**District Vision Statement**
Michigan Center School - The cutting edge leader in educational advancement empowers all students for life-long success in a changing world.

**District Mission Statement**
The mission of Michigan Center School District is to engage, challenge and motivate life-long learners toward excellence through innovation.

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**MC Third Graders Visited the State of Michigan Capital**

*December 6, 2017*

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**Kindergarten Spreads Holiday Cheer**
The Kindergarten students of Arnold shared their holiday cheer with area nursing homes. They sang their favorite holiday songs and then distributed homemade holiday cards. Arnold students received many smiles for their efforts. A great time was had by all!

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**We Want You!**
If you will have a Young 5 or Kindergarten student for the 2018-2019 school year, we would love to have you here at Arnold School. We will be scheduling Kindergarten Round-Up in March, so look for the dates. Dates will be posted on the Arnold sign and Website. We can’t wait to meet our youngest Cardinals!
Message from Superintendent Cook

We say this every year, but WOW did the first semester fly by! We have had a very successful and rewarding first semester at all of our Michigan Center Schools, and we are looking forward to an even better second semester. Here are some exciting highlights to recap:

New and Improved Facilities – In early August we weren’t even sure school would start on time. If you were around the schools at that time you saw a lot of dust, heard a lot of noise, and needed a hard-hat just to travel safely in the buildings. As we enter 2018 we have dramatically upgraded our facilities (thank you Michigan Center community!). We have a beautiful new gym at Arnold that the students LOVE. We have brand new, state of the art kitchen and upgraded cafeteria facilities at Keicher and the Jr/Sr High. We have an awesome multipurpose room, new main office, and upgraded athletic facilities at the Jr/Sr High. We have significantly upgraded security and safety measures in each building. We are thrilled with the upgrades that have occurred, and our first measure of business post-project is to identify needs that remain so that we can address those to continue to enhance our district’s facilities. Once again, a sincere thank you to the Michigan Center community for your unwavering support of our schools.

Academics – Arnold and Keicher Schools continue to focus on mathematical instruction, literacy, and science while incorporating methods that are compatible with 21st century learning. The entire district is participating in a countywide effort to enhance the curriculum, scope and sequence, and assessment across multiple subjects. The Junior/Senior High School, and the entire district as a whole, have shifted to a philosophy of putting all of our students on the path that fits their specific needs. We have shifted from a traditional “college ready” path to a “world ready” view. Our goal is to prepare all of our students to be equipped with the skills to be successful in any career path. We are in the process of updating a goal/vision/strategic plan that will involve stakeholders inside and outside of the school.

Athletics - There are too many highlights to choose from! Michigan Center continues to be highly-successful in athletics. What’s more exciting is that many of our teams have received recognition for their academic success.

Accolades – On behalf of the District and community I would like to congratulate Arnold principal, Kelly McCloughan, for receiving the MEMSPA Region 3 Principal of the Year Award!

School of Choice Destination – There are many factors, some mentioned above, that have contributed to Michigan Center Schools maintaining our status as one of the premier School of Choice destinations in the county. This has pushed our school to “Class B” status, and we look forward to continuing to grow both in numbers and in our ability to provide a well-rounded, quality education for all of our students.

Lastly, I’d like to express my sincere gratitude to all of the Michigan Center community for supporting me as the superintendent in a district I adore. I look forward to many, many years of greatness for Michigan Center Schools! If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to have a conversation about our schools, please don’t hesitate to contact me at brady.cook@mccardinals.org or call 517-764-5778.

Check out our Website for News and Upcoming Events! www.mccardinals.org
MC Leaders Shine at Jackson County Drug Summit

Mr. Desmarais and several Leadership students attended and presented at the Jackson County Drug Summit held at Jackson College on December 8, 2017. This is an incredible opportunity to showcase our student leadership and all of their hard work hosting the Michigan Center Drug Forum bi-yearly for our students. This event educates our students about various topics that include: drug/alcohol addiction and mental health and suicide education and prevention. We are proud to be part of this Jackson County wide initiative and of our amazing student leadership!
**Family Folk Dancing Festival**

Fourth grade students and their families filled the Keicher gymnasium on November 15 for an evening of folk dancing and fun. The event started with a quick review of proper dancing etiquette. Then more than 40 fourth grade students transformed the gymnasium into a dance hall and demonstrated the steps of each folk dance they learned during music class. Family members watched closely, attempting to learn the dances by studying the students’ movements. With smiles on their faces, the students invited their special guests down to the dance floor. Parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends laughed and smiled as they danced with one another to *Skip to My Lou*, *Chimes of Dunkirk*, and *Kinderpolka*. The evening concluded with donuts, apple cider, and friendly conversations. Many thanks to everyone who attended the folk dancing festival, and special thanks to the Michigan Center PTO for providing the delicious refreshments.

