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2023 - 2024

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MIDLAND PRIDE

*A Publication of the
Rochelle Park School District*



Message from the Superintendent, Dr. Sue DeNobile

Dear School Community,

We can hardly believe the school year is coming to its close! As thoughts turn to summer plans, many find themselves falling into a countdown mode, especially the students. But, it's important that we remain present and embrace the many wonderful opportunities and events June brings for all at Midland School. The district makes a strong commitment to bringing rich and rewarding opportunities for all students. We encourage everyone to be present every day and have a most positive finish to the school year.

While Grade 8 Promotion is scheduled for June 18th, please remember the last day of school is June 19th for all students, including students in grade 8. We look forward to the time honored tradition of the "clap out" and other summer farewell fun!

Please be sure to review the district's [2024-2025 School Year Calendar](#). The calendar notes many important events, beyond school opening and closing, such as ½ days, holidays/closings, marking periods, Back To School Night, and conferences. Kindly mark your calendars with the various important dates.

The district will hold a Re-Registration Program for all families of students in Grades 1 through Grade 12. Details on the Reregistration Program are expected to be released by the middle of July. Please remain alert for upcoming details as all requirements will need to be satisfied before students return to school. Also, over the summer the district will be busy with preparations for opening in September. There will be some construction, see page 6 for details.

Best wishes to everyone for a most enjoyable summer break!
We look forward to seeing you
in September.



**Grades 1-12
Registration
Coming
Soon**



Principal's Page

Dr. Courtney Carmichael, Principal

It has been a pleasure to be the principal for the 2023-2024 school year. Midland has wonderful traditions, supportive families and PTO, a committed staff, and absolutely lovely students.

I've been able to make small adjustments to the climate and culture as I mostly have observed the year in its entirety.

Some highlights include:

- Popsicles with the Principal, Aug. 2023
- Voice Levels for all students
- Read for the Record, Oct. 2023
- Middle School Pep Rally, Nov. 2023
- Ice Cream Social for Positive Behavior, Grades 3-5, Fall 2024
- Shoe Tying Competition, Grades 1-3, Spring 2024
- Midland School #1 being named Best Community for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation, April 2024

My favorite addition to the culture and climate of Midland has been the **Lion PRIDE** as we teach students to Be Positive, Be Respectful, Be Inspirational, Be Determined and to Be Excellent. We will expand on this more in 2024-2025.

As we wrap up the school year, I'm already planning for next year - improving recess and morning routines, increasing our attendance and decreasing tardiness with the Engage Committee, having more assemblies to entertain and inform, and the overall promotion of Midland School excellence.

Enjoy the summer!
- Dr. Carmichael

Some additional firsts for Midland in 2023-2024:

- New Bleachers, sponsored by the PTO
- First Midland School Soccer Team
- RPEA guest speaker - Tom Kersting with "Parenting in the Digital Age"
- Social worker intern presentations on Hispanic Heritage and African American History
- Quiet Study Hall added to the Wellness Department for recess options for middle school
- TAG Chorus and TAG Band receiving all superior ratings, ranking first, and the Esprit de Corps Award for loyalty and community at Dorney Music in the Parks in May. Well done! Amazing job!
- First take home Family Dinners made by the Special Services Department

Class of 2024 in the Nation's Capital



Grade 8 students enjoyed their trip to Washington, DC.

Spotlight on Curriculum

Mrs. Cara Hurd
Director of Curriculum

SUMMER TRANSITION PROGRAM

We are looking forward to our students in grades 1-8 joining us for the Summer Transition Program starting on July 1st.

The STP focuses on reinforcing ELA and math skills, as well as STEAM, SEL, and art activities. The program dates are July 1st through July 25th (Monday - Thursday), 8:30am - 11:30am.



Summer Reading Lists & Summer Math Practice

Check out the school's website for more information on summer reading lists and math practice that will be available for students.

Make sure to check out the **Supply Lists** for the 24-25 school year. Lists will be posted on our new website in July!



Education is Special!

Mrs. Rebecca Garcia,
Director of Special
Services

On Friday, April 26th, The Special Services Department hosted its very first Family Pasta Dinner led by teacher Ms. Johnson. As part of the Community-Based Instruction program, the students, along with staff, worked together to make trays of pasta, salad, and bread that were sold on a first come first serve basis. The proceeds from the sale will help to support the Community Based Instruction program, expand their supplies for future events, as well as offset the cost of field trips.



