirmed case of Influenza! So, say what you will about the effectiveness of mask wearing, hand sanitizing, and social distancing, but you will not convince me that these practices are not the reason for the remarkable health status of the Midland Community.

For those of you into statistics, the latest numbers for our three county area can be found at:
<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/pages/case-counts>

Nurse Christine
Midland Community School Nurse
Be Safe AND SMILE often!
#weareallinthistogether

VIRTUAL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Tuesday, March 9 from 4-8PM

Thursday, March 11 from 1:30-8PM

Conferences will be held virtually, elementary parents were sent a sign-up form. MMHS parents watch your email for more info soon.

SCHOOL CALENDAR CHANGES

Due to snow days our final day of school is currently

Thurs, May 27 with 12:00 dismissal.

MMHS remediation days would be May 26 & 27

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March 12-16

M NEWS FROM THE NEST AT WYOMING



Quarter 3 Remediation Day is March 5 for quarter 3 academics for grades 6-12. We will use the same format as always, students will bring a letter home on Mar 4 showing if they are required to attend school or not. This is a regular school day for all students who have not passed all academic standards in all classes.

Important 8th Grade Parent/Student Meeting

Tues, March 9th @ 6:00 in the cafeteria to go over high school scheduling and student 4-year plans. Please add this to your calendar.

VIRTUAL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

will be held on **Mar 9 & 11.**

Mar 9 from 4-8pm or 11th from 1:30-8pm. Students will bring home Qtr 3 report cards on Mar 8 or 9.

Watch for more info via email on how to sign up soon.

STATE WRESTLING

Congrats to Cayden Miller who placed 5th and Damon Huston 7th. Also to Caden Ballou who qualified for state but just missed placing. Damon finished holding many school records, check out the wrestling page on the school website! Great job!

Midland Hall of Fame – covid has changed our plans. HOF inductees will be notified sometime in March. We will put out a video on Facebook and honor them at the Fall 2021 Sports Banquet. Thanks to those who nominated someone.

SENIOR PHOTOS: Please get all senior and baby photos turned in to Miss Kelck or HS office ASAP for graduation slideshow purposes. Head and shoulders senior photo is preferred. Thanks!

CALENDAR ADDITIONS *provided Covid allows:*

MMHS Prom is Saturday, April 17

MMHS Spring Concert is Thursday, May 13

FFA SPOTLIGHT



Sub-District competition was held at Alburnett on Feb 23. The Parliamentary Procedure team consisting of Karley Schaefer, Gracie Franzen, Jayda Thomsen, Sophia Coates, and Isabelle Ricketts placed 3rd, alternates to districts, with a silver rating. The Conduct of Meetings team consisting of Jared Crock, Logan Bicknese, Amaya Terrell, Jayde Martin, Anna Bartels, Kyla Cole, and Owen Sterk received 4th place, with a silver rating. Lexi Jellison competed in Creed Speaking and received a bronze rating. Congratulations to everyone who competed!

Four seniors – Callie Petersen, Hope Saroka, Jensen Orr, and Kole Michaud – applied for their **Iowa Degrees** this year. The Iowa Degree is the highest degree the state can bestow upon a member. We are happy to announce that all four seniors that applied were accepted to obtain their Iowa Degree. They will all receive these degrees in April at the State Leadership Conference in Des Moines.

The **Academic Achievement Award** is bestowed to members that have participated in the FFA for at least two years, have an SAE, and have a GPA of greater than 3.5. Callie Petersen, Hope Saroka, Jensen Orr, and Kole Michaud have been recognized for this award. Congratulations to these members on receiving this honor!

In order to celebrate **Read Across Iowa** which takes place on March 1st, the Midland FFA officer team took time to record themselves reading. The books they read were related to agriculture. This served as a great opportunity to introduce agriculture to a young audience. One of the officers even read a book in Spanish in order to include as many students as possible.

The Midland FFA will be attending **districts** in Independence on Saturday, March 13. The Ag Issues and Chapter Website Teams will be competing at districts. Good luck to everyone competing



Eaglet's Elementary View



PBIS Incentive – Winter Olympics!

Students enjoyed a fun-filled morning of outdoor winter activities and indoor fun!



Arts and Crafts



Cross Country Skiing



Hot Cocoa!



Midland Elementary is now taking names for 2021-2022 school year **Preschool and Kindergarten** classes. Parent/Guardians should contact Erika Tubbs at Midland Elementary by emailing her: etubbs@midland.k12.ia.us or calling [563\) 488-2292, ext. 3270](tel:5634882292).

Preschoolers must be 4 years old by 9/15/21 and Kindergarteners must be 5 years old by 9/15/21. Please contact Midland Elementary for more information about round-up dates and to ensure your child gets a spot.



Parent – Teacher Conferences will be held VIRTUALLY



Tuesday, March 9th: 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Thursday, March 11th: 1:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Letters have been sent home with students for parents to fill out and return indicating preference in conference date and time.

Please contact the school if you need another letter.

Preschool and Kindergarten
Round Up is
Wednesday, March 17, 2021



There is **NO SCHOOL** for the
current kindergarteners on
that day.



Counselor's Corner

SCHOLARSHIPS: http://www.midland.k12.ia.us/default.asp?NewsCategory=MiddleHS_ScholarshipInformation

We are in the heart of scholarship season. Seniors should stay on top of scholarships available and the deadlines associated with each. Be sure to give anyone who needs to write you a recommendation plenty of notice as to when you need it. We have been emailing out all scholarship notifications we receive and have posted them by deadline on the website listed above. If we can be of any assistance to you throughout this process please be sure to ask in the office. There is money out there, GO FOR IT!!! If you are awarded a scholarship please be sure to bring a copy of the award letter or email to Michelle in the office so you can be acknowledged at academic awards night.

