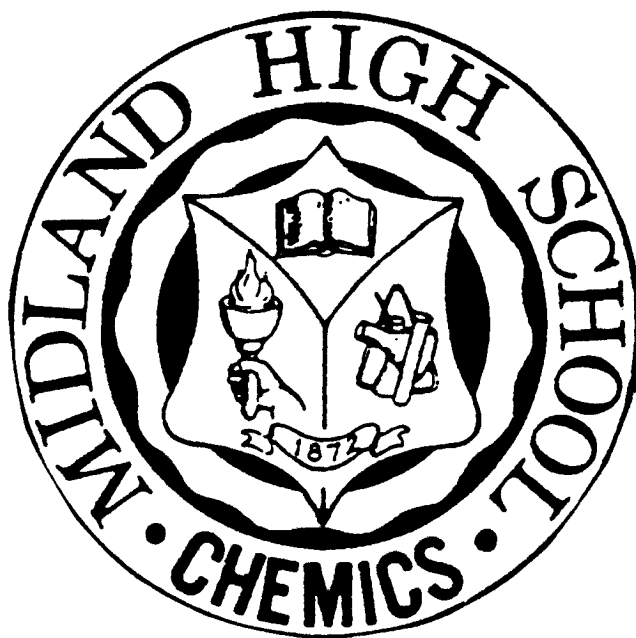




CHEMIC PRIDE
A Very Special Tradition

Student/Parent Handbook
2026-2027

Midland High School
1301 Eastlawn Drive
Midland MI 48642
Ph: (989) 923-5181
Fax: (989) 923-5100
Website: www.mhs.midlandps.org

Athletics: www.chemics.net

Online Payments: www.schoolpay.com

*The provisions contained in this student handbook do not constitute a contract expressed or implied, between students and the school.

MPS Mission: *Midland Public Schools is committed to creating a safe, innovative, and student-centered learning community where every learner is challenged, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential.*

MPS Vision: *Our graduates are prepared with the essential knowledge, skills, and character to achieve personal success and positively impact their communities.*

The School Day at Midland High School:

First Hour	7:40-8:35
Second Hour	8:41-9:36
Third Hour	9:42-10:47
Fourth Hour	10:53-11:48
2nd lunch	11:53-12:23
.....OR.....	
1st lunch	10:53-11:23
Fourth Hour	11:28-12:23
Fifth Hour	12:29-1:24
Sixth Hour	1:30-2:25
Seventh Hour	2:30-3:25

The traditional school day allows students to carry up to seven classes. Students whose classes begin and/or end other than the time of the regular school day (7:40-3:25) should report to the school no earlier than 10 minutes before their first class and leave no later than 30 minutes after their class.

Midland High School Mission

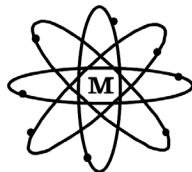
Everything we do is a representation of Chemic Pride!

MHS School Song

We'll all stick together
Old MHS in all kinds of weather;
We're friends, not foes
With luck it goes
We'll fight for right with all our might;
We'll not show white feather.
Our team has the old pep;
We're marching onward step by step.
The blue and gold will have no fear,
We're always ready to cheer and cheer
For dear old Midland High.

MHS School Colors

Blue & Gold



CHEMIC PRIDE -- A VERY SPECIAL TRADITION

ABOUT MIDLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Midland High School is a comprehensive four-year high school. The building was first opened to students in September, 1956. It is situated on 50 acres of land.

The building is open Monday through Friday at 7:30 a.m. Students are asked to leave the building 30 minutes after their last class unless they have a school activity.

Main office hours are 7:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Dance Policy

Guest passes for dance guests are available in the Main Office and must be completed and returned for approval at least 48 hours prior to the dance.

