



MHS FALL NEWSLETTER

November 15, 2018

Dear Potter Families,

I hope you are all enjoying a wonderful fall! It seems we quickly went from beautiful autumn colors to bare trees in just a couple of very windy days. In a month that focuses on giving thanks, I want to express thankfulness for the MHS students, staff, and families. I enjoy every opportunity to visit classrooms and continue to be amazed at the level of involvement in the school. We enjoyed a great Homecoming week last month, and we've certainly seen great student success and achievement this fall throughout our activities, sports, and clubs. Thank you, families, for the countless ways you support MHS!

MHS teachers have been hard at work not only preparing engaging lessons for their students, but also engaging in learning themselves. During our early release time on the first Wednesday of every month, teachers are working in collaborative teams within the Professional Learning Community (PLC) model. The collaborative teams are focused on establishing strong common assessments for courses, close examination of student assessment data, and refining lessons for re-teaching or enrichment. All of this work is focused on the end result of increasing achievement for each student. Additionally, many of our teachers are participating in a book study focused on the impacts of traumatic events on children's brains. We are receiving additional responsive training on this topic over the course of the school year.

A link to the 5 Essentials survey was sent out to families via email earlier this month. We greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey and provide valuable feedback to our school and district. If you did not receive an email here is the link to the survey <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/>.

I hope the Thanksgiving holiday gives you a well-deserved break to enjoy a good meal with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Michael Gourley



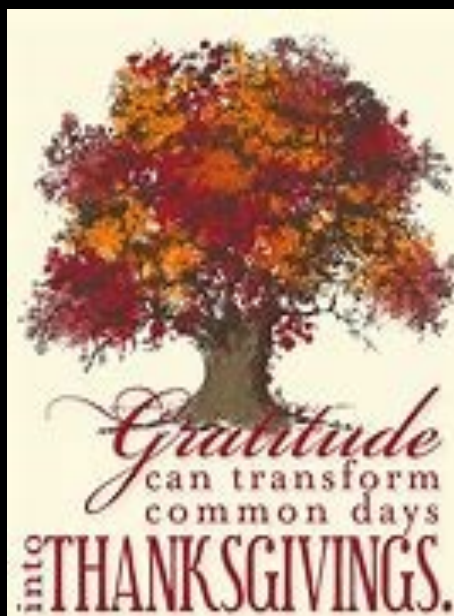
MORTON HIGH

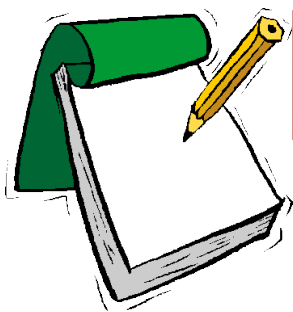
350 N. ILLINOIS AVE.
MORTON, IL 61550

↓ **ATTENDANCE LINE**
(309) 263-0611

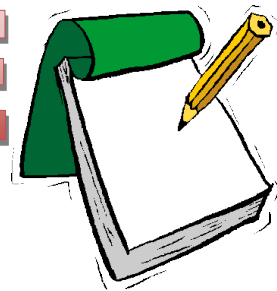
↓ **COUNSELING OFFICE
AND
STUDENT SERVICES**
(309) 263-8585

↓ **MAIN OFFICE**
(309) 266-7182





IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE



NOVEMBER

21-23 Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

5 Early Dismissal 1:40

8 ACT National Test at MHS

20/21 Final Exams

21 In-Service Half Day

24 Holiday Break

JANUARY

8 Classes Resume

9 Early Dismissal 1:40

21 No School Martin Luther King Jr Day

FEBRUARY

9 ACT National Test NDT at MHS

12 Last Day to Drop a Class for Study Hall without Penalty

13 ICC Placement Tests in MHS Library at 8:00am

18 No School President's Day

22 Local Scholarship Information Available

REPORT PERIODS 2018-2019

2ND QUARTER ENDS: DECEMBER 22ND

REPORT CARDS DISTRIBUTED @ SCHOOL:
JANUARY 11TH

3RD QUARTER ENDS: MARCH 8TH

REPORT CARDS DISTRIBUTED AT SCHOOL:
MARCH 15TH

4TH QUARTER ENDS: END OF YEAR

REPORT CARDS MAILED TO HOME



2018 YEARBOOK Reminder: Pickup your 2018 YEARBOOKS from Krista Kolls.

2019 YEARBOOKS: The 2019 yearbooks are available to order for \$50 until December 31, 2018. January 1, 2019 the price will increase to \$70. The 2019 Yearbook may be purchased through eFunds Online.
<https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/55555>



