

New Jersey Schools Lose State Aid

By Dan L.

New Jersey Public Schools are amongst the best in the country. Midland Park has been one of the top 50 High Schools for multiple consecutive years. Due to the growing economical crisis, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie has cut state aid from New Jersey Schools. In the past, Midland Park received approximately \$1,070,000 in state aid. With these new budget cuts, Midland Park will now receive annual state aid in the amount of \$70,000. That means that \$1,000,000 has been cut from the budget. However,

we are fortunate to continue receiving some money from the state. Other surrounding towns have received even bigger cuts. Ridgewood received around 2.2 million in state aid annually, and will lose 100% of that money. Glen Rock will be also be receiving no state aid. What does this mean for Midland Park? During a recent interview our Superintendent Dr. Heebink explained that cuts will be made for next year. There will be reductions in sports team and clubs at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Additionally there will be



staffing reductions. This includes teachers, administrators and support staff. Despite these cuts, Midland Park will continue to be amongst the best in the country. Midland Park is a special town with an unflagging spirit. The students of Midland Park will continue to receive a top-notch education.

NCAA March Madness Final Standings!

Kathryn A.

Did you watch the NCAA March Madness? Did you fill out your bracket? For those of you who don't know, March Madness is when the top 64 college basketball teams compete for the championship! If a team loses a game, they're automatically out and the winner moves on to the

next game. The games are very exciting to watch because most viewers have a favorite team that they root on. The championship starts with 64 teams. After some of the teams are knocked out, it narrows down to the "Sweet 16." The games continue to be played until the teams are down to the Final 4. This year the Final 4

were Michigan State, Butler, Duke, and West Virginia. Duke beat Butler to be the 2010 NCAA Champions!



In this issue:

- Spring Band and Chorus Concerts
- Middle School Track
- Friend? Or Frenemy?
- To 5 Vacation Spots
- Ways to Beat the Heat
- Awesome Summer Foods!

Top 10 Songs - Spring 2010 Compiled by iTunes

1. California Gurls (feat. Snoop Dogg)
Katy Perry
2. OMG (feat. will.i.am)
Usher
3. Airplanes (feat. Hayley Williams o...
B.o.B
4. Billionaire (feat. Bruno Mars)
Travie McCoy
5. Not Afraid
Eminem
6. Your Love Is My Drug
Ke\$ha
7. Rock That Body
Black Eyed Peas
8. Alejandro
Lady GaGa
9. Bulletproof
La Roux
10. Miss Me (feat. Lil Wayne)
Drake

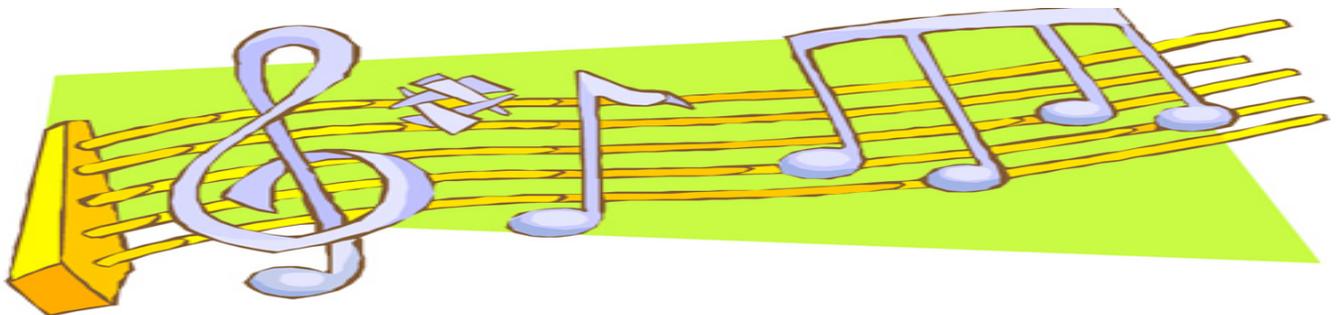
Middle School Spring Choral Concert

MPHS Middle School Shows of their Talents at Concerts!!

by Staff Writers
This year's Middle School Spring Choral Concert was held on May 13th, 2010. The chorus is under the direction of Mrs. Donna Halliwell. Mrs. Terry Alnor was this show's accompanist. The audience was treated to many fun, exciting tunes including: *Hallelujah*,

Choo Choo Ch Boogie, *Bound to Go*, *Cantate Domino* and *Don't Laugh at Me*. Leanna A., Kevin P., Lauren R., Julie D., Rachel J. and Logan M. all sang in a song entitled *At The Beginning*. *Don't Laugh at Me* featured solos by Kevin P., Jillian S., Logan M., Julie D., Stephanie R., and Erin M. They all sounded great!

