



Administrator's Message:

Midland Community School District,

As we approach the end of 2024, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the continued support and partnership of our entire school community. Midland is a place where we believe all students can succeed and all students can be involved in opportunities that prepare them for life after school. While I look ahead to our future I am excited about the possibilities for students. With your continued support I am confident that we can build upon our successes and continue to make improvements along the way. We value your partnership and look forward to continued collaboration for the good of our students. Our board has begun the process of strategic planning for our future at Midland CSD. We are combing through data to help us make informed decisions in the short term and long term planning necessary to our continued growth and success as a district. I think we can expect great things in our future!

The winter season is filled with events and competition at every level. Best of luck to our students and staff in our winter season. Along with the winter season often we see inclement weather impacting our normal school schedules. We will continue to use the local radio and television outlets as you are accustomed to. We also will utilize both Facebook and Parent Square as notification tools should we need to have a delayed start or a cancellation due to certain weather conditions. Our transportation director Mr. Stender and I, as well as our neighboring district administrators, monitor the weather very closely in case we need to make decisions that may impact start times as well as dismissal times.

I wish you all a healthy and hopeful holiday season and a happy new year!

Sincerely,

John Zimmerman
Superintendent Midland CSD

SIMBLI

All Midland School Board info can be found online at:

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Index.aspx?S=36031606>

About Us:

- School board members and contact information.
 - Leadership Team

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NOTEWORTHY:

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WINTER CONCERT is Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2PM in the Black Gym.

Volleyball TriRivers All Conference

Congratulations to our TriRivers All Conference selections: Emmi Huston 2nd Team All Conf. Libero, Lexi Zaruba Hon. Mention All-Conf. Middle.

All District Football Selections

Anthony Harrington—1st Team All-District Punter; Dane Ballou—2nd team All-District Linebacker; Issac Beranek – Hon. Mention All-District LB; Tyler Gaunt – Hon. Mention All-District WR. **All-District Academic Team:** Dane Ballou, Masyn Brodersen, Kael Cress, Wyatt Christiansen, Tyler Gaunt, Anthony Harrington & Nathan Rickels. Nice job guys!

SAVE THE DATE: Musical “Into the Woods Jr.” will be presented on March 7 at 7pm and March 9 at 2pm.

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://shorturl.at/v6lYz>

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://signup.com/group/934805580111>. At print time there are MANY open spots, if we don't have volunteers we might not have a food stand, if we don't have a food stand we don't have money for new uniforms in the usual rotation. Please help however you can!

MCSD Lunch Menus:

<https://www.midland.k12.wa.us/lunch-menus/>

State Releases 2023-24 School Performance Profiles

The Iowa Department of Education released its 2023-24 Iowa School Performance Profile scores, which is a measure of schools across the state. We want to explain our District's scores, celebrate the highlights, and provide context about changes to the rating system that impacted how schools were evaluated this year.

Overview of the Rating System

The Iowa Department of Education's accountability framework includes core indicators such as state assessment results, chronic absenteeism, graduation rates, and postsecondary readiness. Together, these indicators provide an index score and rating category for each school.

The rating categories are as follows:

1. Exceptional
2. High Performing
3. Commendable
4. Acceptable
5. Needs Improvement
6. Priority

Midland CSD Highlights

As a district, Midland CSD continues to perform well in many of the core indicators:

- Graduation rate (2% above state average)
- Students participating in work-based learning in high school (45% above state average)
- Proficiency in Science at the Middle School/High School (14% above state average) and Elementary (12% above state average)
- Growth scores in Math at the elementary (16% above state average)

We are proud to have our elementary school rated as “Commendable,” and the secondary school rated as “Acceptable.”

Understanding Category Designations

In the new system, the category rating is not based on a school's index score alone. Schools can receive a “target” designation if there are performance gaps among specific student groups (i.e., students eligible for free/reduced-price meals, English Language learners, students with disabilities, and students from racial/ethnic minority groups).

The changes in the rating system impacted many schools across Iowa. However, neither school in our district has been identified as a school who needs additional support from the state level.

