



WELCOME TO MORAVIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Quarterly Newsletter

Issue #2 - 24/25



A NOTE FROM MRS. LOVE

Middle School Principal

Hello Middle School Families! I hope this message finds you happy, healthy, and enjoying the holiday season! As we enter this season of warmth and celebration, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our students, families, and staff for making our school a vibrant and supportive community. This time of year is a perfect opportunity to reflect on our achievements and look ahead to setting new goals for the future.

As we approach midterm exam time, I'd like to emphasize one of our key building goals: the importance of consistent school attendance. Attending school every day ensures that students have the best opportunity to learn and fully engage in the valuable experiences taking place in the classroom. Together, we can help every child succeed and reach their fullest potential. Wishing you all a joyful holiday season filled with peace, love, and plenty of time to recharge!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12/20 - Go Home Early Drill - dismissal @ 2:40 PM
- 12/23 - 1/3 - NO SCHOOL Holiday Recess
- 1/18 - Grade 8 Winter Semi-formal
- 1/20 - NO SCHOOL: MLK Jr. Day
- 1/21 & 1/22 - Midterm Exams grades 6-8; dismissal @ 11:30 AM
- 1/28 - CIRCUS - hosted by the 6th grade class
- 1/29 - NO SCHOOL: Lunar New Year
- 2/17 - 2/21 - NO SCHOOL President's Day & Mid-Winter Recess

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...



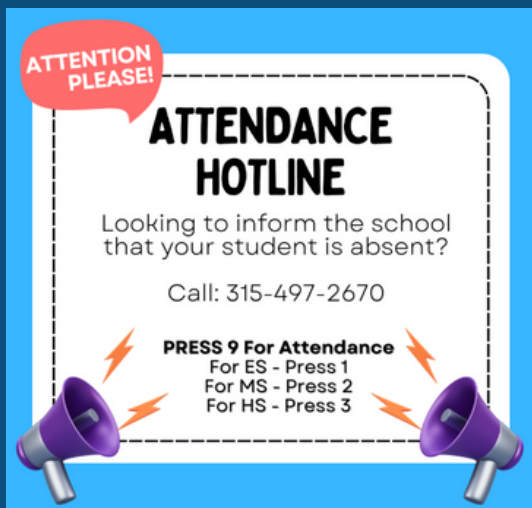
AFTER SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM

- 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.
- 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..
- Students must have their own transportation home from the Library program or have permission by a parent/ guardian to walk.

SCHOOL LUNCH NEWS

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.

ATTENDANCE



You may also email Mrs. Torok at ltorok@moraviaschool.org or reach her through ParentSquare.

COMMUNICATION

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

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



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 March





WEDNESDAY 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.



Fight Flu

at Home and School

Influenza (flu), spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it altogether.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Make sure people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, are also vaccinated.
- The vaccine is especially important for young children and people of all ages with certain health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung conditions. The flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- Young children and those with certain medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu.
- If your child gets flu symptoms, call their health care provider and ask if antiviral treatment is right for them.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu



Department
of Health



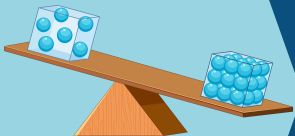
6TH GRADE NEWS



In ELA, we continue to work on our short paragraph writing (CERER) and the mechanics of writing. We just finished reading *The Hunger Games* and did an Escape Room to end that unit. The kids were very excited about reading that and several are now interested in reading the sequels, *Catching Fire* and *Mockingjay* (which I do have for them if they want to borrow them). After Christmas break, we will start a new book, *Brian's Winter* by Gary Paulsen.



IN MATH: WE ARE CREATING, EVALUATING, AND SOLVING ALGEBRAIC EXPRESSIONS AND EQUATIONS. WE WILL SOON BEGIN RATIOS AND PERCENTS. WE CONTINUE TO WORK ON MATH FACTS DAILY.



What is density and how can we use it to identify various unknown materials? We are working on answering this question and several others as we work through our unit on density. In science, the kids have been working on reinforcing their understanding of mass and volume as they integrate new concepts about density. After the break, the kids will get to complete a Mystery Metals Lab!



- Jan. 21st ~ ELA Midterm (half day)
- Jan. 22nd ~ Math Midterm (half day)
- Jan. 24th ~ 3-Strike Sledding at the Glen (weather dependent)
- Jan. 28th ~ Circus Night! (6th Grade Fundraiser)
- Jan. 31st ~ Field Trip to Lime Hollow (More information to follow)



In Social Studies we are learning about Ancient Egypt and the importance of what makes a culture unique. Our focus includes:

- **The Nile River:** Understanding its vital role in shaping Egyptian society, agriculture, and trade.
- **Pharaohs and Governance:** Exploring the lives of rulers and their contributions to Egyptian culture and politics.
- **Pyramids and Temples:** Investigating the mysteries of iconic structures such as the Great Pyramid of Giza and the Sphinx.
- **Hieroglyphics:** Learning about the ancient writing system and how it unlocks the secrets of the past, as well as creating our own names using the ancient Hieroglyphs.
- **Egyptian Beliefs:** Studying mythology, gods, and afterlife traditions that influenced daily life and monumental rituals.