Looking for some scholarship money? Take a look at RaiseMe. RaiseMe partners with universities to offer students scholarships for their achievement during high school and community college. Midland's signup page is: <https://www.raise.me/join/midland-community-high-school>

ACT Testing: The deadline to register for the April 17th test is March 12th. Next test is June 12th.

20-21 Course Registration: The counseling office has been in full swing with registration season upon us! In February we helped 9-11th graders register for classes for the 2021-22 school year.

8th Grade Parents/Guardians: We have been working with your students to help them develop their four year plans. Having a four year plan helps them prepare for their future academic and post-secondary careers. On March 9th we will be offering a Q&A to help answer questions about registration and four year plans. Please join us at 6PM in the cafeteria for this important information. Please be on the lookout for more information to come!

College & Career Planning – March 3 @ 5:30PM - Sophomores and Juniors – The HS counseling staff has invited a representative from the Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) to answer questions that you and your parents have about the career and college planning process. Topics include Career Exploration & Assessment, Academic Preparation & Requirements, Admission Process & Requirements, College Selection & Campus Visits, Application Process, Understanding Costs – Cost of Attendance, Scholarships, Successful Transitions. Join at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/8616100288478/WN_IAH1wiUIRi-OpWXs-kXyQq

Understanding Financial Aid – Mar 3 @ 6:30PM – Juniors – Get answers to your financial aid questions. Topics include: Financial Aid Process, FAFSA Application Review, Understanding FAFSA Results, Understanding Costs – College Comparisons, Financial Aid Options, Scholarships Process, Where to go for help. Join at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/9416100290180/WN_68QIAHnwSiaemCfWfvZ-iQ

Will you give? GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE

Midland PATS will be hosting a blood drive on
Thursday, March 18 from 1:00 to 6:00pm
in the Black Gym in Wyoming. Will you give?



"You don't need a special reason to give blood. Some of us give blood because we were asked by a friend. Some know that a family member/friend might need blood someday. Some believe it is the right thing we do. Whatever your reason, the need is constant and your contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply. And you'll feel good knowing you've helped change a life." American Red Cross

Will you give? To make an appointment to donate call **Elisha Hansen at 319-480-4929**

All 16 year old donors must have signed Parental Consent Form. ALL donors must have Photo ID.

GIVE BLOOD SAVE A LIFE!

Will you give?

Midland Elementary Teachers Awarded Teacher Supplement Grants

Ellen Cannon and Diane Gnade, both teachers at Midland Elementary are two of the recipients being awarded an Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation (IALF) grant. There are 142 grants being awarded to schools throughout Iowa to support the integration of agriculture into classroom instruction or after school programs with an academic focus.

The Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher Supplement Grants are designed to help teachers initiate new projects or expand existing projects that promote agriculture literacy in students. Grants can be used to fund innovative lessons, activities, classroom resources, guest speakers, outreach programs, fieldtrips and other projects.

Some of the innovative applicants will be conducting projects this spring including aquaponics, water quality, farm-to-fork projects, dairy field trips, egg hatching, and agricultural history tours. Successful applicants will use these agricultural experiences to teach language arts, social studies and a variety of other concepts already taught in their classrooms.

The grants are a special project of IALF and made possible through support from the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation with additional support from the Iowa Egg Council.

Nice job ladies! Keep up the good work!



Midland PATS Fundraiser



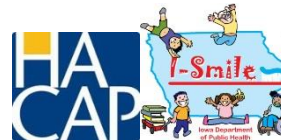
Sunday, March 7
5PM

Black Gym, Wyoming

Get your tickets from a PATS
member or at the door.

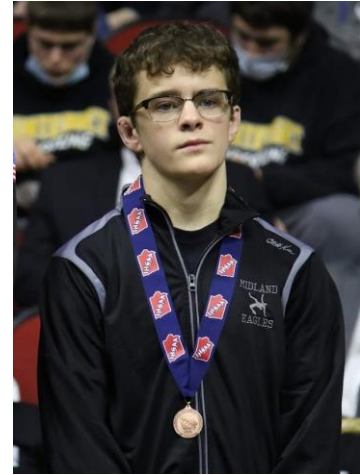
Guaranteed to
make you laugh!
Come join the fun!

HACAP's I-Smile program is here to help with your dental concerns.



- **We can help you find a dental office that takes your child's insurance.** Dental offices are very busy right now catching up after closing their office due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it is still very important to **have your child practice good oral hygiene habits every day.** Brush twice daily and encourage flossing. If your child is under the age of seven, they still need assistance brushing. Let them brush, double check their efforts and brush where they missed. If you need toothbrushes for your family, please reach out.
- **Drink water!** Sugary beverages such as juice, chocolate milk, sports drinks, and soda contribute to cavities. Cavities lead to problems focusing in school and at home.
- **No dental insurance? We can help you find out if your child qualifies for Medicaid or Hawk-i.** We have many resources to get your child the dental care they need.

MILLER PLACES 5TH, HUSTON 7TH TO END AN OUTSTANDING WRESTLING SEASON



Congratulations to the Midland Wrestling team who recently completed another outstanding season. They sent three wrestlers to the state meet. Junior Cayden Miller finished 5th place, Senior Damon Huston finished 7th and Sophomore Caden Ballou just missed the podium winning one match at state.

As a senior, Damon Huston will graduate and leaves a list of accomplishments for others to chase:

- Career record of 179-18 (9 of the losses to a state champ and 16 of the losses came to a state finalist)
- 3 time state place winner. 3rd, 2nd, 7th
- Most wins in school career.
- Most pins in single season, and career.
- Most Tech falls in career.
- Most Take downs in single season, and career.

Nice job guys! Keep working hard underclassmen! Good luck at Iowa State next year Damon!