**Keicher Band Performs at the University of Michigan**

Congratulations to the Sixth Grade Band for its outstanding performance at the University of Michigan on October 24. The 54 member ensemble was invited to sing, chant, improvise, and play its instruments for faculty and students from the School of Music. The band sang the melody and bassline of *Baa, Baa, Black Sheep* and played *Ice Cream Cone*. Lukas Howard and Lauren Van Valkenburg also played *The Victors*. The audience was particularly impressed that the students had only played their instruments four times prior to the concert; and Dr. Conway, Professor of Music Education, commented that the students were “attentive, polite, and excited about music.” In addition to performing, Keicher students enjoyed a master class presented by a trumpet doctoral candidate; spoke with college students about their musical experiences; and toured Revelli Hall, home to the Michigan Marching Band. The students concluded their visit to campus with lunch at the food court in the Michigan Union where they dined with college students. Thank you to the musicians for their excellent etiquette throughout the day. Special thanks to the parents who chaperoned the trip and School Board Member Kiley Brown who attended the band’s performance in Ann Arbor. Your tremendous support of the Michigan Center Music Department is always appreciated!
Keicher Winter Band Concert

The sixth grade band performed for family and friends on Friday, December 15 at Keicher Elementary School. Students wore Santa hats and played instruments decorated with ornaments, lights, bows, ribbon, and garland. The entire band performed *Ice Cream Cone, Major Duple, Baa Baa Black Sheep, Lady My*, and *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. Select students shared the additional tunes listed below, and Mr. Cook took the baton as guest conductor of *Ice Cream Cone*, adding a one-of-a-kind conducting gesture on the last note. What an entertaining addition to the concert! Congratulations to all the musicians on their fine performance, especially after missing two dress rehearsals due to inclement weather. Please visit www.micheel-mays.weebly.com for pictures and videos of the performance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Instruments</th>
<th>Songs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barrett Bradley</td>
<td>Saxophone</td>
<td><em>When the Saints Go Marching In</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joslin Clem,</td>
<td>Trumpet, Percussion,</td>
<td><em>The Victors</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lukas Howard,</td>
<td>and Trumpet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Lauren VanValkenburg</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Clemons</td>
<td>Saxophone</td>
<td><em>Ode to Joy</em></td>
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</tbody>
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**Michigan Center Schools**

**Upcoming High School Jr/Sr High Music Upcoming Events**

**Upcoming High School Pep Band Schedule**

*January 26 - Snowball!*
February 1 vs. Hanover
February 9 vs. Grass Lake

**High School Solo & Ensemble - Saturday, February 3rd at Onsted HS**

**Pre-Festival Concert for the 7th, 8th, and High School Bands:**
Thursday, February 22 at 7:00pm. **Snow Day Make-Up Date:** Monday, February 26

**7th Grade Band Festival:** Either March 2 or 3 at Fowlerville High School (TBD)

**8th Grade/HS Band Festival:** Either March 9 or 10 at Parma Western High School (TBD)

**Spaghetti and Swing - Wednesday, March 21 - Jazz Band Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser!** Tickets sold in February and March! We will be in need of spaghetti sauce and noodle donations!
Call 764-3380, email kim.trudell@mccardinals.org, or check out our Facebook page for more information on any of our programs. Many of our programs are full at this time, but feel free to contact us for specific information.

We are licensed by the state of Michigan and serve children 3 – 12 years of age. Our child care has programs that run year round – all day, as well as before & after school. In the summer, our program is full of theme days, field trips and fun activities. Enrollment for the summer of 2018 will begin in April. Enrollment for our 2018-19 school year child care will begin in August.

Michigan Center Preschool offers classes for 3 and 4 year olds. We have tuition (3 and 4 year old) and GSRP (4 year old, state-funded and free to those that meet income guidelines as set by the state). Children are taught in a fun and developmentally appropriate way. Our curriculum is based on the High Scope approach and is aligned with Arnold Elementary. Enrollment for our 2018-19 classes will begin in March! To apply for the GSRP (state funded, free program), go to greatstartjackson.org or call for an application.

Check out these pictures from our Summer 2017 program!