An informal poll of the Chorus members showed that the favorite song was *Hallelujah!* After the show, the audience was very appreciative! The 7th graders are excited to be singing with this chorus again next year and the 8th graders are excited to become part of the high school ensemble.



Middle School Band Performs in Spring Concert

by Caitlin S.
The High School and Middle School bands performed their spring concert on Thursday, May 27th, 2010. The two hour concert was made up of the following performing groups: Middle School Band, High School Band, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Combined Band, and a special performance by a Korean Drum Group. Some favorites were *Concerto for Faculty and Band*, *Ahrirang*,

Devil Went Down to Georgia, *Selections from Jersey Boys*, *Don't Stop Belevin'*, and *Mambo Cubano*. In the piece entitled *Concerto for Faculty and Band* three teachers, Mr. Varjian, Mr. Elliot, and Mr. Ersalesi, were showcased with solo performances on the cymbals, tambourine and ocarina. This song was one of the most talked about pieces of the night. Another audience favorite was the 8-member Korean drum group from a local church.

The Percussion Ensemble played is under the direction of Mr. Steve Bartosik, Mr. Peters is the conductor of the Jazz band and Mr. Marks is the Director of Bands.



Advice for Future 8th Graders - From the 8th Graders

We asked the current 8th graders for some advice on how the current 7th grade could be successful in their 8th grade year! Here are 20 pieces of advice that will help you navigate your final year in middle school.

- *Don't slack off because it's easy to fall behind.
- *Keep up with projects. Don't wait until the last minute or else you will end up with 4 other projects to do all at once.
- *Get involved in school sports or clubs.
- *Keep all worksheets and notes and study guides for the final exam.
- *Do homework.
- *Try hard even if you don't know it. Effort is important!
- *Study hard.
- *Pay attention.
- *Stay focused.
- *Get on your teachers good sides.
- *Don't argue with teachers.
- *Don't copy other's work.
- *Ask your teachers for help.
- *They are here to help you.
- *Be organized.
- *Be prepared.
- *Be respectful.
- *Participate.
- *Don't try to sneak cell phones - all the teachers have good eyes!
- *Read the books that are assigned.
- *Balance time with your friends and school work.

Advice for Future 7th Graders - From the 7th Graders

Hey upcoming 7th graders, we know you're nervous about coming up to MPHS. Here are some tips from us to you...

- *Stay organized and always be prepared and have your supplies.
- *Study really hard.
- *Don't slack off- school gets harder each day!
- *Don't be disrespectful because there are detentions.
- *Don't whine. Just do the work.
- *Always have pens and pencils with you.
- *Don't get lazy.
- *Respect classmates and teachers.
- *Be responsible.
- Don't be afraid of the older kids.
- *Remember the dress code.
- *Don't try shortcuts on projects. It doesn't work.
- *Always pay attention.
- *Follow directions.
- *Think about your decisions.
- *Let the good times last.
- *Don't procrastinate.
- *HAVE FUN!





What Are You Listening To?

By Rachel A.

We all listen to the radio. But everyone has their own idea of what kind of music they like. Some of the top radio stations listened to by Midland Park Middle School students are: Z100, 92.3 Now, and 95.5 PLJ. Z100 is the top station for many people. It plays all the newer pop songs that come out including: Lady Gaga, Ke\$ha, Justin Bieber, Black Eyed Peas, Rihanna and much more! Z100 can be heard at 100.3FM. Another great radio station is 92.3. It

sounds a lot like Z100 even though it is a different station. They play a lot of the "Top Picks" from iTunes, and many songs that we like to listen to. (See out front page for the Top 10 Songs from iTunes.) 95.5 PLJ is also a good station that has a great show in the morning with Scott and Todd. All of these radio stations are fun to listen to. They also have great DJ's. Z100's Elvis Duran is a fun person who loves a great song, book, restaurant and TV show. PLJ's Scott Shannon,

Todd Petengill and Patty Steele all eat, sleep and breathe great music. They also all started out on the radio at a young age and are really funny. Some of 92.3's DJ's are Nick Cannon, Lisa Paige, Tic Tak, and Chunky. All of the DJ's are fun to listen to and like to take calls from their listeners. So when you're hanging out this summer and you need to hear some good songs, tune in to any of these radio stations!



Spruce Up For Spring - Clean That Room!!

By Caitlin S.

