



Administrator's Message

By Caleb Bonjour, Superintendent

Special Communities Make Special Moments

When working to put together this month's newsletter, there were a few things that I had hoped to cover. Looking at our calendar for next year, continuing to get more information out about our possible building projects, and providing some additional updates about the district were at the top of my mind, (more on those to come) but I feel there is something bigger to address.

At the beginning of this school year as I was sitting down with our Administration team I started to discuss a theme for this school year. We talked about making the TOP NEST idea a reality and how we could continually work towards making our schools the best nests in the area and at some point the state. This led to us talking a lot about what made Midland the special place that it is. We began to answer the question of "What makes our nest the best?" Many great answers were shared at the table and then we came to the following conclusion: **Special Communities Make Special Moments.**

Midland and the communities that make up this district are all special and it is the people that breathe life into these communities that do that. We are incredibly fortunate to have the support that we do from all of our communities and while each one brings its own unique gifts, they all come together to form a nest that strives for greatness, is always working to improve, and that time and time again, looks out for all of the Eagles and Eaglets in the nest.

This has been put on full display as our nest once again suffered a tragedy by losing our 5th grade student, Geniyah Morgan. The loss of Geniyah sent shockwaves through our small and tight knit district as we have so many people that wear so many hats that were impacted on that day. It was another moment in time that challenged so many in our district, but the calls were met. Donations have poured in, support for students and staff from meals to counseling services were provided within hours, and the support will continue as we move forward.

It is moments like these that I am constantly reminded of the fact that the idea of being a TOP NEST can mean many different things and there is no doubt in my mind that Midland is a phenomenal place that is worthy of this title and distinction.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for making Midland the place that it is. Special communities make special moments, but it is truly special people that make those communities up. Without all of you, Midland wouldn't be the TOP NEST that it is.

Thank you for stepping up to the plate when there are those in need. Thank you for supporting our students in the endeavors that they tackle. Thank you for supporting the district in our pursuits of providing the best for our students and staff. Thank you for continuously coming together to make our nest the best and our community a better place.

Thank you for being the Eagles that you are!



Happy Holidays from our nest to yours!

School dismisses for winter break on Tuesday, December 20th at 3:20pm and resumes on Tuesday, January 3rd with a full day for first day of semester 2 for MMHS.



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SEMESTER 1 REMEDIATION DAY IS DEC 20. All students will bring home a letter on Dec 16 showing if they are required to attend that day or not.

WINTER SPORTS PARENT REMINDER

Parents of all 6th-12th grade Midland athletes are asked to sign up volunteers for the food stand. One volunteer for each middle school athlete per sport and 2 volunteers for each high school athlete per sport. Sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4caca92da4ffc25-booster>



WREATHS

Midland FFA members are busy making their annual wreaths. The funds from the wreaths go towards purchasing jackets for our Greenhand members. This allows them to complete their Official Dress. The Official Dress is worn at competitions and conventions. Thanks to all who ordered to support this worthwhile project, we hope you enjoy your wreath and have a happy holiday season!

MIDLAND WRESTLING BEGINS A NEW ERA

The Midland girls wrestling team went to Bellevue on Nov 18th for their first ever meet and came away with three champions and four 3rd place finishes! Going undefeated and being crowned champions were: Taelynn Gravel, Karlana Buford and Alyssa Eckhardt. New head coach and former state qualifying Midland wrestler, TJ Bowen said "There were a lot of nerves by the girls, but that was somewhat to be expected. While it was a good showing for our girls, it did also point out some areas that we need to work on. All we can do is go back to work, prepare for what's next and handle business."



If you want to catch these girls in action come to the John Byers Invitational on January 21st. Good luck ladies on the rest of your season!

Illness is on the rise in our district – Please don't send kids to school sick. Please wash hands/sanitize often, social distance when possible, rest and eat properly. Help us keep our community healthy!

WINTER CONCERT is Sunday, Dec. 4 at 2PM in the Black Gym. This is Wyoming Christmas City Celebration, come make a day of it!

