



September 2018

MHS 350 N Illinois Ave.

Morton, IL 61550

263-6011 - Attendance / Student Services

263-8585 - Counseling Office

MHS Fall Newsletter

Dear Potter Families,

The school year is well under way, and we are off to a fantastic start! It certainly was nice to welcome back our students this fall as summer gave way to the regular routine of the school schedule. Students and staff have jumped right into the school year. As I visit classrooms, it is easy to see the hard work and dedication that staff have put into the positive start to the school year. Our students are actively engaged in their own educational pursuits.

We have made several changes this year to help ensure we are providing the best possible learning experience for our students. I would like to highlight just a few of those changes. We have added two additional counselors. This will help reduce the caseload for the department and allow more individualized attention for each student in terms of career and college readiness. Additionally, we are implementing a Professional Learning Community format during our early dismissal days. This will provide dedicated time for our staff to meet in collaborative teams which will focus on using assessment data to improve student learning. We welcome Mr. Patrick Mainieri, who joins the district level administrative team as Director of Student Activities and Engagement. Mr. Mainieri will be working with students and staff to expand opportunities for our students to become involved in clubs and activities beyond the classroom. Many of our fall sports, activities, and clubs are up and running, but keep in mind that there are still plenty of opportunities available for students to join in. Check out the 'Activities' link on the MHS website for a listing and brief description of clubs.

We had a tremendous turnout for New Student Orientation, the Junior Parent Meeting, and Meet the Teacher Night. We appreciate the support and involvement from all who attended. Mark your calendars for Parent-Teacher Conferences, which will be held on October 18th and 19th. We will again be singing up for conferences online. Look for details and instructions on how to sign up in the coming weeks.

I look forward to another outstanding year! Best wishes and Go Potters!

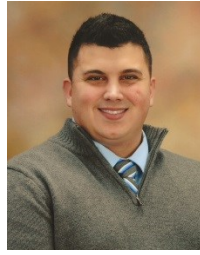
Sincerely,

Principal Michael Gourley

New Staff MHS - 18-19



Kait Morissette
Family/Consumer Science



Joe Rosel
Industrial Arts



Jamie Adolphson
Assistant Principal



Alison Eckart
Special Education



Brian Deters
Social Studies (P/T)



Mitchell Jones
Band



Jessica Kerby
PE



Jordan Spicklemire
Counselor



Kristina Vik
LA

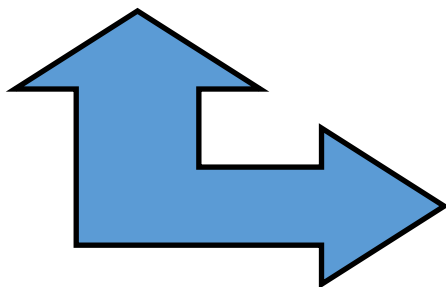


Taylor King
Counselor



Mark Your Calendar

» UPCOMING EVENTS



Homecoming Week!!

October 1st-6th

More info to come!

Homecoming
Theme:



HOLLYWOOD

Sept. 5th-6th Class Ring Orders

Sept. 11th Deadline for PSAT registration

Sept. 19th Last day to drop a class for a study hall, no penalty

Sept. 20th Financial Aid Night, 6pm Bertha Frank

Oct. 8th-9th NO SCHOOL

Oct. 10th PSAT/NMSQT Test for Juniors @ MHS 8am

Oct. 17th College Night @ ICC

Oct. 18th-19th Parent Teacher Conferences

Oct. 24th ICC Placement Test @ MHS Library

Oct. 24th Final date to drop a class for a study hall

Oct. 27th ACT National Test @ MHS

Oct. 30th Jostens Senior Class meeting in Bertha

Nov. 8th Josten's cap & gown order date (during lunch)

Nov. 9th Class Ring delivery (during lunch)

Nov. 21st-23rd Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 8th ACT National Test @ MHS

Dec. 20th-21st Final Exams

Dec. 24th-Jan 4th Christmas Vacation

Assistant Principal Assignments

Mrs. Deidre Ripka: A-L

Mrs. Jamie Adolphson: M-Z

Counselor Assignments

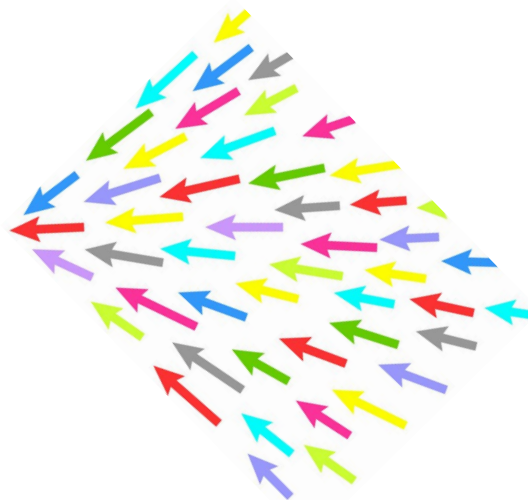
Mrs. Holly Riggins: A-C

Mrs. Jordan Spicklemire: D-J

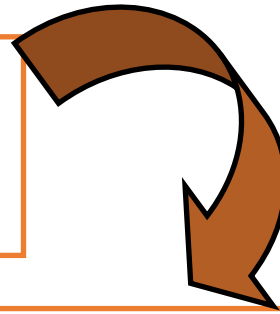
Mrs. Christina Kienitz: K-N

Mrs. Stephanie Brown: O-Sh

Mrs. Taylor King: Si-Z



**Financial Aid Night is Thursday,
September 20th at 6PM in Bertha Frank
Performing Arts Center**



Lindsey (Cheney) Lindberg, Associate Director of Admission at Bradley University, will provide basic information about the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and financial aid packaging. The evening provides important information for parents and students.