MHS SPORTS PAGE



KEEP UP WITH ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES ON THE WEB <http://il.8to18.com/>

CHERRY & GRAY WINTER SEASON KICKOFF FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16TH

5:30PM-7:15PM	CONCESSIONS	EAST GYM HALL
6:00PM	FR/SO GIRLS BASKETBALL	WEST GYM
6:20PM	BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING	WEST GYM
6:20PM	WRESTLING INTRODUCTIONS	EAST GYM
6:25PM	FRESHMAN BOYS BASKETBALL	WEST GYM
6:30PM	WRESTLING PARENT MEETING	CAFETERIA
6:40PM	SOPHOMORE BOYS BASKETBALL	WEST GYM
7:00PM	VARSITY GIRLS BASEKETBALL	WEST GYM
7:25PM	CHEERLEADING	WEST GYM
7:35PM	DANCE TEAM	WEST GYM
7:40PM	VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL	WEST GYM

CONGRATULATIONS POTTERS

Cross Country State Qualifiers: Sam Lange and The MHS CC Girls Team

Football: Advanced to 1st Round of State Playoffs

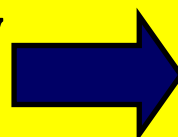
Boys Golf: Advanced to Sectionals/Connor Vicary advanced to State placing 20th

Boys Soccer– Regional Winners advancing to Sectionals

Volleyball—Regional Champions, Sectional Champions

& Advanced to Super Sectionals

**ORDER YOUR POTTERS GEAR TODAY
JUST CLICK THE #ONEMORTON PIC**



From Student Services:

ABSENCES

As winter arrives and the flu season kicks into high gear, the Office of Student Services wants to remind you of the procedures for students who become ill during the school day and of other attendance issues that may arise when a student is sick. The following excerpts can also be found on pages 28-33 of the student handbook:

Reporting Absences

Attendance office phones: 263-0611 ext. 6031 (24 hour, 7 day voice mail)

Excused Absences— Absences for valid reasons will be considered excused.

Examples of valid reasons are (105 ILCS 5/26-2a):

Personal illness and/or physical disablement

Critical illness or death in the immediate family

School-related activities - field trip, job shadow, etc.

If a call is not received from the parent/guardian with a valid reason by 8:00 a.m. the next school day, the student will be considered unexcused. **Notes are not accepted.**

Accumulated sick days

In the event a student has accumulated 3 days of absences in a month, or 7 cumulative absences in the semester, the Office of Student Services may require a doctor's note to excuse further absences in accordance with MHS handbook policy.

Seniors: Apply for the Illinois Map Grant

The Monetary Award Program (MAP) provides grants, which do not need to be repaid, to Illinois residents who attend [approved Illinois colleges](#) and demonstrate financial need, based on the information provided on the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA®\)](#). You are not required to submit high school grades or test scores when applying for a MAP grant. MAP grants can be applied only toward tuition and mandatory fees. Middle class families often qualify for MAP grants.

For more information, go to <http://www.isac.org/students/during-college/types-of-financial-aid/grants/monetary-award-program/>



ATTENTION ALL DRIVERS

Please remember the Rules of the Road as you are entering and exiting the school parking lots. Signs are posted for your safety and need to be followed. Some areas are marked prohibited or with entrance/exit only signage. Those signs should be obeyed at all times or there will be consequences. Thank you for helping us get all of our students and staff to school



NEW TRANSCRIPT PROCESS

Starting in November 2018, the MHS Counseling Office will be using Parchment to send transcripts.

