

# Midland Newsletter



Volume 27, Issue 2211

October 2020



## Administrator's Message

by Todd Hawley, Superintendent

Dear Midland Families,

It is hard to believe we are heading into October already. As I drive from Delmar every other day, it is interesting to see the seasons change and the colors change in our farmers' fields. Bright green has turned to brown and the beans have turned to an amazing golden yellow. It's good to take a moment and reflect on this season and remember that we have seasons in our own personal lives too... Sometimes they last longer than others, bring challenges, include sunny days and allow us to grow.

This fall we have dealt with challenges. We have worked our way through Covid and the different approach we have had to take with social distancing, on line learning, disinfecting and extra cleaning. I wanted to thank everyone for being flexible and understanding while we do things differently. As I write this, Midland has not had a positive case of Covid reported in our school system. If we do, we will alert the staff, families and community. We will work with our local health agencies and move forwards with contact tracing and isolation if needed. Keeping information confidential is very important to this process and to the individual affected. Under some new guidance from the state we will be limited as to disclosing specific information like grade and any other identifying metrics.

Please be reminded to keep your child home if they are sick and see your local health care provider when necessary.

Midland, like many others in our community and state have been affected by last month's storm. Our high school had some damage to our solar panels on the roof, our crow's nest roof was blown off, our scoreboard had some damage and our lighting system at the softball/baseball and football field took some damage. Some of those repairs have already occurred and some will be coming in the next month. We should have the new scoreboard replaced by the end of October and we are looking to replace the lights at our fields this spring.

Please continue to check out our Facebook pages and our website for up to date information within the district. Homecoming week we will be Sept. 28-Oct. 2. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call or an email. 563-488-2292.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Hawley  
thawley@midland.k12.ia.us



### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Our fall conferences will be held virtually on  
Tuesday, October 20th from 4-8pm and on  
Thursday, October 22 from 1:30-8pm.

Please be looking for information how to schedule  
your virtual conferences.

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## Remediation Day – October 9

The secondary will be having a Remediation Day for students in grades 6– 12 on Friday, October 9. This is a day for students who are struggling to meet learning targets in courses to get extra assistance from teachers and staff before we move into the second half of the semester. Teachers will be meeting with students prior to the 18th to let them know if they need to attend on Remediation Day. Students who are at proficiency in all learning targets in all courses will receive a “Gold Letter” indicating that they are excused for the day. Students who are not yet at proficiency in their learning targets will receive a “Purple Letter” indicating that we want them here for Remediation Day to receive additional assistance. If a student is required to come for Remediation Day and finishes with learning targets during the day, he/she is free to leave the building if he/she has transportation home or live in Wyoming. All students are required to sign out in the office if they are leaving the MMHS building.

**Progress Reports** will be mailed out for all students on Monday, October 12, will contain their mid-term grades.

**Parent Teacher Conferences** are held twice a year. Our fall conferences will be held virtually on Tuesday, October 20th from 4–8pm and on Thursday, October 22 from 1:30–8pm. Conferences are a great opportunity for parents to meet with teachers one on one to discuss student progress and teacher or parent concerns. Progress reports will be mailed out on October 12. *Please be looking for information how to schedule your virtual conferences.*

## NO SCHOOL – Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>!

**National Honor Society** application materials are due to Ms. Kaftan by 3:30PM on October 22. The induction ceremony is Thursday, Oct 29 at 2:30 in the black gym.

**Picture retakes** at both buildings on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> in the morning.

## RAPTOR SYSTEM

Reminder that Midland uses the **Raptor Visitor Management school security system**. This system screens for sex offenders, alerts staff of custody violations, and provides districtwide reporting for all visitors. **All visitors who need to go past the main offices will need to present a driver's license or other official form of identification which will be run through the system.** The visitor will then be issued a visitors pass so all students/staff know the visitor has been screened and cleared to visit. When checking out please return the visitor pass to the office. We are working very hard to keep all of our students safe in today's world.

## 2020 Homecoming Court



Congratulations to our 2020 Homecoming Court Members: Lucas Ervin, Ari Hacke, Damon Huston, Carson Hunter, Madisyn Kreel, Kole Michaud, Callie Petersen, Ella Rupp, Hope Saroka, and Iziek Soper.

## CONNECTED WITH FACEBOOK

Catch all of our latest news, “**Like**” **Midland Middle / High School** page on Facebook!

