



September 2019

284-6120 Student Services

263-0611 - Attendance

263-8585 - Counseling Office

266-7182 Main Office

MHS Fall Newsletter

Dear MHS Family:

It's hard to believe that fall is here already and this weather is finally starting to turn! Fall is my favorite season, but mostly because I like my fall clothes better than my summer clothes... that's a story for another time.

At MHS we are in full swing with the fall semester and heading towards Homecoming! Our Student Council has been planning theme dress up days, float building and hall decorating, and a dance! The theme this year is "Seasons" (not the restaurant) and I'm excited to see the decorations! New this year is the ability for students to purchase digital tickets for the dance. Information will be shared with the students by Patrick Mainieri, Director of Student Activities and Engagement, but a unique feature is that tickets will be scanned and communicated electronically to parents when students arrive at the dance and when they leave. This adds an extra layer of accountability for students and allows the school to track the ebb and flow of attendance at the dance. Students still have the option to purchase tickets with cash or a check. NO TICKETS will be sold at the door. Click on this [link](#) for more info.

Parent Teacher conferences are October 17 and 18. Please see the next page for more information about signing up for conferences. This is done electronically through your PowerSchool login. If you don't have a login please contact Maranda Joos in the main office: 266-7182.

Although it is barely fall, I do want to make you aware of two important dates: December 19 and 20. Our semester finals fall on these dates. We do not allow students to take finals early so please be aware of this when scheduling trips and appointments. We realize there are just some things that cannot be avoided, so we will work with you to schedule make-up finals when we return from winter break. Please contact your student's counselor to make arrangements.


Have a great fall!

Deidre Ripka

PowerPTC

Quick Start Guide

Signing into Your PowerPTC Account

1. Open a web browser and navigate to:
<https://ps1.morton709.org/public>
2. If you have a PowerSchool **Parent** account, log into it and skip to #6 below.
(If you forgot your password, email powerschool@mcusd709.org and asked to have it reset.)
3. If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent account:
 - a. Call the MHS office at 309-284-6025
 - b. Ask for your child's Access ID & Password
4. Click the **Create Account** tab and create your parent account. Link your child to your account using their Access ID and Access Password.
5. Sign into account.
6. In the upper right corner, click on this icon 
7. Under Applications, click on PowerPTC.
8. Click **Guardians & Parents-Click Here to Login**

Click here for PowerSchool links:

<https://ps1.morton709.org/public>

powerschool@mcusd709.org

Scheduling Your Conferences

1. Click on **Conference Schedule**.
2. Select the **date** you would like to schedule your appointments on.
3. Select a starting **time** for your appointments.
4. If you would **not** like to attend conferences with certain courses, uncheck the box under the **Schedule** column.
5. Click **Build Your Schedule Now!**
6. Finally, click **Print Schedule** to create a hard copy of your parent-teacher conference schedule.
7. If you are scheduling for more than one student, you can switch the active student you are scheduled for by clicking on the **Select a Student** link from the left-hand menu.

All Juniors will be taking the SAT after spring break 2020. Morton High School will be offering a review for this assessment in mid-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 16, 23, 26, and 30. Each session will have a focus - reading, writing, language, SAT essay, math, and science. 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 in December is a 2 step process: 1) Make your payment through [EFUNDS](#) in December 2) Complete a google form. The Google Form will be shared through email in December.

The registration process opens in December and must be paid before **Thursday, February 6th**. This **firm deadline** ensures book delivery and hiring of personnel for the first session.

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

NO LATE REGISTRATION IS ACCEPTED.





Welcome to our new and returning faculty and staff members!

Amie Pearce	Special Education Aide
Amy Kelly	Family & Consumer Science
Chad McFarland	Industrial Arts Teacher
Chase Bushman	Counselor
Eric Myers	Business Teacher
Helen Plevka	ELA Teacher
Jace Mortimer	Business Teacher
Joshua Smith	Math Teacher
Matthew Oyer	Assistant Principal
Michelle Towner	Special Education Teacher
Rachel Meier	Speech Language Pathologist
Rich Fiedler	Special Education Aide
Sara Hornsby	Counseling Secretary
Sarah Isackson	ELA Teacher
Tiffany Beard	Project Lead the Way Teacher
Tim Gray	Instrumental Music/Band Director
Returning to MHS:	
Brian Deters	Social Studies
Shannon McClure	Science

Assistant Principal Assignments

Mr. Matt Oyer: A-L

Mrs. Jamie Adolphson: M-Z

Counselor Assignments

Mrs. Holly Riggins: A-C

Mrs. Jordan Spicklemire: D-J

Mrs. Christina Kienitz: K-N

Mr. Chase Bushman: O-Sh

Mrs. Taylor King: Si-Z



- ◆ Please only park in your numbered spot.
- ◆ If someone parks in your space, park somewhere else, notify Ms. Frey of where you are currently parked, and take a picture of the license plate of who is in your spot.
- ◆ Improper parking will result in disciplinary consequences.
- ◆ Cars can be towed for repeated offenses at the owners expense.
- ◆ Be careful as you enter and exit the parking lot and watch for pedestrians.
- ◆ Please obey all posted rules for on-street parking.
- ◆ Do not park in private parking lots. For example: the professional building across from the high school.



