

WELCOME TO MORAVIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Quarterly Newsletter

Issue #1 - 24/25

A NOTE FROM MRS. LOVE

Middle School Principal

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! I am excited to welcome both new and returning students and families! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer filled with memorable moments and restful days.

Thank you to everyone that attended our Open House on Wednesday. Starting the year off by talking with students and their families has a huge impact on the success of the year! We appreciate your commitment to your child's education!

Please keep an eye on the MSCD webpage, social media pages, and the Middle School page of our website as a source of helpful information. We will update these pages regularly to keep you informed of all of the great things happening at the Middle School. We are looking forward to an amazing year!

THIS ISSUE:

- Contact Info..... PAGE 1
- Middle School News.....PAGES 2 & 3
- Dismissal Info.....PAGE 4
- Attendance..... PAGE 5
- Code of Conduct Updates..... PAGE 6
- Grade 6 News..... PAGE 7
- Grade 7 News..... PAGE 8
- Grade 8 News..... PAGE 9
- Counseling Office..... PAGE 10
- PBIS/ Technology..... PAGE 11
- APT / Athletics..... PAGE 12
- Employment Info..... PAGE 13
- Picture Page..... PAGE 14

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 8/28 - MS Open House and Food Truck Rodeo!
- 9/3 - First Day for Students
- 9/17 - Grade 6 to Emerson Park for Conservation Day
- 10/14 - Columbus Day - NO SCHOOL
- 10/18 - MS Student-Led Parent Conferences.
Dismissal for **MS** Students at 11:30 a.m.
- 10/19 - Cabaret - in HS Gymnasium @ 7 pm
- 10/21 - MS Student-Led Parent Conferences -
NO SCHOOL for MS/HS Students
- 11/8 & 11/9 - MS Musical (more info to come)
- 11/11 - Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL
- 11/25 - Staff Development Day - NO SCHOOL
- 12/9 - MS Holiday Concert

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Our home/school team is important to us! Please reach out to your child's House Teacher as your first line of communication!
- Middle School Office - 315-497-2670 (ext. 2011)
- Middle School Attendance - 315-497-2670 (ext. 2012)
- Health Office - 315-497-2670 (ext. 2029)



MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO...

AFTER SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM

- The after-school Library program is available from 3-4:30 pm Mon - Thurs for any student wanting homework help or a quiet place to study. It is staffed by MS teachers.
- Students must arrive by 3:15 pm and stay until 4:30 pm unless other arrangements have been made between a parent and the teacher ahead of time..
- Parents/ Guardians will be contacted via phone if a student is scheduled to show up and doesn't.
- Students must have their own transportation home from the Library program or have permission by a parent/ guardian to walk
- Please note that the Library Program will NOT be open on the 1st TUESDAY of every month due to district-wide faculty meetings.

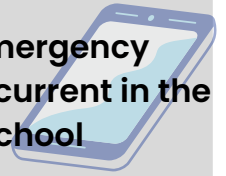
ATTENDANCE

If your child will be absent, please call the MS office at extension # 2012 and leave a message.

You may also email Mrs. Torok at ltorok@moraviaschool.org.

COMMUNICATION

- PARENTSQUARE is an essential tool that teachers and coaches use to relay information to families - If you are not receiving messages, please get in touch with your child's house leader or the MS office.
- Please be sure to keep emergency contact phone numbers current in the Middle School office for school messaging.



ARRIVAL/ DISMISSAL

PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CHILD IS ON-TIME FOR SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

Attendance is taken at 7:50.

All students should be seated in forum at that time.

1. Walkers should enter through the HS main entrance.
2. Late arrivals have to sign in at the MS office to receive a pass.
3. Dismissal is at 2:55. Walkers will exit through the HS main office door only.
4. Dismissal on WEDNESDAYS is @ 2:25 PM for MS/HS students

Please watch for the next newsletter to be posted in December





MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO CONT'D...

SCHOOL LUNCH NEWS

We are excited to announce that ALL of our students are able to receive **1 FREE BREAKFAST & 1 FREE LUNCH** daily this year!

Additional meals, chips, snacks, ice cream, and beverages will still be available for purchase with cash or with funds that are added to a student's meal account.