CHRISTMAS CITY PARTICIPATION

FFA members will be conducting kids' activities during the Christmas City event on Sunday, December 4th from 4-7PM in the Wyoming Library. NHS members will be in the Calkins basement participating in the craft sale.



ALL CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Congratulations to volleyball players named to the 2022 TriRivers Conference Volleyball Team: Gracie Harrington, Honorable Mention

MIDLAND EVENTS LIVE ONLINE:

Winter sports season has begun, remember you can watch many home events by watching the streamed event on Striv.TV on our channel:

<https://striv.tv/channel/midland-ia/>

ANGEL BOOKS

Thanks to the Friends of the Wyoming Public Library, Midland PATS, Citizens State Bank and Ohnward Bank for doing their annual Angel Book Program again this fall. Their goal is for all students in PS-8th grades to take a new book home at the winter break. If you want to donate, drop a book off at either school office, the Wyoming Library or either bank in our district. You can also purchase a book online from this wish list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2MEHBVSPJ98HX/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

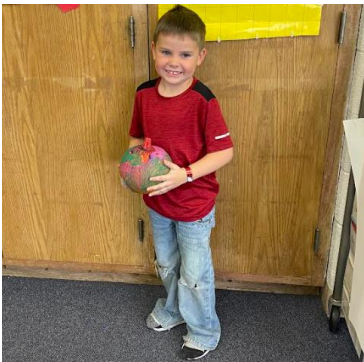


Musical "Aladdin Jr." will be presented on March 3 and 4 at 7PM. Put this on your calendar!

November 2022 SOAR award winners



1st Grade Pumpkin painting contest



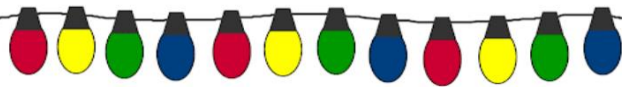
1st Place



3 way tie for 2nd Place



3rd Place



Midland K - 2 Winter Concert

Tuesday, December 20, 2022 – 1:30 PM

Midland Middle/High School

All are Welcome!



1st Snowman
of the season!

Wrap Care
students had
too much fun
building their
first snowman
in November!

6th Graders Learn About Their Community History

Thank you to the members of the Wyoming Historical Museum who took the time to show our 6th graders many different things about the history of our community! Students learned how corn was husked and shelled, what sewing machines and kitchen appliances looked like, how a pestle was used, what inventions to stay warm when traveling by buggy or early cars looked like, what an early pharmacy looked like, about prehistoric stone tools and arrow heads, and even “how to make a decent sundae” from the soda fountain.



FOOD PROCESSING

Ms. Christiansen is teaching a high school Food Processing class this year. They meet the first two periods of the day to have time to do all that they do. This class was conceived when Ms. Christiansen received a grant to purchase all of the needed inventory items to do these things.

They created an entrepreneurial business named Midland Meats and More. They sell items to students and staff as a way to recoup the disposable part of the expenses like ingredients or canning/freezing supplies - jars, lids, bags, etc.

So far this year they have been busy canning vegetables, making pickles, jam, salsa, banana bread and applesauce. Soon they will transition to working with meats. They will be making brats, snack sticks and jerky for the rest of the semester.

The community has been great with multiple families donating vegetables to the class this fall. The students have even gone out and harvested some of the veggies directly from gardens. These donations have been greatly appreciated.

Here is a list of some of the items they have made or frozen or canned so far: dill pickles, sweet pickles, bread & butter pickles, grape jam, raspberry jam, watermelon jam, pineapple, sliced apples, cinnamon applesauce, diced tomatoes, salsa, spicy salsa, squash, zucchini, and maple breakfast sausage.

Students are required to take the basic Foods class first so they learn safety in the kitchen. These are great skills for our kids to learn, the ability to do it hands on in class is awesome! We are excited to have this added to our course offerings.

If you have meat or vegetables or fruit that you'd like to donate to the class at any time, please contact Ms. Christianse by email at jchristiansen@midland.k12.ia.us or by calling 319-259-5340 ext 2080.