Driving and Vehicle Registration

Driving your car to school is a privilege. Any car you drive to school must be registered in order to park on school property. There will be a charge of \$50.00 to register a vehicle and obtain a permit. The sticker permits must be adhered to the lower left rear window (driver's side). The sticker must be visible. Students are not allowed to share parking spots. Vehicles not registered will be ticketed and may be towed or booted. Provisions have been made for student, faculty and public parking. Students should park in designated student areas at all times. There is heavy traffic in and around the building each day. Please observe SAFE driving practices. Here are some reminders:

- Observe all stop signs and warnings when entering and exiting the parking lot.
- Park between yellow lines only, not on the lines.
- Fire lanes and yellow curbs indicate "No Parking".
- Blue lines, blue curbs and signs indicate "Handicap Parking" only.
- Park only in student-assigned spot. **DO NOT park in the staff parking lot or in the circle driveway in front of the school.**
- Observe the **5 mph speed limit at all times** when in the parking lots. There is heavy traffic in and around the building each day.
- All vehicles must be locked every day. Midland Public Schools is not responsible for stolen property.
- Driving your car to school is a privilege which can be revoked.
- Proper respect shall be given to the Security Guard at all times.
- A student who operates a vehicle upon school property is considered to have given consent to a search of the vehicle with cause by school officials or police officers. Search may include the passenger compartment, engine compartment, trunk, and all containers, locked or unlocked in or on the vehicle. A parent or guardian who grants permission for his/her student to operate a vehicle on school property is also considered to have given such consent to a search of the vehicle.
- Trash should be disposed of in the proper receptacles.
- If a student drives on school property when driving privileges have been suspended, the student may lose driving privileges for the remainder of the semester.
- Suspension of driving privileges for moving violations at one school applies at all other schools.

During any suspension of driving privileges, the student may not drive or allow his/her vehicle to be driven by another student. Police will ticket any vehicle parked in a designated fire lane or handicap spot without authorization from the Secretary of State's Office. Parking violations issued by the police or assistant principals may result in the loss of the privilege to park on school premises. Illegally parked cars may be towed or booted. If you need to go to your car to retrieve a forgotten item, you must sign out in the Main Office before going to your car and sign in upon return.

Student Early Departures from School

We understand that it may be necessary for your student to leave before the end of the school day. Whenever possible, it's ideal that your student leave during passing time, in between hours of instruction. If they need to leave during a class period, **please call the school in the morning** and let us know the time they need to leave. We will then **prepare a pass for them to pick up** before school, between classes or during their lunch period. They will then give the pass to the teacher for the period during which they need to leave. This will allow them to leave the room quietly and reduce the amount of interruption in the classroom.

Illness at School

In case of illness during school hours, students MUST report to the Main Office. A parent/guardian will be contacted, and provisions made for students to be excused for the rest of the day. If the student goes home, the parent/guardian will be contacted in advance of their leaving the building.

Lockers

Lockers are school property. Each student is assigned a locker and combination at the beginning of the school year. DO NOT CHANGE LOCKERS. A record of locker assignments is kept in the main office. This information may become important in case of illness or emergency. Taking care of the lockers is the student's responsibility. Periodic locker inspections may be scheduled during the school year and inappropriate materials may be removed. Care should be taken not to SLAM doors as this destroys the combination lock. **Students should keep their lockers secure by not sharing the combination with others. Care should be taken to be sure lockers are locked after closing the door.** Lockers are not meant as storage areas for money or valuables. They are in no way completely secure. Items of value may be checked in at the Main Office. At year-end, students are responsible for locker clean-out and book return.

Lunch Hour

Lunch hours are determined by a student's fourth hour teacher's lunch hour. Students have 30 minutes for lunch each day during which time they may leave the building or eat in the school cafeteria, the front courtyard or Eyeball Alley. Students are expected to clean up after their lunch and get to their next class on time. Students are not allowed to go on the 1st and 3rd floors during lunch so classes are not disrupted. The cafeteria offers a well-balanced, complete lunch to all students. Lunch menus and information regarding lunch accounts may be accessed on the MPS web page at www.midlandps.org.