7th Grade News

WINTER EDITION

A+



Show



Your



Spirit

Don't forget...

ACADEMIC
CHECK-INS

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

Academic Check-In	
Student	Teacher/Parent Signature
Class	Grade
ELA	
Math	
Science	
History	
Art	
Music	
PE	

Academic Check-Ins due on Friday!

Ask the kids:

- 1 What's your opinion of adding Indigenous Peoples Day to the school calendar?
- 2 Describe the New Year's tradition from Spain that involves eating grapes.
- 3 What are your values and are you living to them?
- 4 Which First Chapter Friday book has been your favorite?
- 5 What are the distributive, commutative and associative properties?
- 6 Why is the sea lamprey invasive to the Great Lakes ecosystem?
- 7 Did you want the teachers or the students to win in volleyball and basketball?

Importante Dates to Remember:

- ✓ Tuesday, January 21st
-ELA Midterm
-1/2 day of school for kids
- ✓ Wednesday, January 22nd
-Math Midterm
-1/2 day of school for kids
- ✓ Friday, January 24th
Three Strike Trip- Ice Skating

We're getting a new team member!

Mrs. Cheney will be on maternity leave starting at the end of January. Pending BOE approval, a retired 7th-grade math teacher will fill in during her absence. We are confident this transition will ensure continuity in learning, and we thank you for your support during this exciting time for Mrs. Cheney!

Please stay tuned for an updated welcome to our math long-term substitute!

8th Grade News

WINTER EDITION

THREE STRIKE INCENTIVE TRIP

8TH GRADE STUDENTS EARNED A TRIP TO THE JM MCDONALD CENTER, THEY ENJOYED A DAY OF ICE SKATING AND PLAYING FIELD GAMES.



Academic CHECK-IN

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

Academic Check-in		
Student	Teacher	Notes
Class	Grade	Check Work
ELA		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Spanish		
Art		
FACS		
MUSIC		
PE		

☐ Did you fill out the check-in? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Are you currently signed? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐
☐ Have been in the Check-in Room ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Have been in the Check-in Room ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐
☐ I am missing ☐ academic check-in papers. This counts as ☐ strike.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Parent/Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Academic Check-ins due on Friday!

Upcoming Events:

- GRADE 8 WINTER SEMI-FORMAL - JANUARY 18TH
- NO SCHOOL: MLK JR. DAY - JANUARY 20TH
- MATH MIDTERM - JANUARY 21ST
- ELA MIDTERM - JANUARY 22ND
- SPANISH MIDTERM - JANUARY 23RD
- WINTER BREAK - FEBRUARY 17TH-21ST



MCS TEACHER SECRET SPIRIT WEEK

MUCKRAKER MAGAZINE in SS

Recently in Social Studies class students have been creating their very own magazine on Muckrakers (people who uncovered societal problems) during the Progressive Era of US History.



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

Holiday Greetings to you all! This is a busy time of year in our school building. We are now in our third marking period and will be halfway through the school year at the end of January. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns about report cards. If there is a specific concern about a course grade, please contact the teacher first to ensure the best communication.

In early January, a health educator from SAVAR will present to the Intro to CTE/FACS classes on topics such as bullying, healthy relationships, healthy boundaries, and internet safety. This is part of the required curriculum of the NYS Education Department.

Wishing a happy and healthy holiday season to you and your family!!!

Any questions? taustin@moraviaschool.org or (315) 497-2670, ext. 2040



TIPS

TECHNOLOGY

SOCIAL MEDIA

What does your social media say about you? Watch this engaging video with your child, remember, everything you post is there forever.



KIDS & TECH

Looking to support your student with technology? Here are some top tips for parents!

- Build a family media plan that balances time with and without devices.
- Talk about social media – did you know there is now an [Instagram Teen account](#)?
- Think carefully before getting your child a phone.
- For more top tips go to [this link and read more!](#)



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.

MORAVIA ATHLETICS

STAY ACTIVE THIS WINTER!

Don't let the colder months slow you down—stay active and engaged!

Middle school students can still sign up for *Modified Girls Basketball* and *Modified Wrestling*. Registration is open through Final Forms, which you can access via the District Website.

Whether you're trying a new sport or continuing your athletic journey, now is the perfect time to get involved and stay moving this winter.

READY TO SIGN UP?

Mark your calendars! Registration for modified spring sports opens on Monday, March 31st.

Students can register for a sport by going to our athletic webpage and signing up through Final Forms.

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



CLASSROOMS



MORAVIA BLUE DEVILS

BE SAFE

Make safe and healthy choices

- Ask permission to leave
- Keep your hands/feet to yourself
- Report any incident that made you feel unsafe to the teacher
- Keep aisles clear
- Use classroom furniture, materials and supplies as intended

PBIS posters are displayed throughout the building. Here is an example of one from the classrooms!

BE RESPECTFUL

Be considerate towards yourself, others and property.

- Take care of school property and classroom materials
- Look and listen to the speaker
- Treat others the way you want to be treated

BE RESPONSIBLE

Do what is expected of you.

- Arrive on time with required materials
- Follow directions the first time
- Fully engage in classroom activities
- Advocate for your needs
- Turn in work on time

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

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