Homecoming Week- Sept. 29-Oct. 5 - "Seasons"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th— Float Building and Hall Decs

- Float Building – 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm- In student parking lot
- Float Judging will take place at 3:30 pm
- Hall Decs – 3:30pm to 6:00 pm – hallways perimeter to cafeteria – judging 6:00 pm
- All decorating/creating is done by students- Parents are not eligible to help.
- Please remind students participating in the float building and other activities, all M.H.S. rules apply!

THURSDAY, October 3rd

- Parade starts at 5:45 p.m.—Parade Marshall- Deidre Ripka
- Pep Rally begins approx. 7:00 p.m.
- Coronation will be during the Pep Rally
- KONA ICE will be selling frozen treats at the Pep Rally

FRIDAY, October 4th

- Game vs. Metamora
- Freshmen – 5:00 p.m. Varsity – 7:30 p.m.
- Court introduced during Varsity's pre-game activities.

SATURDAY, October 5th

- "Seasons"- 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.- NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!!

Dance Tickets sold during lunches on Tuesday, Oct. 1st and Thursday, Oct. 3rd \$10 each



Mark Your Calendar

» UPCOMING EVENTS

ICC

College Night

October 16th, 2019

CougarPlex 5:30-7:00pm

www.icc.edu



The Best ★
Christmas
★ ★ **Pageant**
Ever!

November 8, 9, & 10

Sept. 17th Deadline for PSAT registration

Sept. 17th Last day to drop a class for a study hall, no penalty

Oct. 11th Half day in-service 8:00-11:00 am

Oct. 14th No School

Oct. 16th PSAT for juniors at MHS 8:00 am

Oct. 16th College Night @ ICC

Oct. 17th FAFSA Comp. Workshop 5-7 pm Rm. 40

Oct. 17th-18th Parent Teacher Conferences

Oct 18th FAFSA Comp. Workshop 8-10 am Rm. 40

Oct. 22nd Final date to drop a class for a study hall

Oct. 23th ICC Placement Test @ MHS Library

Oct. 26th ACT National Test @ MHS

Oct. 29th Jostens Senior Class meeting in Bertha

Nov. 7th Josten's cap & gown order date (during lunch)

Nov. 8th Class Ring delivery (during lunch)

Nov. 8-10th The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

Nov. 27th-29th Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 14th ACT National Test @ MHS

Dec. 19th-20th Final Exams

Dec. 23rd-Jan 3rd Christmas Vacation

Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Students and Student Recruiting Information

With the passing of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Pub. L. 114-95, signed by President Obama in 2015, Congress amended the "Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Students and Student Recruiting Information." This amendment entitles military recruiters, upon request, the right to receive the name, address, and telephone listing of secondary school students served by that school, unless the parent of such student (or a secondary school student who has reached 18 years of age) has submitted a written request to the school to opt out of such a disclosure. Military recruiters routinely request this information only on juniors and seniors in high school.

ESSA requires schools to notify parents and students that military recruiters will have equal access to their directory information unless the students opt out in writing. Parents and students must actively opt out of this provision in writing. A passive opt out is not sufficient. If you would like to opt out, please provide a written statement with parent/guardian signature to the Counseling Office.

Please contact the Counseling Office at 309-263-8585 if you have any questions or concerns.

FAFSA Completion Workshops at MHS with ISAC:

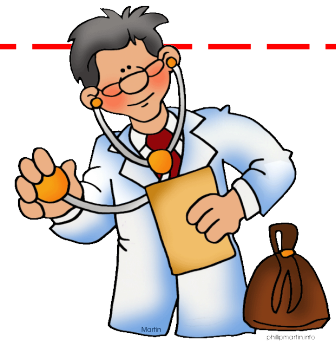
During Parent-Teacher Conferences on **Thursday, October 17 from 5-7PM (Room 40)** and **Friday, October 18 from 8-10AM (Room 40)**, a financial aid specialist will be on campus to assist parents/guardians and students as you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. ***All students, regardless of income, should complete the FAFSA each year.*** The FAFSA window opens annually on October 1st. It is strongly encouraged that you complete the FAFSA as soon as you are able. The FAFSA will use your 2018 tax documents. Please register for the workshop here:

<https://forms.gle/QjRVYQHFEtSGohui9>

Parent Teacher Conferences Break-Out Sessions!

Did you enjoy or wish you had attended Coffee with Counselors last school year? Parent Teacher Conference Break-Out Sessions is this year's opportunity! MHS Counselors will host two break-out sessions from 5-6PM on Thursday, October 17. Be on the lookout for a GoogleForm sign-up! Topics and details to come!

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, 2019.

ALL SENIORS must have a meningitis vaccine (MCV4) by Oct. 15th, 2019.

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

- 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

PTO is your way to get involved in your child's high school education.

Parents interested in getting involved in PTO, please come to our next meeting on

October 8th at 1:00 pm

For questions contact Malinda Radloff 309-208-9937 jnhrad@msn.com



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 is 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 monthly for contributing positively to the environment of MHS. These students are thanked for their actions of kindness toward others. Visit the PowerSchool bulletin or MHS Counseling on social media to view the recipients.

Any questions about the program can be directed to

Mrs. Spicklemire