□ *FAFSA is the student's personal application* that may include parental information. Completing the FAFSA with parental financial information DOES NOT require the parent to pay for the student's post-high school education.

□ Often times institutions require FAFSA for merit based scholarships regardless of need.

□ The 2018-2019 FAFSA will be available on October 1, 2018 and will use 2017 tax documents. This is known as Prior-Prior and this is the second year of the change.

Junior and Senior parents and students – please attend for
important financial aid information

SAT REVIEW

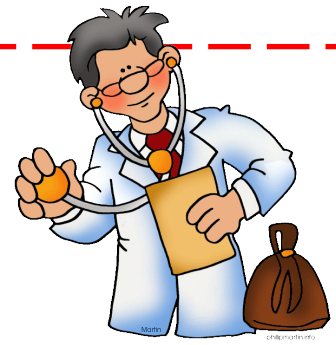
All Juniors will be taking the SAT on April 9th. We will be offering a review for this test in March. This review is designed to prepare Junior students for the SAT. In order to better prepare our students for this test, we offer a review session at MHS taught by MHS teachers. Each night has a focus. The topics for the SAT review will cover reading, writing, language, SAT essay, and math. The cost is \$75 for all three nights. This cost covers the book, materials and instructors.

Registration for the review classes will take place in December through EFUNDS. Your student will receive the paperwork during study hall and through email. The registration form and money is due in December. These forms must be completed on time in order for the appropriate number of teachers to be hired. We also have to order books for this class.

No late registration is accepted.



Physicals and Immunizations



Please make sure you have turned in a physical for your freshman with any updated vaccinations listed on the form by Oct. 15, 2018.

ALL SENIORS must have a meningitis vaccine (MCV4) by Oct. 15th, 2018. Questions contact Terri Schuck
(309) 266-7182

****Note:** By law, students who are not in compliance with physical and immunization requirements by October 15th must be excluded from school until the school has evidence that both requirements are completed and the student is in compliance.**

An appointment card will NOT be accepted as an exception to the immunization deadline.

Morton High School PTO

PTO is your way to get involved in your child's high school education. Connect with teachers, counselors and administrators all year long!

- Provides funds for teacher requests for additional classroom items
 - Publishes a school directory
 - Serves breakfast for students during SAT testing
 - Hosts Staff & Teacher Appreciation throughout the year
- Raises funds through the sale of Morton Potters Discount Cards

Parents interested in getting involved in PTO please contact:

Christina Smith 309-360-1857 thesmiths5@msn.com or Malinda Radloff 309-208-9937 jnrad@msn.com

Meeting Dates for 2018:

September 11th - October 2nd - November 13th - December 11th (lunch at noon, meeting at 1pm)

January 8th - February 12th - March 12th - April 9th - May 14th (lunch at noon, meeting at 1pm)



Please join us in our Facebook
Group: Morton High School PTO

<https://www.facebook.com/>



Anti-Bullying Initiative & PAK Recognition

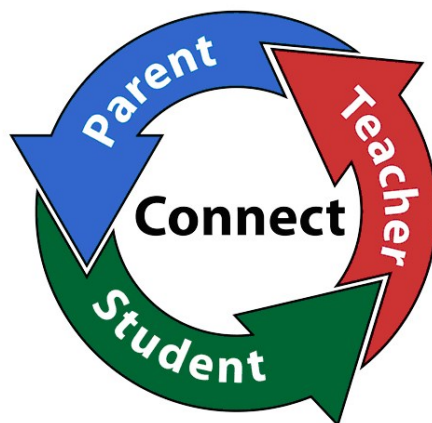
Morton High School continues to educate students about bullying. We believe it is important that all students understand what bullying is, what isn't, as well as what can be done when students are faced with a bullying incident. During class meetings in August, students were reminded that bullying can be physical, verbal or social behaviors—including acts taking place on social media that are...

Aggressive and intentional.

Repeated or severe.

A clear imbalance of power.

Students have been encouraged to be UPSTANDERS when faced with acts of bullying by reporting these incidents right away. This can be done through a trusted adult or by using the school safety form found on our website under "Counseling Resources". In addition to educating our students about bullying, the faculty of MHS has also been recognizing students who take part in kind and thoughtful acts toward one another. The PAK or Potter Acts of Kindness program is off to a good start this year with students being recognized weekly for contributing positively to the environment of MHS. These students are thanked for their actions of kindness toward others.



Parent Teacher Conferences

PT Conferences are scheduled for October 18th-19th. We will be using the same online system as last year for scheduling!

Scheduling details will be sent out in the coming weeks!

ICC College Night

October 17th, 2018

CougarPlex 5:30-7:00pm

www.icc.edu





Young Hearts for Life®

is coming to our school

Young Hearts for Life® screens students for conditions that cause sudden cardiac death. Testing is open to all students in participating schools and is provided free of charge, thanks to our sponsors.

For more information, visit yh4l.org or contact Carolyn Oleson, RN, Community Outreach & Wellness at Advocate BroMenn Outpatient Center at 309.556.7864.

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