Spring-cleaning time has come, and your mom is probably already telling you to clean up your room. Here are some tips to spruce up your room for Spring! Start by making a list of things you need to do. Play your favorite music to motivate you. Start with small tasks like changing your sheets and making your bed or organizing

your drawers. Go through all your clothes for summer. Keeps things that fit and toss things that don't. Organize your dresser drawers and desks. You'll find stuff easier and it'll save you time. Rearrange your posters and pictures. Find where things would look best. Sit back and relax and enjoy your 'new' living space!



For the World Traveler - Top 5 World Wide Vacation Spots

By Caitlin S.

Looking for a place to go this summer? Here are the Top 5 World Wide Vacation Spots:

1. Topping the list is the Caribbean. With its sandy beaches and millions of resorts its no surprise that's it's the top vacation spot in the world! It brings fun and relaxation to your vacation in a beautiful tropical setting. Plus there are tons of islands to choose from.

2. Coming up at number two is Paris, France. The Eiffel Tower, famous museums, and beautiful gardens make this city attractive to travelers. Other places in

France also attract travelers with their charm like Lyon and Marseille.

3. Rome, Italy is number three. It's the most historic and beautiful city in Europe. There are tons of monuments, museums, and so much more to do. Plus there are countless restaurants serving great tasting food. Also inside of Rome is Vatican City. Another city to visit in Italy is Venice built entirely on a lagoon.

4. Number four Hawaii. Known for its beautiful beaches and relaxing



atmosphere. There are five other islands to visit besides Hawaii.

5. At the end of the list Las Vegas Nevada. Also known as Sin City, but gambling is not the only fun thing you can do in Las Vegas. There are tons of family friendly activities.

Goofy Summer Jokes!

Q: What did the pig say at the beach on a hot summer's day?

A: I'm bacon!



Q: What did one bee say to the other bee in summer?

A: Swarm in here, isn't it!



Overheard at the end of August:

Knock Knock!

Who's there?

Dewey.

Dewey who?

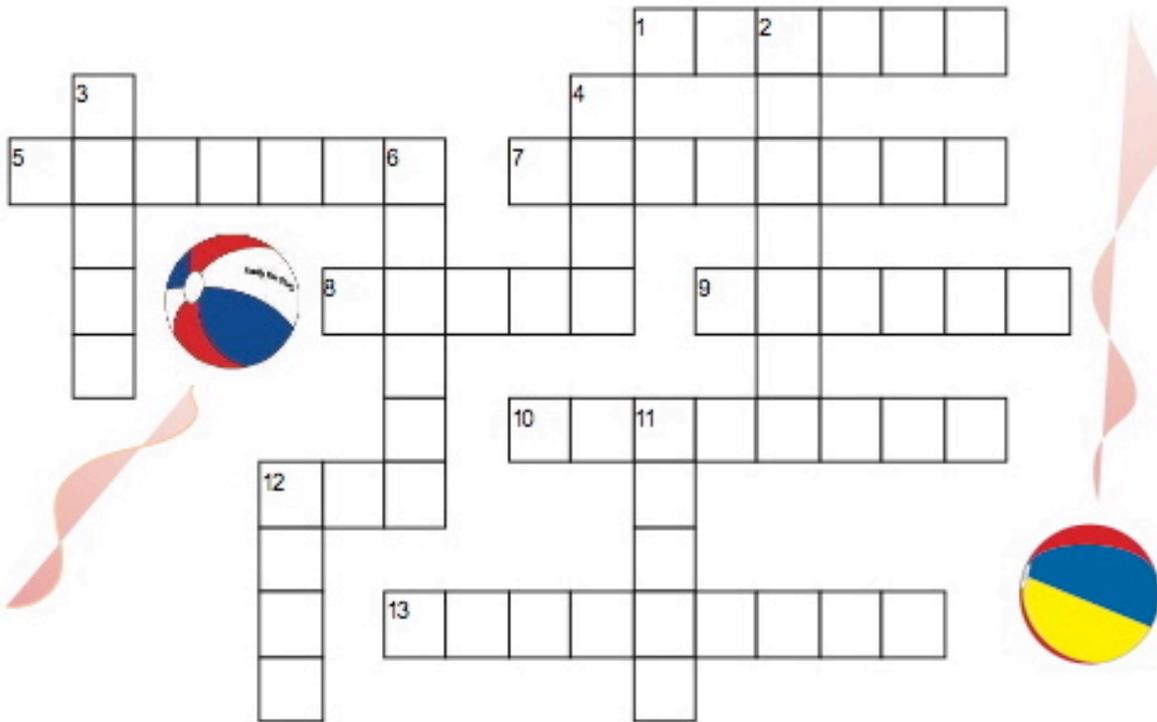
Dewey have to go back to school?