**Want to follow Fine Arts News??** Please “**Like**” the **Midland Fine Arts** page on Facebook

## ACTIVITIES ENTRANCE AT MMHS

When attending events at Midland High School the only doors that are open are at the South Activities Entrance by the PPF. The west doors, main doors and all other doors on the East and North sides are locked. Parking available both south and west of the entrance.





# Eaglet's Elementary View



## HUGE Shout Out to PATS

Our 2020-21 school year is off to a **GREAT** start thanks to our wonderful parent group! PATS went above and beyond this year and provided school supplies for ALL elementary students! Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated! **THANK YOU!**



## Friendly Reminder!

Midland CSD is participating in the SFSP and offering **FREE** meals to children ages 1 - 18. This program will run until December 31, 2020 or until USDA funds are depleted. Contact Erika Tubbs @ 563-488-2292 ext. 3270 with any questions.

## THANK YOU to the Gilson/Fields families!

The Gilson and Fields families donated their time and talent to assemble plexiglass dividers for the elementary classrooms.

These dividers allow teachers and students to meet safely in small groups.



*National Custodial Workers Day  
is Oct 2*

*Thanks to our custodians who clean  
up after all of us on a daily basis!  
We appreciate your efforts!*



*October 19-23 is  
School Bus Safety Week*

*Thanks to Mr. Stender and our  
transportation department personnel  
who take such good care of our  
students each and every day!*

## Message from Nurse Christine

I would like to thank all caregivers; all parents, grandparents, guardians for working with me to keep our school halls HEALTHY! This is a picture of me from the first week of school. I was encouraged this past summer to wear a shield AND a mask every time I saw a child. I now wear one or the other UNLESS a student has visible illness symptoms (coughing, sneezing, etc.)



You have all proven yet again that Midland has the best caregivers that I have the privilege to work with and trust to keep their children home if they are showing any symptoms of illness!!

You all ROCK!

### New this year for PBIS at the Middle School/High School!

We strive to reinforce positive behaviors in our building every single day. Through our PBIS program, we are able to accomplish this with our students. In the past, when students were caught exhibiting positive behaviors of personal best, responsibility, or respect, they would receive an Eagle Buck from a teacher to collect to use later. The pandemic has changed how we approached our program this year. This year we have changed our entire system for students and how they receive our Eagle Bucks for our PBIS Program. We have switched to PBIS Rewards where students are rewarded their bucks through an online program. Students are then able to make purchases through our online store and pick up orders every Tuesday and Thursday at the end of the day. Student can also download the PBIS Student Rewards App that makes it easier to order and see their Eagle Buck total.

Since the kick off of our new PBIS Rewards system, students have purchased \$615.00 worth of items from our store using their Eagle Bucks.

If students have any questions about the PBIS Rewards system, please see Mrs. Wright.

How can you help? We are always looking for donations of new items or gift certificates from area businesses to help out our PBIS program.



### Gnade Awarded Difference Maker Eagle Award

Midland employees were given the opportunity to nominate an employee who goes above and beyond for students. One who publicly supports our students, staff, and district in their communication with others. An employee who has given their best to our students. One who truly is a difference maker.

Superintendent Hawley presented the first ever award to first grade teacher Diane Gnade at the September board meeting. Congrats Diane! Keep up the great work!

## IMPORTANT ACADEMIC INFORMATION FROM MMHS

It is hard to believe that we are a month into the school year already. Despite the many challenges that the pandemic has thrown our way, we are showing our Midland Strength! We truly appreciate how our families have been working with us to keep our building as safe and healthy as possible so that we can keep our doors open.

We are committed to the academic success of our students. I want to make sure that parents and guardians are aware of the many supports that are in place to help your student(s) to be successful at Midland. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about your child accessing any of these supports.

**RTI** (Response to Intervention) time is scheduled nearly every day. During this time students can meet with teachers to get additional help in meeting learning targets. Students can request to meet with teachers, and teachers can assign students to their rooms during this time.

**Remediation Days** occur quarterly throughout the school year. Students who have unmet learning targets meet with teachers individually or in small group settings to get intensive assistance so that targets can be met. Students may also choose to attend Remediation Days to increase their learning from proficient to mastery.

**Eagle Lab** is held on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:15 – 5:00 in Ms. Christiansen's room. Eagle Lab allows students to work with staff members after school to receive assistance in course work. An activity bus leaves the building at 5:05 and travels to the district communities for students who stay for Eagle Lab.