IMPORTANT: We do still need parents to complete the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Household Income Eligibility Form that will be handed out at open house. We appreciate the time it takes to do that as this form is used to determine eligibility for additional state and federal program benefits that your child (ren) may qualify for.

COMMUNICATION

The District uses Parent Square as our main source of communication with families.

For more information visit our website under Community or click on this QR code!

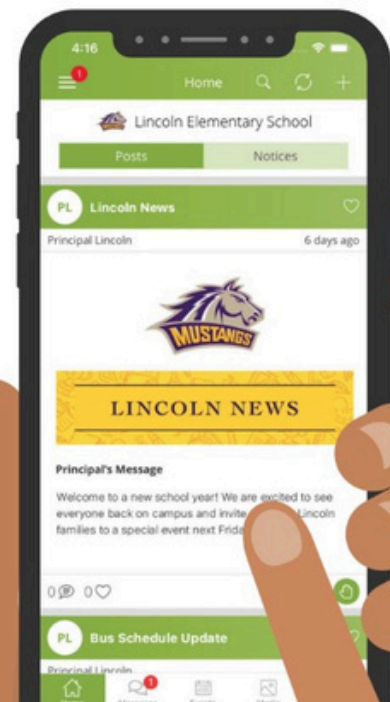
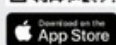


SIGN UP FOR PARENTSQUARE!

Register Your Account



Then Download the App





IMPORTANT DISMISSAL INFO

WEDNESDAYS

- On Wednesdays, students in MS and HS will be dismissed before the ES students at 2:25 pm. **This will NOT impact dismissal time for ES students.*
- This will result in all ES, MS, and HS bussers arriving home approximately 20 minutes earlier than usual on WEDNESDAYS.
- This change was made to support important work that the MS & HS departments engage in to provide your students with the best access to their education.

AFTER SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM

- The after-school Library program will still be available at dismissal (2:25 p.m.) for students on Wednesdays.
- Students will be expected to stay until 4:30 pm unless other arrangements have been made between a parent and the teacher ahead of time.



ATHLETIC STUDY HALL

- Student-athletes will have the opportunity to stay in a supervised study hall on Wednesdays until their coach is available to begin practice.

Attendance in school is becoming an increasing concern nationwide. Here at Moravia, we strive to have our students present every day. When they are not in their classrooms learning, they are missing VITAL experiences to enhance their education. We count on our parents as partners to ensure our students attend school every day. Your child is important to us, and our staff is here to help and support if concerns arise!



WHY IS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE SO IMPORTANT?

School attendance is an important indicator of how successful a student will be in school. Because of this, we strive to have every student here, on-time, every day! When students aren't in the classroom, they are missing out on the teaching, discussion, collaboration, and engagement that takes place in the classroom with their teachers and classmates.

According to research, "Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. This relationship between attendance and achievement may appear early in a child's school career."

Taken from: Every School Day Counts: The Forum Guide to Collecting and Using Attendance Data - Why Does Attendance Matter?
nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/attendancedata/chapter1a.aspx.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

- ☒ Make school an expectation. Talk with your child about the importance of attending school each day, and make it a priority!
- ☒ Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick.
- ☒ Help your child establish a regular routine. Maintaining a consistent bedtime and wake-up time can make morning routines smoother.
- ☒ Communicate with the school and your child's teacher if your child will be absent for any reason. Keep track of your child's attendance through SchoolTool.
- ☒ If your child has been absent, help them monitor the work they missed and take advantage of the after-school library program to help them get caught up.



CODE OF CONDUCT INFO

Except for lunchtime, Middle School students leave their phones in their lockers. This change has had a significant impact on student engagement, social interaction, and discipline. Thank you in advance for your support of these expectations for the betterment of our students! ~Mrs. Love

CELL PHONES

*Policy as written in the
MCSD Code of Conduct:*

- Student cell phones and other personal electronic devices must be stored in student lockers during the instructional day
- Students will be permitted to use their personal electronic devices in the cafeteria during their lunch period

Consequences will include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and may yield suspension from school for repeated violations.

