



MORTON

HIGH SCHOOL

◆◆◆ WINTER NEWSLETTER ◆◆◆ FEBRUARY 2019 ◆◆◆

Dear MHS Families,

We are well into the second semester, and there is a great deal going on at MHS despite missing a couple of days for the frigid weather! MHS counselors, curricular departments, clubs, activities, and athletics collaborated to host a Family Orientation Night to welcome next year's incoming freshmen. We updated the format to provide a way to highlight not only our curriculum, but also our clubs and athletic teams. It was a great reminder of all of the opportunities students have here to become involved in a club, sport or activity during their years at MHS. Many of our student volunteers shared with me that they wish they'd had a similar experience when they were eighth graders, and some students were truly surprised to learn about some of the clubs that are available. I am thankful to all who worked hard to make it a successful and welcoming event. Additionally, our counselors have been working with all students to complete the course selection process for the 2019-2020 academic year. Teachers and staff continue to utilize the monthly Early Release time to improve student learning opportunities by analyzing student assessment data and planning targeted lessons.

We are looking forward to another great year of participation in the Gameball Run fundraiser for Children's Hospital of Illinois. Not only is it a great fundraiser, but it also raises awareness of the positive impact that the Children's Hospital has in this area. The run will be on Thursday, February 14th at 4:00pm at the MHS Track, followed by the basketball game and Gameball Run ceremonies on Friday, February 15th beginning at 6:00pm. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thanks to all of you who have completed the 5Essentials parent survey. Students also had the opportunity to complete the survey last Friday, February 1st. We look forward to receiving the data and will use the information to help guide our work and the services we provide for our students and families. If you have not yet completed the parent survey, it will be open until February 15th. You can find the link by clicking here > <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/> or on the MHS Website.

Sincerely,

Principal Michael Gourley



DROPPING OFF AN ITEM FOR YOUR STUDENT? PARENTS, WE'VE MADE IT EASIER FOR YOU!

All Drop Off Items (lunches, iPads, homework, etc.)
are to be left in the Main Office.

1. Enter the Main Entrance of the School on North Illinois Street
2. Be sure your students name is visible on the item

3. Place the item on the shelf next to Ms. Joos' Desk.
4. Email your Student to let them know that you have dropped off their item

**WE DO NOT SEND PASSES TO STUDENTS FOR
DROPPED OFF ITEMS.
STUDENTS CAN PICK UP THEIR ITEM WHEN THEY
HAVE AVAILABILITY.**

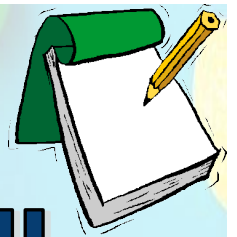
MORTON HIGH SCHOOL, 350 N ILLINOIS AVE, MORTON, IL 61550

ATTENDANCE (309) 263-0611

COUNSELING/STUDENT SERVICES (309) 263-8585 MAIN OFFICE (309) 266-7182



IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL



FEBRUARY

- 6 Early Dismissal @ 1:40pm
- 9 ACT National Test NOT 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
- 19 Deadline to Apply Caterpillar Student Trainee Program
- 22 Local Scholarship Information Available
- 23 Work Based Learning Construction Program applications due

MARCH

- 6 Early Dismissal @ 1:40pm
- 7 Jostens Senior Delivery (Bertha Lobby 11:33-1:14)
- 8 School Improvement Inservice, Half-day (p.m.)
- 11 School Improvement Inservice Day No School
- 19 Deadline for Local Scholarships At 3:00pm
- 19 Final Date to Drop a Class for a Study Hall

APRIL

- 3 Early Dismissal @ 1:40pm
- 13 ACT National Test NOT at MHS
- 15 Easter Break Begins
- 23 School Resumes

EASTER BREAK

IS

APRIL 15TH

THROUGH

APRIL 22ND

!!!SAT REVIEW - LAST CHANCE!!!

REGISTER BEFORE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

ATTENTION JUNIORS

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 is a 2 step process: 1) Make your payment through [EFUNDS](#) 2) Complete the [google form](#)

The registration process must be completed before **Thursday, February 7th**. This firm deadline ensures book delivery and hiring of personnel for the first session.

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

APRIL 9TH PSAT/SAT IMPORTANT INFORMATION

On April 9th, students in grades 10-11 will be taking the PSAT or SAT test. The state of Illinois has adopted the SAT test as a college and career readiness test required for all 11th grade students before graduation from high school. To better track student progress and align with the SAT, 9th and 10th grade students will take the PSAT 9 and PSAT 10. All tests are part of the same testing suite and measure the same skills and knowledge allowing students, parents, and educators to monitor student progress.

