



September 2023

“Many hands make light work.” That phrase takes me back to my days on the “Moving Crew” at Utah State University. In that job we were tasked with moving anything that needed to be moved inside the buildings, from folding chairs to grand pianos. For those who have moved a grand piano, you know that it’s not something to attempt alone, especially if there are stairs involved. It took several of us, lifting at the same time, to move each piano and required that we each lift where we were standing to do our part.

Our schools are no different. We all have a role to play in the education of our youth. Parents, teachers, students, administrators, food service, transportation, etc. We can’t accomplish our goals without everybody working together.

Every year our teachers, principals, school, and the district make goals for what we want to accomplish. But every one of those goals requires that we work together.

Over the coming months we are working on a new part of our website that will help you, as patrons, know what those goals are, and more importantly, how we’re doing in our efforts to accomplish them. As we get the reports on the website we will inform everyone. This will allow us to work together, but united, toward a goal.

When we all put our efforts in the same direction, we really are stronger together.

Superintendent Marc Gee welcomes questions and comments at mgee@msd134.org or call the School District Office at 208.585.3027.



Board of Trustees will consider Supplemental levy for November ballot on September 11

Every two years, the Middleton School District asks patrons to approve \$1.5 million per year for two years to support students and teachers. The supplemental levy provides funding above and beyond what the Idaho Legislature allocates for annual funding and is used by the district for the items listed here. On September 11, the school board will, at its regular board meeting, decide whether to ask patrons to renew this levy.

Why

The current levy, approved by voters in March 2022, expires at the end of this school year. The proposed renewal of this levy would need a simple majority of voters to pass so that funds would be available for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

Because we are asking for the same amount as in previous years, and more people have moved to the area, the amount that patrons pay per \$100,000 of taxable property will decrease. When the current levy was passed the amount was \$61.32 and now will be \$37.73 or less for this levy. That is a 38 percent decrease.

Good news

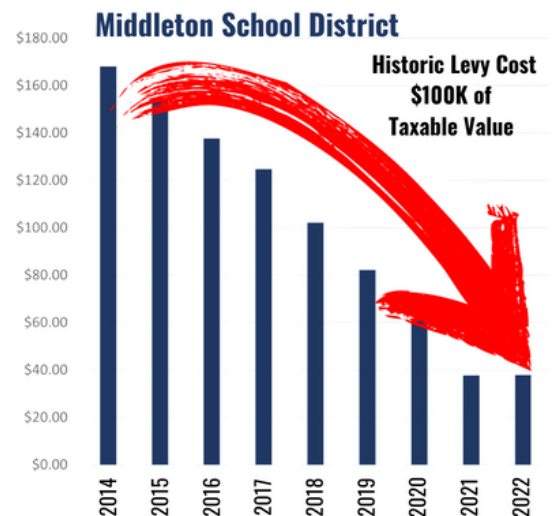
In addition to this decrease, the Legislature passed property tax relief. Our district will receive \$1.6 million dollars. The new law is very specific on how those funds can be used. By law, we are directed to use those dollars first to pay off any existing bonds. This will decrease what you, as a taxpayer, will have to pay for the bond. We would like to use the property tax

How would the Supplemental levy be spent?



Categories	Cost	%
Certified Teaching Positions	\$386,000	28%
Classified Staff	\$354,000	24%
Resource Officer	\$80,000	5%
Pay-to-Participate Fees	\$45,000	3%
Curriculum Adoption	\$500,000	33%
Transportation	\$35,000	2%
Maintenance	\$100,000	7%
TOTAL	\$1,500,000	100%

Watch for Info about Public Levy Presentations



relief funds instead of the supplemental levy, but unfortunately, that is not permitted when a bond payment must be made.

Please reach out to your board members or Mr. Gee (mgee@msd134.org) if you have any questions.

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S POSTAGE
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Important Dates

- Sept. 11:** Board of Trustees meeting, 6 pm, District Office
- Sept. 18:** Powderpuff Tournament, 7 pm MHS
- Sept. 21:** Homecoming Parade, 1:30 pm (watch Social Media and www.msd134.org for route)
- Sept. 21:** Men's Homecoming Volleyball Tournament, 7 pm MHS
- Sept. 22:** Homecoming Football Game, 7 pm
- Oct. 9:** Board of Trustees meeting, 6 pm, District Office.
- Oct. 11:** PSAT Day - No School 9th and 11th grades only
- Nov. 7:** Election Day: Trustees and possible Supplemental Levy
- Nov. 8:** Elementary Parent Teacher Conference - 4:30 - 7 pm
- Nov. 9:** Elementary Parent Teacher Conference - 9 am - 7 pm; No School K-5
- Nov. 13:** Board of Trustees meeting, 6 pm, District Office.
- Nov. 20-23:** Thanksgiving Break

Visit the District calendar for other dates, including athletic events at:

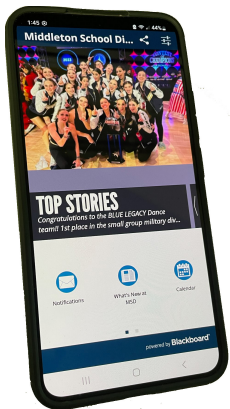
<https://www.msd134.org/Page/5284>

Middleton Schools website:

www.msd134.org/

Download our Middleton School District

App: msd134.parentlink.net/smartlink/



- Info on the go
- Student info
- What's New
- Calendar
- Access school and staff info
- Social Media updates

Follow Middleton Schools



Academy leadership changes after Dr. Glen Croft accepts superintendency appointment in Payette

I was born and raised in Southern California and attended West Virginia State University on a football scholarship.

I was a Special Ed teacher for 25 years and coached for 30 years.

I am blessed to have a supportive wife and four children, a daughter Miranda, son Austin, and twins Parker and Gavin.

I believe that there is nothing more important than building strong relationships with students, parents, and teachers. It is particularly important for me to make sure that each and every day your child is engaged in a positive way so that he or she can make progress, both academically and socially, to become the best version of themselves they can.

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I love being part of Middleton Academy!

I was born and raised in Southern California. I earned my Bachelor's degree at Multnomah University in Portland, Oregon. I then earned my Master's in Teaching from Willamette University. I am finishing up my Master's in Educational Leadership at Western Governors University. I taught for 20 years before moving to administration, and 15 of those years were in alternative schools.

I have been married for more than 20 years and we have four daughters, Emily, Ellen, Abby and Annie.

I strive to create positive connections with students and families and provide graduates with a solid academic, social, and emotional foundation.



Principal Steve Diffey: His 6th year at MA and 13 years in the District. This is his first year as principal after serving as assistant principal for two years.



Assistant Principal Christine Steele has been at Middleton Academy and the District for eight years.

## Other Middleton School District News

### New portable classrooms are all set up

To accommodate increased student population growth, the Board of Trustees authorized the purchase of more 5 portable units



for this new school year. The units have been placed and students are in the classrooms.

We are currently operating with: 5 portable units at Heights; 6 portable units at Mill Creek; and 2 portable units at the Middle School that serve as office space for district wide programs.

### Thank you for your mascot votes

Thank you to everyone who cast a ballot for the new Viking mascot. We have now moved into the final stages of the branding process.

The renditions that you, as a community, voted for have been submitted and the finishing touches are being produced by the branding company Varsity Brands. We appreciate your patience in this process, as we want to make sure it's done right.

"I want to personally thank everyone who has given their time to this process," MHS Principal Johnny Hullinger said.

"Your efforts have ensured that we will have a unique Viking mascot that exemplifies the MHS community and one we can rally around for years to come."

We are hopeful to roll out the final product prior to the start of the 2024 New Year!

