



*Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts*

**Morton School District #214**  
**Home of the Timberwolves!**

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[@MortonSchoolDistrict214](https://www.facebook.com/MortonSchoolDistrict214) ~ [@MSD21214](https://www.twitter.com/MSD21214)

**Morton Jr/Sr High School**

152 Westlake Ave. ~ Morton, WA, 98356  
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**Morton Elementary School**

400 Main Ave. ~ Morton, WA, 98356  
p: 360-496-5143 ~ f: 360-496-0327

### Public Service Announcement

Date: December 4th, 2020

RE: Appreciation to our students, staff, families, and community during this time.

The entire Morton School District would like to extend our appreciation to the students, staff, families, and community for your understanding and patience throughout the pandemic. All of us have had to adjust our lives immensely and find a path through the changing landscape that has been the 2020 calendar year. Yet despite the changes, challenges, unknowns, and vast changes we have all had to endure, the Morton School community has been exceptional in its understanding and patience. Again, thank you!

This week we were forced to move our Jr/Sr High School to remote learning when there were staff absences and we did not have enough substitutes to fill in. As you all can understand, it is not appropriate or legal for the district to share the reason behind the absences of staff as that is a privacy issue. However, if any closure was due to the current COVID pandemic we would inform our entire community in order to protect everyone. This was not the case this week.

Morton Jr/Sr High School, Morton Elementary, and Morton School District Transportation department have all set thresholds in terms of how many unfilled absences can be absorbed and still be able to operate on-site learning. When these thresholds are not met we will switch to remote learning. The administrators and supervisors are monitoring the absences of their respective staff members and plan to make the call for their program with sufficient time to inform students, staff, and families of a change.

The district will also move to remote learning when inclement weather occurs. As the winter season is already upon us staff have already begun their preparations for such a switch. We also understand that with inclement weather comes power outages which may affect the ability to connect to the internet. If this occurs, students are encouraged to work with their teachers once they are able to connect or return to school to make-up any work necessary to complete.

During times of a switch from on-site to remote learning, the district will use two terms in its announcement that students, staff, and families need to be aware of. The terms and explanations of each are below:

**Canvas Day:** This means that students will find their work on the Canvas website and students will only need to complete the work through this site. There will not be any online meetings for them to attend. Students are encouraged to reach out to their teachers via email as needed.

*The Morton School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator/ADA Coordinator/Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator and Superintendent John Hannah, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, 98356, 360-496-5300, [jhannah@morton.k12.wa.us](mailto:jhannah@morton.k12.wa.us), or Section 504 Coordinator Becky Brooks, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, 98356, 360-496-5137, [bbrooks@morton.k12.wa.us](mailto:bbrooks@morton.k12.wa.us).*

**Online Meeting Day:** This means that students will attend online meetings through the GoTo platform if it is their assigned hybrid day. A-day students would have online meetings if it were Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday. B-day students would have online meetings if it were Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday. If it is not an assigned hybrid learning day then a student would only utilize the Canvas website for their daily work.

Students in Preschool and Kindergarten do not use canvas and parents should expect a notification from their student's teacher about their daily work.