*Please note that the MS Office follows the following protocol:

1st offense: Relinquish of device to Main Office until end of day

2nd offense: Relinquish of device to Main Office & parent phone call

3rd offense: Relinquish of device & parent required to pick up device

*additional violations may result in disciplinary action

DRESS CODE

*Policy as written in the
MCSD Code of Conduct:*

A student's dress shall:

- Not include open-back shirts/blouses, tube tops, sports bras, or tops with large cutouts on the side
- Shirts must be long enough to cover the majority of the abdomen and provide adequate coverage at the neckline
- Not include costume apparel - with the exception of special events
- Not include chains, choke collars, collars with spikes, and other related items that may be considered dangerous

Smartwatches

- Smartwatches may be worn but must have notifications and alerts silenced during instructional time.
- The use of smartwatches for communication (calls, texts, emails) during instructional time is prohibited unless approved by the teacher for educational purposes

MEET THE 6TH GRADE TEAM

Mr. Gremli
Math



Mrs. Johnson
ELA



Ms. Kneer
Science



Mr. Ott
**Special
Education**



Mr. Porter
**Social
Studies**



We enjoyed meeting so many 6th graders and their families at Open House and are excited to start the new year with your child! The transition into 6th grade can be difficult at times and working together we are confident your child will have a great year. If any questions or concerns arise at any point in the year please reach out to your child's house teacher.

Just a friendly reminder... the summer reading assignment is due Friday, September 8th. Please contact Mrs. Johnson if you have any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/3: Welcome to the 1st Day of 6th Grade!
9/6: Summer Reading Assignment Due
9/11: September 11th Memorial Ceremony
9/17: Conservation Field Trip to Emerson Park
9/23-9/28: Spirit Week
10/11: End of the 1st Marking Period
10/10: School Picture Day (Retakes 11/15)
10/14: No School
10/18: Half Day ~ Student-Led Conferences
10/21: No School ~ Student-Led Conferences

ParentSquare
In addition to communicating with your child's teacher, we will use the ParentSquare app to share important updates and information such as field trip information, important events and schedule changes.

MEET THE 7TH GRADE TEAM

Mrs. Perine-Spanish



Mrs. Porten-Social Studies



Mrs. Cheney-Math



Mr. Greer-Science



Mrs. Ryan-ELA



Ms. Michaels-Special Education

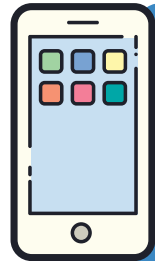


Mrs. Caza-Teacher Assistant



Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 9/11 - September 11 Memorial Ceremony
- Thursday 9/12 - Summer Reading Book Market
- Monday 9/16 - Hispanic Heritage Month Kick Off
- Friday 10/11 - End of Marking Period 1
- Monday 10/14 - **NO SCHOOL**
- Wednesday 10/16 - 5th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival
- Friday 10/18 - Student Led Conferences (**Half Day**)
- Monday 10/21 - Student Led Conferences (**NO SCHOOL**)
- *Each student must attend a student-led conference*



COMMUNICATION

- ParentSquare: We will use the ParentSquare App to share important updates and information such as field trip forms, schedule changes, assignment reminders, and important events.
- Academic Check-ins: Be on the lookout every Tuesday for weekly updates of your child's grades, sports eligibility, and attendance in the owed workroom. Please sign the academic check-in to verify that you have seen it and have your child return it to their house leader by Friday.



JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER... THE SUMMER
READING ASSIGNMENT IS DUE FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6TH. PLEASE CONTACT MRS.
RYAN (ARYAN@MORAVIASCHOOL.ORG) IF
YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

Meet the 8th Grade Team

MRS. BIRMINGHAM
ELA



MR. REYNOLDS
SOCIAL STUDIES



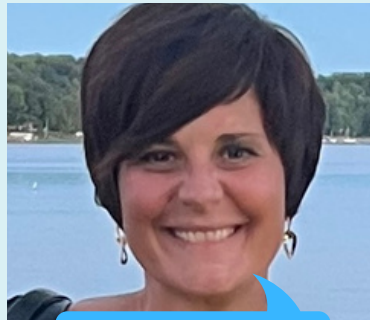
MS. WRIGHT
SCIENCE



MRS. CARY
MATH



MS. STOYELL
SPANISH



MRS. REDMOND
SPECIAL EDUCATION



MRS. RAYMOND
TEACHER ASSISTANT

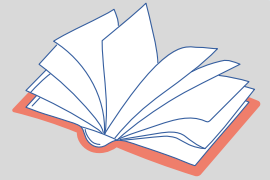
Academic CHECK-IN

- ★ Filled out on Tuesdays!
- ★ Due signed on Fridays!
- ★ Counts towards earning 3-strike incentive