Parchment is a digital credentials platform that allows current students and alumni to quickly, easily and securely send their transcripts to destinations worldwide. Current students receive an email to their MHS Gmail account with a registration code from Parchment providing instructions on how to create an account. Parchment allows current students to send their transcripts electronically for free to any college, university and other institution for free worldwide. MHS alumni can now also request their transcripts by creating a Parchment account. Alumni are charged a \$3.15 processing fee through Parchment in order to complete their transcript request. Parchment allows its users to track their transcript requests from start to finish through their account.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR A PARCHMENT ACCOUNT ...CLICK THIS LINK

<http://mhs.morton709.org/counseling/transcript-request>



COFFEE WITH THE COUNSELORS

All parents and guardians are invited to join in conversation during Coffee with the Counselors! November's topic is Surviving Studying and Group Projects during the Holidays.

Watch your email for a separate Counseling Department and Coffee with the Counselors Newsletter full of helpful information and tips to support your young adults.

Hope to see you at 8AM on November 29th in the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center Lobby!

SAT REVIEW BEING OFFERED

All Juniors will be taking the SAT on April 9th, 2019. Morton High School will be offering a review for this assessment in late March. This review is designed to prepare Junior students for the SAT. These sessions are from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. on March 25, March 27, and April 1. Each session will have a focus - reading, writing, language, SAT essay, and math. The cost for all 3 nights is \$75. This covers the book, materials, and instructors.

Extracurricular activities and/or work often conflict with the start times of these sessions. Please do not let this prevent you from registering if you see a need for the classes. Students are allowed in late due to these circumstances.

Registration materials will be available in December through EFUNDS. Students will receive paperwork through email and announcements in PowerSchool. The registration must be paid between Wednesday, January 9th and Thursday, February 7th. The registration process must be completed on or before Thursday, February 7th to ensure book delivery and hiring of personnel for the first session.

Questions? Email Mrs. Holmgren at mary.holmgren@mcusd709.org

NO LATE REGISTRATION IS ACCEPTED.

Young Hearts for Life

Thank you for making YH4L a successful event! A big shout out to Barbara Polk, Trisha Beaty, and the MHS PTO for volunteering time and food! 285 students were screened and results were sent via email on November 12. If you have any additional questions about accessing your results please contact, Deidre Ripka Deidre.Ripka@mcusd709.org



NOTEABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

ILLINOIS MUSIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION ALL-DISTRICT MUSICIANS

Orchestra

Casey Hoffmire – Violin

Band

Tommy Baird – Bassoon
Samantha Barnhill – Flute
Mark Bischoff – Clarinet
Ian Chenoweth – Tenor Saxophone
Delaney Farwell – Flute
Jake Hafele – Trumpet
Ryan Hawks – Alto Saxophone
James Julich – Trombone
Sophia Lair – Jazz Alto Saxophone
Kevin Lauer – French Horn
Jacob Le – Clarinet
Josh Milby – Euphonium
Carson Miller – French Horn
Matt Miller – Tuba
Tyler Newman – Tuba
Mark Ogden – Clarinet
Andrew Phillips – Trombone
Cara Rankin – Clarinet
Kathryn Reiman – Percussion
Thomas Smith – Euphonium
Jared Taylor – Trumpet
Thomas Vastine – Euphonium
Alex Weber – Percussion
Colin Winkelmann – Percussion
Grace Zeithammer – Flute

MARCHING BAND SEASON ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Normal Marching Band Invitational

Best Color Guard Class 3A

Best Winds Class 3A

1st Place Class 3A

Grand Champion Band

State of Illinois Championships at ISU

Best Visual Class 2A

Best Music Class 2A

Best General Effect Class 2A

1st Place Class 2A

Finalist (1st in Prelims of bands 1-4A)

Bands of America St. Louis Super Regional

Best Music Class 2A

Best Visual Class 2A

2nd Place Class AA of 36

Finalist – 11th Place of 74 bands from 14 states

Highest BOA Score in school history

Bands of America Grand National Championships

Grand National Semifinalist
(Top 30 of 108 Bands – 29th in Semifinals)