**Study Tables** are held on our early out days from 1:00 – 3:45. This support is designed to provide support for athletes so they don't have to miss practices or become ineligible. Athletes are assigned to Study Tables by teachers if the athletes have unmet learning targets.

**PBIS Support Team** – As part of our PBIS program, members of the faculty and Grant Wood Personnel, meet weekly to evaluate student data in the areas of behavior, attendance, and academics. Members of the team also review teacher referrals and parent referrals. This team works to put individual plans of support in place for students who have been referred or who are struggling with attendance, behavior, or academics.

**Student Success Coordinator** – Lennie Miller fills this position at the secondary level. Mr. Miller meets regularly with students to review PBIS expectations, address attendance issues, and promote positive behavior choices.

**School Counselors** – Debra Brokaw and Mackenzie Lasack are available to meet with students on a variety of issues such as college and career options, mental health, conflict resolution, scheduling, and academics. Through our counseling department, students can learn about career opportunities, internships, job shadows, and take the ASVAB test for military entrance and take ACT practice tests. Newman, our school therapy dog, is also available to assist students in need.

**Unified Classroom** is our Learning Management System produced by PowerSchool. Unified Classroom will provide more information to students and parents regarding classroom learning expectations, practice opportunities, and assessments. Unified Classroom provides greater access to classroom content or more information about student progress. If you need assistance accessing your parent account, please schedule an appointment with Mrs. Guenther.

**Google Classrooms** – While providing live instruction in the classroom, during the pandemic, our teachers provide a Google Classroom for each course. Any student absent from school can still access course content and assignments through their Google Classrooms.

**Academic and Mental Health Screeners** - These Middle School Screeners are new to our building this year. Mrs. Wright is conducting academic screeners in the area of math and reading. Our school counseling team will be starting a Strength and Difficulties Screener with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our hope is that the screeners will pinpoint any concerns in the early stages, offering parents the ability to secure additional assistance for their students.

**Parent Teacher Conferences** are held twice a year. Our fall conferences will be held virtually on Tuesday, October 20th from 4–8pm and on Thursday, October 22 from 1:30–8pm. Conferences are a great opportunity for parents to meet with teachers one on one to discuss student progress and teacher or parent concerns. Progress reports will be mailed out on October 12. Please be looking for information how to schedule your virtual conferences.

The secondary faculty desires to work with parents to ensure student success, and we want to know when parents and guardians have concerns. We do ask that if a concern arises regarding a classroom issue, your first point of contact is the classroom teacher as they are closest to the situation and will have the most accurate information to share. Teachers are available via email or phone, or they can schedule a face to face meeting with parents, guardians, and students.

*Continued on page 6*



### *Academic Info continued...*

If after meeting with a teacher, you do not believe the issue has been resolved to your satisfaction, please feel free to make contact with the building principal, Mrs. Guenther. As with teachers, she is available via email, phone, or a scheduled meeting. Mr. Hawley, the district superintendent, is available to work with concerns should parents and guardians still feel the issue is not resolved after meeting with Mrs. Guenther.

Finally, if after working with the teacher, principal, and superintendent, parents and guardians are welcome to contact members of the Midland School Board to discuss building concerns.

We're looking forward to a great school year and working closely with our families to help all our students be successful.

### **HACAP Mobile Food Pantry October Schedule**

October 13 – Onslow City Hall, 101

Summit St, 1-2PM

October 15 – Anamosa Mobile @ St

Paul's Lutheran Church, 201 N Ford St,  
3-4PM

October 26 – Monticello Public

Library, 205 E Grand St, 3:30-4:30PM

October 29 – Olin Elementary School,

212 Trilby St, 3:30-4:30PM

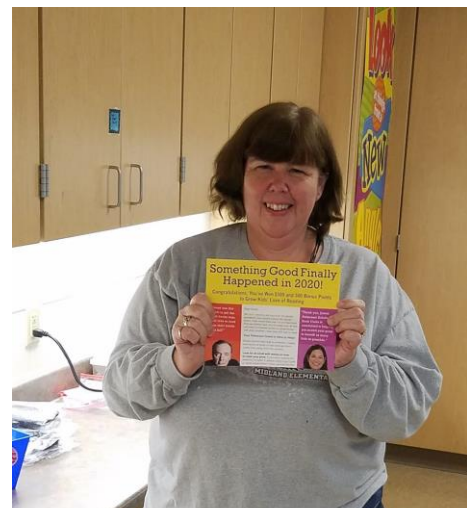
### **WINTER IS COMING...**



We are always taking donations of new or good condition used winter coats (adult small on down), waterproof gloves or mittens, boots, hats, scarves. Donations can be dropped off at either school office. Thanks for caring Midland Community!