What This Means Moving Forward

Please know that our District remains dedicated to continuous improvement, and we are already taking steps to address areas that need support. However, we also recognize that these ratings are just one measure and don't tell the whole picture of who we are. At Midland CSD, our compassionate staff and teachers work tirelessly every day to support our students and embrace our mission of “Think. Lead. Serve.” We encourage you to take a look at the scores, understand the changes to the system, and know that we are always working to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students. You can find the scores on the [Iowa School Performance Profile website](https://www.iowa.gov/school-performance-profile). If you have any questions about the data or how it applies to your child's school, please don't hesitate to reach out to your school's principal. Thank you for your support as we work to provide a strong education for all of our students.



Eaglet's Elementary View



Kindergarten classes learned more about turkeys from Clinton County Conservation!

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First graders used oil pastels and watercolors to create turkeys in Art class with Mrs. Hein this month. Peyton used black and brown oil pastels to outline her turkey; which made the brightness of the watercolors **pop** when she painted the feathers.



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Second graders learned how to mix primary colors to create secondary colors in Art class with Mrs. Hein. Students were able to use red, yellow, and blue as the primary colors. Hayden mixed primary colors to create orange and brown for her scarecrow.



Preschool students have been learning about Native Americans and the meaning of Thanksgiving. Mrs. Bisinger came back to celebrate and enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving meal together!



Kindergarten learned about Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, made "balloons" and paraded in their PJ's to celebrate!



Midland K - 2 Winter Concert

Monday, December 16, 2024

Matinee Performance 1:30PM / Concert 6PM

Midland Middle/High School Cafeteria

All are Welcome!

Now that the cooler weather is here to stay - please make sure students are sent to school with warm gear!

Coats - Hats - Gloves

Snow pants - Boots



NURSE NOTES

REMINDER: 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. Reminder any student absent 3 consecutive days due to illness will need a doctor's excuse to return. 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.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

November 13th was **World Kindness Day**, so the HOPE group passed out notes of positivity and kindness to all students! *How do you spread kindness?*



Mrs. Lasack presented at the **Iowa School Counselor Association Conference** in Des Moines. The presentation was titled OORAH!: School Counselors and Marines Working Together and shared about her trip to San Diego and the Marine Corps Educator Workshop.



Schedule Changes: All semester 2 schedule changes must be done before we leave for Winter Break on December 20th. Please make an appointment with Mrs. Lasack to make changes!

Our How College Works class went on a college campus visit to Coe College and Kirkwood Community College.

FAFSA opens up December 1st! But if you need help, come join us for FAFSA Completion Night!

FAFSA Completion Night

- What: To help those complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for those planning on going to college
- When: Wednesday, January 8th
- Time: 2pm-7pm
- Where: High School Library
- What to Bring: Social security number, FSA ID (create one beforehand), W-2, 2023 tax information

Veterans Day Assembly 2024

The Midland National Honor Society sponsored a Veterans Day Assembly on November 11th in Wyoming for the entire Midland District.

Thanks go out to the NHS students who helped with the program, the choirs for performing, MMHS staff members who provided food for the breakfast and the community members who took time from their busy schedule to attend this program.

THANK YOU VETERANS!



PATS BLOOD DRIVE



**Wednesday, December 18
in Black Gym, Wyoming
2:30-6:00 PM**

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

Midland Live Streaming Link:

<https://fan.hudl.com/usa/ia/wyoming/organization/12794/midland-high-school>

FOOD DRIVE

Midland is sponsoring a non-perishable Food Drive competition. This food drive serves many families within our community. Please send to the Wyoming building due to construction.

Contest runs Nov 25 - Dec 13

The MMHS seminar group collecting the most items will receive a reward!

**** No glass jars should be sent on buses. Thanks! ****



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WINTER BREAK INFO:

School dismisses 2 hours early on
Wednesday, Dec. 20th.

Thurs, Jan 2 is a full
Staff Inservice Day - NO SCHOOL.

School resumes Fri, Jan 3