Some of the food we have processed!



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Fall PBIS Day: Fall PBIS Day went great! The junior high students took part in yard games, open gym, movies, board games and bingo at the school. The high school students got to go to the theater in Maquoketa and see Wakanda Forever. It was a well-deserved day to celebrate with the students.

Schedule changes – Schedule change days are complete, however, students are asked to review their 2nd semester schedules again before winter break. If there are changes they would like to make, please make an appointment with Mrs. Schnepfer as soon as possible.

Seniors: The days are quickly winding down! If you haven't locked down a plan for after graduation, take the time over break to do some research. Using our Xello program can help by completing the interest profiles to match you with careers. There are also other sites like www.onetonline.org or www.ihaveaplaniowa.org; both of these will allow you to research careers as well as the education, salary, and future outlook. See your counselor with questions!

FAFSA – If you haven't already, all students heading to college next year should have their FAFSA form filed or be finishing it soon. The opportunity for scholarships is enhanced when this is completed early. If you still need help, please bring 2021 tax information and social security numbers for parents and students. It's also a good idea to create an FSA ID beforehand; both students and at least one parent/guardian must have an FSA ID.

Scholarships

Winter Break is a GREAT time to get a leg up!

- Work on your resume!
- Search the internet for scholarship opportunities!
- Gather letters of recommendation from those who know you.
- Save copies of all scholarship applications and essays you submit. Often you can recycle those with small changes for the next scholarship opportunity.
- Research school websites looking for their scholarship opportunities.

Juniors: This spring you should be setting up college visits. Start looking into places you might be interested in going to now, for when you graduate, take interest inventories to narrow down what you are thinking about for a career.

Underclassmen make good use of your time to look up careers and possible schools. Find ways to get job experience and volunteer hours (both look good on applications & scholarships). It is NEVER too early to start preparing for your future!

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NURSE NOTES – DECEMBER

Illness is on the rise including flu, RSV, Covid etc. We ask that you **DO NOT SEND STUDENTS TO SCHOOL SICK**. Use standard precautions to help prevent the spread of illness (washing/sanitizing hands often, get plenty of rest, cover your cough/sneezes etc.). If a student gets sick during the school day they need to go to the nurse's office and we will call a parent/guardian if the student needs to go home. **PARENTS--please include the student's symptoms when leaving a voicemail on the attendance line and make sure your contact information is accurate in PowerSchool.** We appreciate your help in reducing the spread of illness at school! If you have any questions regarding illness or if/when a student should stay home please reach out to the school nurse at 319-259-5340 ext 1400 or midlandnurse@midland.k12.ia.us.

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MIDLAND HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The Midland Hall of Fame is set up to honor everyone who has made Midland what it is. It will honor not only athletics but fine arts, contributors to Midland, and distinguished graduates. Please understand this will be a Hall of Fame for Midland, not just Midland athletics.

Anyone wishing to nominate an individual or group for the Midland Hall of Fame can do so at any time by completing the [nomination form](#) and submitting it to Midland High School, ATTN: Hall of Fame, PO Box 109, Wyoming, IA 52362

The Hall of Fame committee will be getting together each year in August to look over all nominations received. The hall of fame inductions will take place at a scheduled event during the following school year. If questions contact the Activities Director at the high school 319-259-5340 x 2420.

PATS BLOOD DRIVE



**Wednesday, December 28
in Black Gym, Wyoming
3-6:45 PM**

To make appointments
call Elisha Hansen at
319-480-4929

FOOD DRIVE

The Midland Spanish Club is sponsoring a non-perishable Food Drive competition. This food drive serves many families within our community.

CONTEST ENDS DECEMBER 9, 2022

The Seminar group at the MS/HS, **and** the grade level at the Elementary that collects the most items will receive an ice cream treat!



December School Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 20
at 7PM in the Wyoming
center.

Usual board meetings are 4th
Monday of each month at 7PM
in Wyoming.