More information will follow in a detailed letter later this month. Students will follow a special schedule depending on their personal testing schedule. School will start at the normal time, but release time may be before or after 3pm depending on each student's needs. Please be looking for this information in the mail in the next couple weeks.

All Senior students will receive an excused absence from MHS on April 9th. The entire building and staff will be used to conduct testing. Senior students are strongly encouraged to use this time productively. It is recommended students focus on the **3C's** to help with post-secondary focus.

COMMUNITY

Find a place to serve on this day. Suggestions will be shared with students and parents in later communication.

COLLEGE

Go on a college visit. Your counselor would be happy to help with this set-up if needed.

CAREER

Contact a family, friend, or community business and use this opportunity to job shadow them. You will be surprised at how valuable this experience can be!

MHS PAK RECIPIENTS POTTERS ACT OF KINDNESS

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

Tyler Rolinitis
Sophia Bill
Maggie Hobson
Jordan Brix
Raquelle Riffle
Barik Olden

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

Nick Brock	Jake Scarfe
Mason Mortimeyer	Alex Weber
Marco Aguilar	Austin Getz
Aidan Buckingham	
Lauren Wiggins	
Henry Wefer	
Karter Hostetler	

SECOND QUARTER AWARDS

**Golden Potter
Award**

1st SEMESTER RECIPIENT

JACOB TIERNEY

Second Quarter Recipients

Joel Zehr MacKenzie Love
Clark Ingwersen Jacob Tierney

**Rotary Student
Of The Month**

DECEMBER

Jarrett Crider

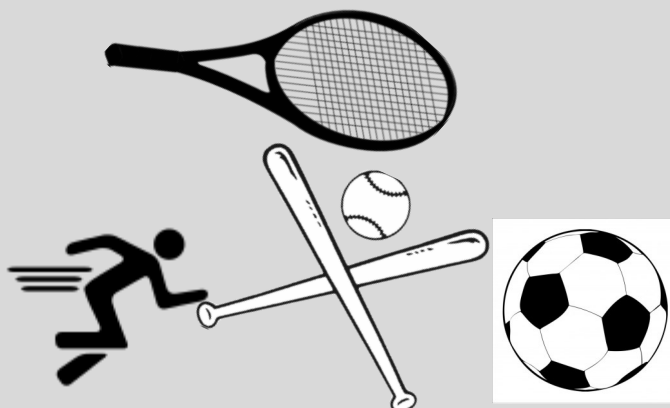
JANUARY

Tenley Dowell

FEBRUARY

Caleb Sauder

SPRING SPORTS



Beginning February 25th

Parents need to register their athlete on the website: <http://il.8to18.com/mortonilhs>

You must turn in a paper copy of your physical to Mrs. Schuck in the athletic office.



COFFEE WITH THE COUNSELORS

Want to discuss the resources from each month's School Counseling newsletter with MHS counselors and other parents? Come to *Coffee with the Counselors on the last Thursday of each month.* We meet in the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center

To suggest a Coffee with the Counselors topic or to provide feedback please go to:
<https://goo.gl/forms/d6PH1FKHpkusQQ6H2>

Tentative Upcoming Coffee with the Counselor Dates: 2/28, 3/28, and 4/25.

AP EXAM REGISTRATION

Students taking an AP class this school year will receive a google form to register for AP exams the week of February 25th. Each AP exam is \$94.00 and includes a non-refundable \$15 deposit.

Payment can be made via eFunds or check.

PROM

May 4, 2019

Five Points

Washington, IL

Time & Theme: TBA.

STUDENT COUNCIL BLOOD DRIVE

Feb. 21st

8am-1:30pm



SIGN UP IN THE MAIN OFFICE



Your digital footprint never goes away. Take the time to **THINK** before you post. We want all of our students to stay safe and promote themselves in the best way possible. Morton High School is proud of our student body and the community we represent. Never give anyone the chance to question your integrity and character. Always act with Potter Pride!

MHS Student Services
#OneMorton

LI'L ABNER

A MUSICAL COMEDY



MHS SPRING MUSICAL

It's a typical day in poor but picturesque Dogpatch, USA, and the local yokels are up to their usual tricks: fishing, relaxing, and collecting unemployment. Daisy Mae is hoping to finally capture Li'l Abner's heart, when Dogpatch is suddenly chosen by the government for an atomic test site. Li'l Abner, guided and guarded by traveling preacher Marryin' Sam, travels to Washington, DC, where he tangles with a gaggle of goofy scientists, and the unscrupulous capitalist: General Bullmoose. Experience the suspense of a Cornpone Meeting, the romantic free-for-all that is the Sadie Hawkins Day race—where the girls put on their running shoes to catch themselves a groom—and the shenanigans that ensue when a snooty Washington, DC, engagement party is invaded by Hillbillies. Based on Al Capp's beloved comic strip, *Li'l Abner* is a fun American musical which is equal parts slapstick comedy, knowing government satire, and tale of young love.