Academic Check-in		
Student: _____		
Teacher: _____		
End of the Marking Period:		
Class	Grade	Check Work
ELA		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Spanish		
Art		
PE		
Music		
PE		

Academic Check-ins due on Friday!

Summer Reading!



This is just a friendly reminder that the summer reading assignment is due the first day of classes, Sept. 3rd.

If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Birmingham.
(sbirmingham@moraviaschool.org)

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 9/11 – September 11 Memorial Ceremony
- Friday 9/13 – Summer Reading Book Market
- Monday 9/16 – Hispanic Heritage Month Kick Off
- Friday 10/11 – End of Marking Period 1
- Monday 10/14 – NO SCHOOL
- Wednesday 10/16 – 5th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival
- Friday 10/18 – Student Led Conferences (Half Day)
- Monday 10/21 – Student Led Conferences (NO SCHOOL)
- *Each student must attend a student-led conference*

CONTACT INFORMATION

You can reach teachers via Parent Square or email us!

Mrs. Birmingham -
sbirmingham@moraviaschool.org

Mr. Reynolds -
creynolds@moraviaschool.org

Ms. Wright -
gwright@moraviaschool.org

Mrs. Cary -
mcary@moraviaschool.org

Ms. Stoyell -
tstoyell@moraviaschool.org



COUNSELING OFFICE

A NOTE FROM MRS. AUSTIN Middle School Counselor

Hello! I am so excited for the new school year to begin. If your child needs counseling support or you have any questions please reach out to me at (315) 497-2670, ext 2012. You can also reach me by email at taustin@moraviaschool.org. Please stop in to my office during open house and come say hello. I am looking forward to seeing you soon.



BACK TO SCHOOL TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Help your child adjust to earlier bedtimes a week or two before the new school year starts, just to help them ease into new routines. Set a consistent bedtime for your child and stick with it every night. Getting enough sleep is critical for kids to stay healthy and be successful in school. Not getting enough sleep is linked with lower academic achievement, as well as, higher rates of absenteeism and tardiness.
- Have your child turn off electronic devices well before bedtime. Electronic devices can disrupt sleep patterns and cause symptoms of fatigue during the school day.
- Children who eat a nutritious breakfast function better. We have free breakfast again this year!
- Some children need extra help organizing their homework. Checklists, timers, and parental supervision can help overcome homework problems.
- Create an environment that is homework-friendly starting at a young age. Children need a consistent workspace in their bedroom or another part of the home that is quiet, without distractions, and promotes good study habits.
- Establish a household rule that the TV and other electronic distractions stay off during homework time. Supervise computer and internet use.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PBIS

WHAT IS PBIS?

PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. It is a school-wide effort to support students' social-emotional wellbeing, and academic success while improving the overall school climate. Our behavioral expectations focus on helping students to be Safe, Respectful, and Responsible in all school settings. When those expectations are not met, we spend time discussing and modeling the expectations several times to try and prevent a disciplinary consequence. PBIS emphasizes relationships between students and the adults in the building as we strive to acknowledge all of the positives we see throughout the school day!



PBIS EXPECTATIONS:

Be Safe

- Make safe and healthy choices.

Be Respectful

- Be considerate towards yourself, others, and property.

Be Responsible

- Do what is expected of you.



TIPS

TECHNOLOGY

- Keep your Chromebook on a flat surface like a table or a desk. (Don't leave it on the floor where someone could step on it.)
- Don't pile things on top of your Chromebook.
- Keep food and drinks away from your Chromebook and make sure your hands are clean.
- Be careful how you carry your Chromebook. Make sure your Chromebook is closed, always use two hands, and never carry your Chromebook by the screen.
- Keep it charged. Plug it in when you are not using it so that it will be charged and ready when you need it.
- Tell your teacher right away if it breaks. Don't try to fix it yourself.
- Remember to take care of yourself online too. Stay on approved websites, keep your password private, and log off when you're done. Remember anything that happens under your account is your responsibility.