Messages & Deliveries to Students

If parents (only) have an emergency message for their student, it will be delivered through the Main Office. Please encourage your students to have everything they need before leaving for school each day. If they do forget a school-related item, feel free to drop it off in the office. Please let your student know that you will bring it and that they should check the office between classes or before lunch. The office will not call classrooms for forgotten items but will email your student's teachers if needed. This could result in a delivery delay.

No other messages, flowers, candies, balloons, etc., will be delivered to classrooms. Additionally, students are not to receive food deliveries (ex: pizza, DoorDash, etc.) at school.

Electronic Devices

To maintain an engaging, distraction-free learning environment, high school students must adhere to the following guidelines regarding personal wireless communication devices (cell phones, smartwatches, earbuds, etc.) as indicated in Board Policy 5209.

Permitted vs. Restricted Times

- Permitted Times: Before the first bell, during the assigned lunch period, and after the student's scheduled dismissal bell.
- Permitted locations during the assigned lunch period: outside of the school building and cafeteria.
- Restricted Times ("Bell-to-Bell"): Devices are strictly prohibited during class periods and passing periods. *Exceptions to this are indicated in Board Policy 5209.

Storage Requirement: During restricted hours, all devices must be turned off (or placed on silent) and stored out of sight in a locker.

Policy Enforcement & Disciplinary Structure

School staff members have the full authority to confiscate any communication device used in violation of Board Policy 5209. Violations will be handled using a progressive disciplinary model:

Infraction	Consequence
1st Infraction	The device is sent to the main office, where the student may retrieve it after the class period to store in their locker. A building administrator will document a verbal warning.
2nd Infraction	The device is confiscated for the remainder of the school day and may be retrieved by the student at dismissal. A building administrator will document the infraction and assign a lunch detention.
3rd Infraction	The device is confiscated and will only be released to a parent or guardian. A building administrator will document the infraction and assign additional lunch detentions.

Further infractions may result in a loss of device privileges on campus or additional disciplinary action as determined by administration.

Midland Public Schools Common Policies

Student Code of Conduct

The School District must balance the interests of students and the community in a safe and conducive educational environment with its duty to provide educational services to student who engage in misconduct and behaviors that interfere with the safety and the delivery of educational services. Board of Education policies addressing student misconduct and this Student Code of Conduct are intended to strike that balance. However, these documents do not limit the School District's lawful authority. All students and parents are expected to review and be knowledgeable of the information included herein annually.

Note: Due Process Rights and disciplinary procedural practices are included in the Student Code of Conduct.

Link to Midland Public Schools Code of Conduct:

Link:

<https://www.midlandps.org/codeofstudentconduct>

Annual Notices

Per statute, the Midland Public Schools must notify stakeholders of applicable state and federal laws. All students and parents are expected to review and be knowledgeable of the information included herein annually.

Link to Midland Public Schools Annual Notifications:

Link: [Midland Public Schools Annual Notifications](#)

Athletic Handbooks

The Midland Public Schools believes that utilizing the privilege of participation in interscholastic athletics provides an irreplaceable experience in fellowship and teamwork in competitive, publicly exposed circumstances. Competition helps nurture, develop, and test ethical principles and attitude. In athletics one can observe the importance of leadership and the need for the acceptance of authority and responsibility. Morals learned in the athletic arena, whether in victory or defeat, are a critical part of the development of young adults. All students and parents are expected to review and be knowledgeable of the information included herein annually.

Link: [2026-27 MHS Athletic Handbook](#)

Attendance

Regular school attendance is essential for academic success and developing personal responsibility. Because instructional time and classroom interactions cannot be duplicated, district policy accounts for all absences—whether excused or unexcused.

