



August 25, 2017

News from the Principal...

If you do not wish to have Morton release student information (and pictures) to the newspaper or other media sources and/or you do not want your child's name/picture published in the Messenger or on our website, **you are required to notify the principal in writing prior to the last Friday in September (September 29, 2017)**. You can learn more about this information in the Course Handbook or contact Mrs. Bergstrom at 402 715-1290. Thank you!

~All Things Morton

The health room is in need of girls and boys shorts, sweatpants & underwear (small sizes). Your donation would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you to the Fogarty-Studt family for the generous donations of school supplies!

According to Policy 134.1... The school playgrounds and other open areas of campus can be used on a first-come, first-serve basis when they are not being used for school activities. *During school hours, the playground and other areas of school property are **closed** to public use.*

Our doors are locked at all times. When visiting the school during regular school hours, please ring the doorbell, report to the office and sign in. You will receive a visitor/volunteer badge. Please be prepared to show your ID.

Are you keeping your Morton Maverick at home?
Please call the office (402 715-1290) by 8:30 am to let us know.

The **Morton Messenger** is an important communication tool. Please take a few minutes to read it each week. The Morton Messenger will be sent to you weekly via email and is posted on the Morton webpage. **If you would like a paper copy of our newsletter, please notify Mrs. Bergstrom.**

Please take an opportunity to talk with your children about stranger danger. **This is a conversation that we can't have often enough.** Please make sure your children know what to do to be safe.

- *Students should **walk with a buddy**. Ask older students to accompany kids on a walk.
- *Tell students to **always** refuse to go anywhere with people they don't know.
- *Tell students they are **NOT** expected to help adults with directions or lost puppies. If a car stops and the driver attempts to ask for help, children should run away.
- *In potentially dangerous situations, students should make lots of noise to alert neighbors, **run** to a safe place or find an adult they trust.

The staff at Morton **THANK YOU** for your partnership in keeping our students safe!

The Morton PTA will host a **Lemonade Stand** on the lawn after school on August 25th and September 1st and 8th (weather permitting). Each glass is **50 cents** each. ENJOY!

We are off to a great start but have a few (important) **traffic reminders**; please...

1. do not park on the curve in front of the school for any reason or at any time;
2. do not turn left into Morton (from the 160th Street);
3. do not abandon your car in the driveway—you are invited to use the parking lots on the north and south sides of the building and walk to the front door;
4. follow the vehicle in front of you; do not "go around" cars in the driveway;
5. please pull onto campus and use the playground on the south side of the building to make a giant loop...this keeps traffic flowing on 160th Street; and
6. please do not block neighborhood driveways or mailboxes.

To help with the flow of traffic...

1. at arrival...once you are curb-side on the driveway, please have your child exit the car and walk to the front door...**we have this area marked with orange flags**; and
2. the driveway is not the place for long good-byes, eating breakfast, texting, etc. - please use the parking lots on the north and side sides of the building if you need that extra time.

We appreciate your partnership and your patience as we make certain our campus is safe for students and staff.

Just a quick reminder...

- ✓ **Tennis shoes are required for PE classes.** Every year, inappropriate footwear in the gym causes feet and ankle injuries. Footwear such as "Wheelies and Heelies," boots, clogs, sandals, flip-flops, Uggs, crocs and wedges pose safety hazards in Physical Education classes. **The Millard Public Schools Board of Education Policy and Rule 6750.1 states our families provide tennis shoes for physical education.** Please provide your child with appropriate footwear which will allow your child's full participation in Physical Education. If you need assistance with the purchase of tennis shoes for your child(ren), please contact Mrs. Bergstrom (jkbergstrom@mpsomaha.org) or 402 715-1290.
- ✓ **Guests are welcome at Morton for lunch!** Please help us keep routines and by following these few rules:
 1. Sign in at the office (if you want to eat school lunch, order by 9 am; if you want to bring lunch in from home or a local restaurant, that's fine too!)
 2. If someone other than a parent is coming for lunch (grandpa, auntie, older sibling, etc.), we need parent permission. Please contact the office (402 715-1290).
 3. We have several students at Morton with severe nut allergies. A child with a nut allergy can suffer a severe and possible deadly reaction by digesting or touching a food item containing nut protein. In order to make their year as successful as possible without being singled out in the classroom, we are asking for ALL food in the classroom to be nut-free. **Please make sure all snacks and treats are nut-free and are being processed in a nut-free atmosphere to ensure the safety of the health of the students.**
 4. Students and their guests will sit with the class.
 5. Lunch and treats during lunch should only be purchased and given to your own child(ren). Please don't bring "goodies" to share with others.
 6. Cell phones should not be in use at school. No pictures, videos, etc., please.

The mission of J. Sterling Morton Elementary School, whose culture unites families, guarantees all students develop the academic skills and character traits necessary for personal excellence and responsible citizenship through high-quality, innovative, engaging experiences in a challenging and nurturing environment.