COMMONSENSEMEDIA.ORG

It's almost school time, here are some tips to prep your student for the return to school with technology!

- Bring back family screen time rules.
- Learn ways to keep screen time healthy for your family.
- Get ready to use tech for school.
- Brush up on skills before school starts.

For the full article go to

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles/back-to-school-reset-4-tips-on-managing-devices-and-screen-time-for-families>

ALLIANCE OF PARENTS & TEACHERS

Still on the fence about joining APT? Here are some reasons why you should...

- ✓ Most kids feel PROUD when their parent volunteers in their school!
- ✓ It's GREAT to socialize with other parents!
- ✓ Your involvement can be as much or as little as your schedule allows!
- ✓ Studies show that students who's parents volunteer do better academically.
- ✓ You can be a part of decision making and have first hand knowledge of upcoming events!

Stop by the APT table at OPEN HOUSE on 8/28/24 to learn about all of the ways APT helps our students and our school district!

MEETING DATES

- When: The 3rd Monday of every month
- Location: Elementary School Distance Learning Lab *OR JOIN BY ZOOM! Please e-mail Shannon Williams for the ZOOM link: swilliams@moraviaschool.org
- Time: 6:30 PM
- 1st Meeting = Monday, Sept. 16th, 2024

**YOUR INVOLVEMENT CAN BE
AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE
AS YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS!**



MORAVIA ATHLETICS

Welcome back, Blue Devil Nation! We are excited to kick off the 2024 fall athletic season. Students entering 7th and 8th grade have the opportunity to sign-up for modified cross country, modified field hockey, modified football, and modified soccer for the fall season.

ACADEMIC BENEFITS OF SPORTS

According to an article posted by the University of Rochester, "Studies have shown that exercise increases blood flow to the brain and helps the body build more connections between nerves, leading to increased concentration, enhanced memory, stimulated creativity, and better-developed problem-solving skills. In short, playing sports helps your brain grow and makes it work better."

<https://www.rochester.edu/team/benefits-of-sports-to-students/>

READY TO SIGN UP?

Students can register for a sport by going to our athletic webpage and signing up through Final Forms. Fall registration closes on September 16th, 2024.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Athletic Department.
GO BLUE!!!



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES!



JOIN THE BLUE DEVIL FAMILY!

Applications are continuously being accepted for substitutes in the areas of teachers, support staff, licensed LPNs and RNs, and bus drivers. If you enjoy working with children and can help out, please complete the appropriate application listed on the website under Job Opportunities (on the bottom of the homepage), or call or stop by the district office (315-497-2670) for an application.



DISTRICT SUBSTITUTES

10 Reasons to Start Substitute Teaching Today

1. You will make a difference in students' lives.
2. You do not need to be a certified teacher.
3. You can explore a career that you might be interested in.
4. You can help your community school.
5. You can continue other work.
6. You can pick the classrooms you teach in.
7. You can network with other teachers.
8. You can expand your skills.
9. You can learn a lot.
10. You'll have fun!

BUS DRIVERS

- Paid Bus Driver Training is being offered at \$15.50 per hour.
- Once a person is trained, and obtains the proper license, the rate will go to \$19.00 per hour for substitute bus drivers
- Contact Danielle Winters, Transportation Supervisor at (315) 497-2670, ext. 3002

SUBSTITUTE RATES

Teacher - \$125/day (certified)
Teacher - \$110/day (uncertified)
Teaching Assistant - \$110/day
Teacher Aide - \$15.50/hour
RN - \$135/day; LPN/\$120
Clerical - \$16.80/hr.
Cafeteria - \$15.50/hr.
Cleaner - \$16.05/hr.
Bus Attendant - \$15.50/hr.
Bus Driver - \$19.00/hr.

We are
HIRING

#MAKELEARNINGIRRESISTIBLE