Attendance Limits & Credit Impact

- 10-Day Annual Limit: Midland Public Schools enforces a 10-day maximum absence policy per course per school year.
 - Both excused and unexcused absences count toward this 10-day limit.
 - Exceptions: School-excused (SE) absences and documented medical (MED) absences do not count toward the 10-day limit.
- Extracurricular Participation Attendance Requirement:
 - To participate in any extracurricular activity, practice, or event, a student must be present for at least 50% of the scheduled school day.
 - Unexcused absences may result in a loss of credit on missed coursework, directly impacting the overall grade.
 - Exceeding the 10-day limit may result in the loss of privileges to participate in extracurricular activities (e.g., athletics, dances, club activities, special events) for the remainder of the school year. Extenuating circumstances may be reviewed by the building principal or designee; all principal decisions are final.

Truancy Regulations

Per Midland County Probate guidelines, truancy protocols will be enacted when attendance limits are breached:

- Truancy Threshold: A student may be considered truant if they accumulate greater than 10 non-medically excused absences (any combination of excused and unexcused) within a school year.
- School-Excused Homework Assignments: Homework assignments assigned prior to a school-excused absence remain the responsibility

of the student and are due as scheduled unless prior arrangements are made with the teacher.

- Tardy Equivalent: Every 5 tardies equal 1 full-day absence toward the overall annual truancy total.
- Note on Policy Distinction: The 10-day limit per *school year* governs course credit, activity participation, and legal truancy reporting. Medical absences are exempt from both credit calculations and truancy referrals.

Reporting Absences & Medical Documentation

To report a student's absence, call the building attendance office within 48 hours of the missed period or day (or submit via ParentVUE).

- Unexcused Absences: Any absence not reported within 48 hours is automatically designated as Unexcused, and the automated Phone-Master system will contact the parent/guardian.
- Medical Verification: To classify an absence as medically excused, parents/guardians must submit a formal note from a physician, dentist, or orthodontist covering the specific hour(s) or day(s) missed.
 - Exam Week: Medical documentation for missed exams must be submitted to the Student Services Office prior to or during the exam period, detailing specific dates and times.
 - Extended/Special Absences: Extended medical absences require doctor's notes specifying exact date ranges. Special health plans or 504 plans are subject to administrative review.

Coursework & Make-Up Work Responsibilities

Students are directly responsible for managing missing assignments and maintaining communication with their teachers.

- Make-Up Timeline for Unexcused/Excused Absences: Students who have an unexcused/excused absence will be granted an equal number of school days to complete and submit any missed assignments (e.g., if a student is absent for three days, they will have three school days upon their return to turn in the makeup work).
- School-Excused Absences: Students will be responsible for all course work due on the day of a school-excused absence, if the assignment is assigned prior to the date of absence. Work assigned the day of the school-excused absence will be granted an equal number of school days to complete and submit any missed assignments. Communication with teachers is the responsibility of the student.

Arrival, Departure, & Check-In Procedures

Leaving During the School Day

If a student needs to leave for a planned appointment (medical, dental, etc.) or personal reason:

- Advance Notice: A parent/guardian must notify the Student Services Office in advance of the absence.

- Signing Out: Students must not leave campus without official permission and parent consent. Students must sign out at the Student Services Office before departing. Failing to follow this procedure results in an Unexcused Absence.
- Leaving at Lunch: Under the Midland Public Schools high school "open lunch" policy, students have 30 minutes for lunch and may leave campus. If a student leaves during lunch and does not plan to return for subsequent classes, they must sign out at Student Services first.

Arriving Late / Returning to School

- Any student arriving after the start of the school day or returning from an off-campus appointment must report directly to the Student Services Office to sign in.

Ill or Injured at School

- Illness: Report immediately to the Main Office. Staff will contact a parent/guardian and arrange permission to leave.
- Injury: Report immediately to the teacher in charge and the Main Office (applies to all areas, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, locker rooms, and labs).
- *Do not leave the building without Main Office approval.*

Tardiness Policy

Punctuality is crucial to academic success.