Cast members include: Caleb Sauder as Marryin' Sam; Keaton Weber as Li'l Abner; Lauren Wiggins as Daisy Mae; Kalahan Aberle as Gen. Bullmoose; Miriam Walters as Mammy Yokum; Elijah Chatwell as Pappy; Logan Barnard as Earthquake; and Jared Taylor as Sen. Phogbound. Including a cast with over 35 more singers, dancers, and actors, a live pit orchestra with 20 MHS students, and a tech crew of 6, Li'l Abner is sure to be a silly, memorable, and very enjoyable show.

Tickets will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, and will be available at the door on show nights. April 4, 5, and 6 performances will begin at 7:00 pm, and April 7 is a 3:00 matinee. All performances are at MHS in the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center.

Baby and Senior Ad Yearbook Information:



It is that time of year again, time to be submitting pictures to the yearbook for senior students.

- If you would like to submit a baby ad and/or a senior picture please do so electronically beginning February 8th thru April 30th.
- Fee for the baby ad is \$35, fee for just the senior ad is \$10 and the fee for both is \$45. Fees should be **paid** electronically by April 30th **or the ad will not be placed in the book** so thank you ahead of time for your prompt payments.

If you have any questions please direct them to Krista Kolls @ Krista.Kolls@mcusd709.org

SENIORS

Now is the time to submit your choice of picture for the senior section in the yearbook. Here's what we need from you:

- ◇ One senior portrait picture of your choice
- ◇ One appropriate quote about your school career
- ◇ List of all clubs and activities throughout high school

We will **ONLY** accept electronic copies no smaller than a wallet; you will receive an email to the address the photo was submitted through; if you do not receive an email verifying the picture was received it is *your responsibility to contact Mrs. Kolls.*

krista.kolls@mcusd709.org



Portrait Style Only! No Landscape Style!
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS April 30, 2019

There will be a \$ 10 fee.

STUDENT COUNCIL

- ⇒ St. Jude week will be the first full week of the 4th quarter- March 12-15. Student Council is currently working on the plans. Be looking for a new fun surprise for the week!!!
- ⇒ Student Council elections for 2019-2020 Executive Board and Class Delegates will be announced sometime in February

ATTN: PARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2019

Dear families of seniors graduating this year. We are offering the opportunity for you to send a special message to your graduates. To help you, we have created a sample ad used in past years. Messages should be no longer than 20-30 words; the more words you have, the smaller the print must be. We will **only accept** electronic copies of photos, and can be no smaller than a 4x6 and should be portrait style. Please email the photo and information to krista.kolls@mcusd709.org. I will respond to you once I receive the photo; if I do not respond then ***you will need to contact me so that we can fix any problems. The cost of the ad and message is \$35, and will need to be paid through efunds. The money will need to be paid electronically by April 30, 2019 to be included in the senior section so please don't wait!!***

Name of Senior: _____

Message: _____

Closing and Signature: _____

***Please send your picture by April 30th.
Late pictures WILL NOT be accepted!***



UPCOMING COUNSELING OFFICE EVENTS

CAREER WEEK

March 18th - 22nd is the second annual Career Week! Sophomores and Juniors can sign up to learn about the education, training, and soft skills needed to enter area careers. Friday during lunch a College Fair will be held in Bertha Frank Lobby for all students to briefly engage with area post-secondary institutions.

SAT KHAN ACADEMY PERSONALIZED PRACTICE

Go to <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat> and click Start Practicing. Follow the directions to link your College Board Account (PSAT, AP, etc.) OR take the diagnostic quiz to get personalized help.

FAFSA COMPLETION ([FAFSA.Ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov))

- All 2019 graduates and students taking any ICC on campus should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
- 2019 Graduates - Most colleges and universities require FAFSA completion before dispensing merit (non-need) based scholarships and awards. Please contact your college or university financial aid office or the website for details.

PLACEMENT TEST INFO

ICC Placement Testing at MHS

- ICC Placement Testing is being offered at MHS on Wednesday, February 13th in the MHS Library.
- Students taking dual credit AP Chemistry (CHEM 130) or Strong Start during the 2019-2020 school year are required to have a Math Accuplacer (placement test) score.
- Also, students graduating in May 2019 who plan to attend ICC should take the placement test.
- Students can register for the placement test by following this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/6zEUzwanDjfB5TXA3>

ICC Classes and dual credit classes, do they transfer? Find out which classes will transfer from ICC to another school. Please contact the office of Transfer Assistance

(<https://icc.edu/students/transfer-assistance/>) or use www.transferology.com.