BACK TO SCHOOL



SUMMER CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Solve the Summer Crossword Puzzle by using the clues below:

Across

1. Summer is a good time for playing _____.
5. A summer activity for which a tent is used.
7. Summer is a good time for a family _____.
8. It is important to _____ enough water during summer.
9. A summer activity that requires a lot of walking.
10. An _____ is used for shade in summer.
12. It shines in the sky and makes you hot in summer.
13. Put this on so you won't get a sunburn.

Down:

2. Summer is a great time to go _____ to play.
3. There are several _____ sports to do in summer like swimming, surfing, and diving.
4. A place to go in summer that has trees, a playground, and picnic tables.
6. A place to plant flowers, fruits, and vegetables.
11. A place with lots of sand and water.
12. You do this in a pool.



Keep Cool This Summer and Beat The Heat!

By Rachel A.

This summer, we all want to keep cool on blazing hot days. The question is HOW? Of course, one of the top ways is (Dun dun Dun dun) AIR CONDITIONING! But if for some reason you don't have air conditioning, here are some other ways to beat the heat. Go with your friends to 7-11 and get a cold Slurpee. (Wild Cherry is the BEST!) Or, if you're lucky enough to hear that music coming down your

block, you could get ice cream (or ice-pops) from the ice-cream man! Of course, one of the BEST ways to keep cool is to go swimming! You could go to a pool or lake! If that's not an option then you can run through a sprinkler. Some people have crazy sprinklers and some other people have regular ones (like me). Either way, they are still fun to use and they do the job - they keep you cool. I hope that these suggestions help during the hot

summer days. Have a great summer!



Top 5 Summer Foods!

By Kathryn A.

Thinking about what food you're going to eat this summer? Well, we've got the Top 5 Summer Foods.

1. That red and tasty green fruit called watermelon is most kids' favorite summer fruits.
2. Another summer favorite is a dessert called blueberry sorbet. Blueberry sorbet is made with fresh blueberries and is cold and smooth like ice cream! Yum!
3. To quench your summer thirst, try a nice class of Lemonade!
4. Ice pops are always a favorite after a long hot summer day. There are so many types out there from the original ice pops or the fudge pops, which are amazing.
5. Last but not least there is always something that EVERYONE enjoys which is homemade ice cream. When it comes to homemade ice cream, you can make any flavor you love like chocolate chip mint, vanilla, strawberry, coffee, and more.



This summer try out all these cool summer foods!

Panther Paws, Jr.

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Middle School Track

By Kaytlynn K.

The track season has come and gone. On May 22, the middle school track team went to the Ridgewood Invitational where teams came from all over competed. Some of the teams in attendance were: Ridgewood, Eastern Christian, and Oakland. The events in which Midland Park participated were 55, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600, Relay 4x100 and 4x200, long jump, discus, and shotput. There were three medals won. Seth Zuidema won third place in discus and Sam Skretkowicz won two medals. The middle school track team is made up of may 7th and 8th graders and through the season of meets the track team became one big happy (most of the time) family.

Friend or Frenemy?

By Caitlin S.

How do you know whether or not your best friend is a true friend or just an acquaintance? True friends will do anything for you. They'll never let anything come between you two. Whether it's a fight or another person, a true friend is there.

They'll also listen to your problems and just listen. A true friend will do anything for you big or small. When your friend is a true one - you'll know it. So let's say that your new friend hasn't really been listening to you. It always seems like it's about them, and when it's about you, it doesn't seem to matter. These are warning sign this person

isn't worth your time. Fake friends will treat you differently than your real friends. Spend your time working on your relationships with you real friends. Fake friends aren't worth your time - so don't waste it.



Top 5 Summer Fun Activities in MP

By Kaytlynn K.

No summer plans this summer? Well here are the Top 5 fun things to do in Midland Park!

1. Rec. Camp - Recreation Camp is a fun camp for kids in grades K-8 that meets from June 29 to August 9. You can pick the weeks you'd like to go and if you're older than 8th grade you can help out!

2. Grass Surfing - Most parents won't drive you to the beach to ride a surfboard, so now you can go surfing in your own backyard.

Just get a laundry basket and slide a grassy hill!

3. Hot Chocolate Stand - Lemonade stands are overrated, so reverse it a bit and have a hot chocolate stand! It's so ridiculous you'll get lots of customers...trust me I've tried.

4. Catch Spiders - Scared of catching lightning bugs? Well, now you can be even more scared catching spiders!

5. Write your "E"'s backwards - Bored? Write a letter to a

random person, but write all of your "E"'s backwards.

By the way this is the least fun of the Top 5 fun things to do in Midland Park.



We're on the Web!

See us at:

[midlandparkschools.
schoolwires.com](http://midlandparkschools.schoolwires.com)