- Definition: A tardy is defined as failing to be in the assigned classroom when the bell rings (individual teacher policies determine whether a student must be in their physical seat).
- Timeframes:
 - Arriving between the bell and 5 minutes after class starts is marked as Tardy.
 - Arriving more than 5 minutes late is recorded as an Unexcused Absence.
- Reset & Restrictions: Tardies cannot be excused. Tardy counts and associated disciplinary actions reset at the start of each semester.

General Information & Special Guidelines

- Co-op Students: Co-op students who are absent from school due to illness are strictly prohibited from attending their co-op jobs on that same day.
- Students Aged 18+: Students who turn 18 and wish to assume legal responsibility for their own attendance records must sign an adult waiver form in the Main Office.

Counseling

Each student is assigned a counselor at the time of enrollment. This counselor should become a significant part of the high school experience. Counselors are able to help with educational and career planning and make referrals for personal counseling. The Counseling Office is open during

school hours and appointments may be made at any time. See your counselor when you:

- Need help in planning or adjusting your academic program
- Want information about future career or educational opportunities
- Are experiencing problems in any of your classes
- Would like to review your past record of achievement and/or interpretation of various individual tests you have taken in school
- Are involved in situations that are preventing you from doing your best in school

Emergency Drills

In accordance with MCL 29.19, Am. 2014, Act 12, Midland Public Schools makes available a listing of all safety drills conducted from July 1, 2014, onwards on its building websites.

Homebound Services

Students who are homebound or hospitalized due to a serious medical condition may request Homebound Teaching Services. The homebound program is coordinated by the assistant principals. If you desire more information about this service, please call the Counseling Office.

Injuries at School

All accidents should immediately be reported to the teacher in charge and the main office. This includes accidents in the classroom, gymnasium, playing fields, locker rooms or laboratories. **THE MIDLAND SCHOOLS DO NOT CARRY INSURANCE TO COVER ANY MEDICAL EXPENSES OF STUDENTS.** These expenses should be covered by the parents' or guardians' personal insurance plan. If you do not have accident insurance, you are encouraged to consider purchasing a voluntary accident insurance policy. For more information, contact the Main Office.

Medications and Immunizations

Per statute, school staff cannot administer medication, including aspirin, prescription drugs, or over-the-counter medications, unless a permission form is signed by the student's parent or guardian and physician and is presented to the school. All medications need to be supplied by the parent/guardian. Phone call requests to administer medication cannot be honored. Administration of the medication will then be done by a school staff member (*in the presence of another adult*) in compliance with your physician's instructions. Students should not possess medication unless the office has been made aware of it and the appropriate paperwork is received by the office.

"Medication" includes prescription, nonprescription, and/or herbal medications taken by mouth, by inhaler, injection, applied to the eyes or nose, or to the skin. Parents should notify the student's counselor and/or teachers if the student has a health concern or medical problem that should be known to the school staff. Per MPS Board Policy 5713.

State law requires that students attending Michigan schools have the required immunizations. Reference MPS Board Policy #5713 for guidance.

Secondary Course Offering Guide

Comprehensive information including (*but not limited to*) 6th – 12th grade course offerings, graduation requirements, exams/testing, honor roll, honor points, career pathways, can be found in the Midland Public School Secondary Course Offering Guide. This guide is updated annually.

Link: <https://www.midlandps.org/content/Curriculum>

Schools of Choice

The Midland Public Schools has adopted a policy regarding "Schools of Choice". Students or parents with questions should see a member of the administrative staff or refer to the district website.

Link:

<https://www.midlandps.org/Content2/Schools%20of%20Choice>

Student Information and Posters

All student information and posters or other printed material must be cleared with the principal before being displayed.

Transcripts/Records

Student records are maintained by staff in the Main Office. Seniors may obtain a copy of their transcript by utilizing the online Parchment Exchange system. Transcripts of students transferring to MPS from other districts will be evaluated based on the MPS curriculum. Weighted grades from other districts will be granted only for similar courses offered by MPS. Accelerated transfer credits will be given accelerated weight only if MPS has the same course that is also accelerated. If not, .2 credit will be issued. Honors credit from another district may receive honors, accelerated, or regular (.2) transfer credit depending on the related course in MPS. Midland Public Schools will not alter an incoming transcript to reflect increased or decreased weight for courses from the transferring school system. Questions regarding transcripts and records should be directed to the Registrar.