Recipe

Our students were able to dive into a world of hands-on learning where academic skills meet real-life fun! Our Community-Based Instruction program aims to provide students with exciting opportunities to practice essential skills in a natural setting. Through activities like converting recipes to feed a crowd, measuring portion sizes, and managing money, students were able practice their math skills. They sharpened their language arts abilities by reading and following their language arts supplies online. Communication skills are honed through teamwork and interacting professionally with staff to prepare the orders for pick-up.



A special thank you to Rochelle Park Shoprite for their donations. We would also like to thank our Midland Staff and Board of Education members who supported our program.

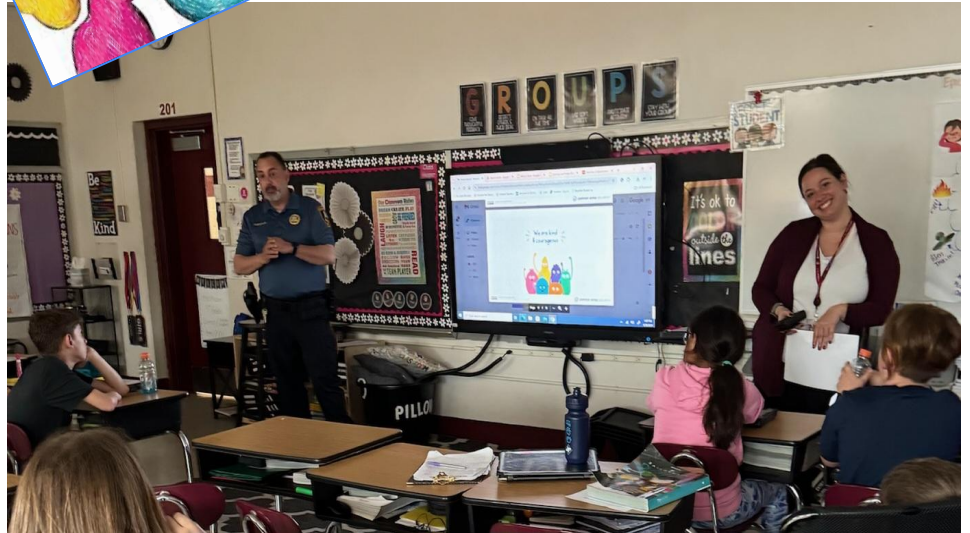
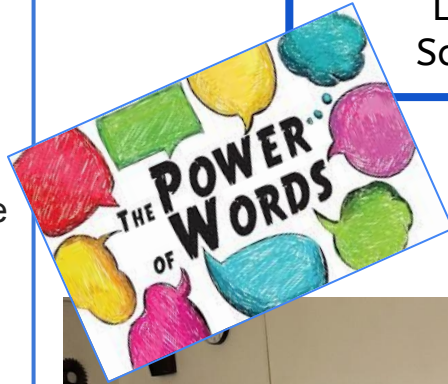
We hope to be able to continue to blend education with life skills, making learning both meaningful and enjoyable for our students at Midland.



SRO News

Lieutenant Stapleton,
School Resource Officer

This spring, the SRO, Lt. Stapleton and Ms. Lesniak presented lessons to the fourth grade classes. The lesson, "The Power of Words" focused on cyber-bullying and cyber-safety. The objective of the lesson was to teach empathy and appropriate online behavior. The students were taught how messages may be misinterpreted when sent digitally and how words may impact someone. Additionally, the students participated in a class discussion and shared ideas on how to remain safe while using technology.



TECHNOLOGY TIPS

Mr. Kevin Cox,
Technology Coordinator



Midland School now has additional cameras installed, as well as a brand new server! We take security seriously!!



Coming July 1st - A BRAND NEW DISTRICT WEBSITE!! Here's a sneak peek..



Rochelle Park School District
Midland School #1

Select Language

RealTime Parent Portal

PaySchools

News from the Business Office

Dr. James Riley
Business Administrator

Summer P-EBT

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture announced a new benefit program that will provide **funding for families to purchase food in the summer**. For details and to learn how to apply to the Summer EBT benefit program access this [link](#).



Several areas will undergo construction this summer:

- Gym Roof and Floor
- 1st and 3rd floor hallways
- Nurse suite hallway and furniture

Please be advised, construction on the gymnasium roof and flooring will begin in late June. Please avoid construction areas. We look forward to sharing the completed project in September.



Attention All Community Members

Please take note of the new signs for our playground and recreational space. The Board of Education has taken great care to provide a beautiful space. We ask for your care to maintain this space so it may be enjoyed for many year to come.

ADMINISTRATION

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