### **GRANT RECEIVED**

Mrs. Marshall gets to shop for books and can spend \$500!!! She entered a submission for a Patterson Grant and received notification that she received the award! James Patterson is an author who teamed up with Scholastic to provide this opportunity. Patterson writes the Dog Diaries and more. Check out his work and congratulate Mrs. Marshall who will update her classroom library, get some new read alouds and purchase some books for Mr. Ortiz too!



**Senior Parents:**

Did you know?!

90% of seniors who complete the FAFSA go directly to college?

According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) survey, students from the lowest socioeconomic quintile who completed a FAFSA were 127 percent more likely to be enrolled in the fall following high school graduation than those who didn't complete the FAFSA?

Here are our numbers:

Year	Midland	State Avg.
17-18	34%	48%
18-19	60%	52%
19-20	71%	51%

If your student is even considering going to college, you will need to complete the FAFSA. You can now apply for FAFSA on October 1st! Below is a link with locations that you can attend and they will help you for **FREE**! Events vary from walk-ins to appointments. Check out this link to find out more information about FAFSA events: [FAFSA Events](#). To make an appointment ICAN use this link: [ICAN Appointment Link](#)

Midland is hosting a **FREE** FAFSA night provided by ICAN! The date for this event is October 22nd from 3pm-7pm in the conference room at the High School. Sessions will be 45 minutes long and you must schedule an appointment ahead of time. Use this link to schedule an appointment for FAFSA night: [FAFSA Night Appointment Slots](#). Face masks are required during this meeting. Come prepared to the meeting by creating a FSA ID and bring along social security numbers, drivers license numbers, and your 2019 tax information. Check out these links on how to be prepared for your meeting: [FAFSA Checklist](#) [Create and FSA ID Here](#)

October is College Application Month! During this time, seniors will be encouraged and provided with resources to apply for different post-secondary education options. To help seniors navigate through this process, Mrs. Brokaw and Mrs. Lasack are hosting an Application Day. This will be held all day on October 15th, where students have the opportunity to let us help them apply for college. Students should come prepared by having their social security number and driver's license number.

Keep an eye out for senior meetings with your school counselors. We are here to help and support you!

**Juniors and Seniors:**

If you are interested in doing an internship spring semester, see Mrs. Brokaw or Mrs. Lasack. Applications are due November 1st!

Keep an eye out for ACT dates, especially if you plan on attending college after high school.

**7th and 8th Grade Parents:**

Middle school is an important time for students to start exploring their postsecondary options. This year we are trying something new called, "Career Cafe". This is an opportunity for students to learn more about careers during their lunch time. Guest speakers will be invited to the school to teach students

## rSchool

[http://www.tririversconference.org/g5-bin/client.cgi?G5genie=273&school\\_id=24](http://www.tririversconference.org/g5-bin/client.cgi?G5genie=273&school_id=24)

This is a calendar which will show all school related events (early dismissals, holidays, concerts, school board meetings, etc.), activities (sports, club events, camps, etc), as well as full athletic schedules, sports rosters, building/gym usage, etc. To view a particular sport click on that under View Schedules, then click on VIEW. You can print any of these as well.

## TRANSPORTATION DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Weather conditions change quickly and can vary greatly across the Midland School District because of fog, snow, freezing rain, etc. Because of the overall size of our district the weather may seem fine at one end and be very treacherous at the other.

We ***STRONGLY RECOMMEND*** that you sign up for free alerts account for a notification directly to your email or cell at:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/IAEDU4269/subscriber/new>

This will be the FIRST place we notify, so you will get the most updated notification from them!

### OCTOBER CALENDAR ITEMS:

- Oct 2 – Homecoming 2020 – Game 7PM vs Central City – Coronation at half-time
- Oct 7 – 1:00 Dismissal
- Oct 9 – Remediation Day at Wyoming
- Oct 14 – 1:00 Dismissal
- Oct. 20 & 22 – Parent/Teacher Conferences – watch for more info soon!
- Oct 23 – NO SCHOOL – enjoy your day off!
- Oct 26 – School board meeting 7PM, Wyoming center
- Oct 28 – 1:00 Dismissal

Midland Community Schools  
MIDLAND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER  
*A Tradition of Excellence*

Midland Community School  
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