4th Place in the Nation for Class 2A

MHS PAK RECIPIENTS POTTERS ACT OF KINDNESS

Morton High School Potter Acts of Kindness (PAK) Recipients August 2018

Cole Geraci
Seth Turner
Austin Seaton
Logan Anderson
Caroline Potts
Kortlan Hopping-Heth
Carson Combs
Kent Buffington

Morton High School Potter Acts of Kindness (PAK) Recipients September 2018

Sarah Honegger	Greg Tuley
Allison Vastine	Seth Selvig
Logan Donley	Lauren Miller
Gabe Soza	Sarah Wefer
Joey Bailey	Mrs. Holmgren's 7th hour
Jarrett Crider	Ashla McCammon
Ryan Austin	Claire Selvey
Raquel Frakes	Alex Bouchez
Malachi MacLean	

Morton High School Potter Acts of Kindness (PAK) Recipients October 2018

Luke Stidman	Ashton Everding
Aubrey Mattson	Jack Dalton
Paige Chapin	Sara Bettis
Jenna Samp	Brianna Bohling
Logan Donley	Kortlan Hopping-Heth
Autumn Greiner	Sara Schmidgall
Anamaria Mueller	Emily Davis
Dustin Newton	
Ethan Mallinson	

FIRST QUARTER AWARDS

Golden Potter Award

First Quarter Recipients

William Dunn	MacKenzie Love
Krista Kolls	Jacob Tierney
Kristin Lucas	Joel Zehr
	Joseph Zeller

Rotary Student Of The Month

SEPTEMBER

Jordan Dooley

OCTOBER

Zehra Bakirdan

NOVEMBER

Brianna Tanner

YAY!

DAR RECIPIENT FOR THE CLASS OF 2019 IS LAUREN WIGGINS

Lauren is recognized by Staff and her Peers for exemplifying outstanding qualities of **Leadership, Dependability, Service and Patriotism** in her High School and Her Community. Congratulations Lauren!!!!

2019 POTTER CARDS

Starting the first week of December, stop by the MHS Main Office and pick up your 2019 Potter Card. Potter Cards provide you discounts at the following businesses and will be available for \$10 and are valid from 1/1/19-12/31/19. You can purchase your Potter Card with Cash or Check, checks can be made payable to: Morton PTO.

Basta's Italian Kitchen
Be YOUnique Designs
Casey's of Morton
The Confectionery, Inc.
Culvers of Morton
Dunkin Donuts/Baskin Robbins
Elevate Trampoline Park Peoria/East Peoria
Eli's Coffee Shop
Em.bel.ish Hair Design and Day Spa
Firehouse Pizza of Morton
FJT Office Supplies
Floral Designs, Ltd.
Garner's Pizza and Wings

Great American Popcorn Co. of Morton
Great Harvest Bread Co.
Grimm's Inc.
Hacienda Fuentes
J & J Cleaners
Johnson's Floral
La Fiesta
La Gondola of Morton
Leaves 'N Beans of Morton
Lulu's on Main
Miller Paint Shop

Morton Cinemas
Morton Dairy Queen
Nena Ace Hardware (Morton)
Papa Murphy's Pizza
Pegasus Pizza
Pizza Ranch of Morton
Rudy's Hair Studio
Schooner's
Seasons Gastropub
So Chic Boutique of Morton
Stress Busters Massage and Float Suite
Sucre Sweets and Socials
Thr3ads Boutique
Upscale Resale

**MAKE GREAT
STOCKING STUFFERS**



MHS FAMILY

ORIENTATION NIGHT

**A Night for Incoming Freshman
and Their Families**

CLASS OF 2023

January 23, 2019

6:00pm-7:00pm

Curriculum Fair 7:00pm



2018 MADIGRAL FEAST

TICKETS
\$25



TICKETS
\$25

NOV 30TH AT 6:30PM

DEC 1ST AT 6:30PM

TICKETS GO ON SALE NOV 12TH IN THE MHS MAIN OFFICE / ADVANCED RESERVATIONS ONLY