Work Permits

A work permit is required by law for all students under 18 who have a part-time job. Students who need a work permit may apply through the Main Office.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION, DESIGNATED COORDINATORS, GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972 TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the State of Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Midland Public Schools that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, height, weight, marital status, or disability shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in employment or in any program or activity for which the Board is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the United States Department of Education.

Section I—Designated Coordinators

Any person believing that the Midland Public Schools or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of (1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (2) Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (4) Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and (5) Age Discrimination Act of 1975, may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the local Civil Rights Coordinators as listed below at the following address:

Midland Public Schools 600 E. Carpenter Street Midland, MI 48640

Section 504 Coordinator – Associate Superintendent, Kara Stark, 989-923-5018

Title II Coordinator and Title VI -Director of Human Resources, Cynthia Marchese, 989-923-5016 Title IX and

Age Coordinator – Director of Human Resources, Cynthia Marchese, 989-923-5016

Section II—Grievance Procedures

The person who believes a valid basis for grievance exists shall discuss the grievance informally and on a verbal basis with the appropriate district Civil Rights Coordinator who shall, in turn, investigate the complaint and reply with an answer to the complainant within five (5) business days. The complainant may initiate formal procedures according to the following steps:

Step 1

A written statement of the grievance signed by the complainant shall be submitted to the appropriate district Civil Rights Coordinator within five (5) business days of receipt of answers to the informal complaint. The coordinator shall further investigate the matters of grievance and reply in writing to the complainant within five (5) days.

Step 2

A complainant wishing to appeal the decision of the district Civil Rights Coordinator may submit a signed statement of appeal to the Superintendent of Schools within five (5) business days after receipt of the Coordinator's response. The Superintendent shall meet with all parties involved, formulate a conclusion and respond in writing within ten (10) business days.

Step 3

If unsatisfied, the complainant may appeal through a signed, written statement to the Board of Education within five (5) business days of receiving the Superintendent's response in Step 2. In an attempt to resolve the grievance, the Board of Education shall meet with the concerned parties and their representatives within forty (40) days of the receipt of such an appeal. A copy of the Board's disposition of the appeal shall be sent to each concerned party within ten (10) days of this meeting.

Step 4

Inquiries concerning the nondiscriminatory policy may be directed to Director, Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202. The district Coordinator, on request, will provide a copy of the district's grievance procedure and investigate all complaints in accordance with this procedure. A copy of each of the acts and the regulations on which this notice is based may be found in the office of the district's Civil Rights Coordinator.

Gender Documentation & Name Change Requests

MPS seeks to support students and parents in the process of changing the students preferred name on documentation that circulates around school and on attendance rosters. The District is required to maintain a mandatory permanent pupil record ("official record") that includes a student's legal name and legal gender. However, as stated above, the District is not required to use a student's legal name and gender on other school records or documents. The District will also change a student's official record to reflect a change in legal name or legal gender upon receipt of documentation that such change has been made pursuant to a court order. MPS is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture in our schools and maintains a commitment to supporting transgender and gender nonconforming youth. To request a "preferred name change" please contact your building principal. Students over the age of 18 may initiate this process on their own, but parent consent will be required for minors. The building administrator will support a minor student by facilitating the parent meeting and discussion upon request.

Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault Information Guide:Pursuant to MCL 380.1508 (Public Act 57 of 2023), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has developed age appropriate information materials for students in grades 6-12 titled Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault Information Guide. For the 2025-2026 school year, districts shall disseminate the Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault Information Guide to students in grades 6-12 in a form and manner determined by the district.

Link: [SHSA Information Guide Link](#)