



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts

Morton School District #214

Home of the Timberwolves!

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Morton Jr/Sr High School

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Morton Elementary School

400 Main Ave. ~ Morton, WA, 98356

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Date: August 20th, 2020

RE: Welcome Back Letter

To: Students and Families of Morton Elementary

The 20/21 school year is nearly here. With the current COVID situation still looming throughout our state and country, our upcoming school year will again be affected in multiple ways. You have probably already been informed that our district will start the school year almost entirely online. I want to take some time and share with you the plans for Morton Elementary. Please know that our plans have changed three times in the last two weeks, including this past Monday, due to changes and clarifications from the state and county. I did NOT want to send out schedule after schedule every time a change took place, as I know that would have been very confusing and frustrating! With a high probability that additional changes will be needed as we move forward, I want to thank you for your patience and understanding in this difficult and continuously changing time.

At this point, the Lewis County Health Department is making the school recommendations month by month. What that means is for the month of September, as mentioned above, we know that almost all of our students will be learning online. As of today, we do NOT know what October or the following months will look like, however, we are hoping the Lewis County Health Department makes the decision for October in early September.

This year our district is moving to a 1-to-1 system, which means all students will have a computer checked out to them if needed. The computer will be used for both online and in-class activities. Students will need to check-out a computer or use one from home. Either way, a computer is necessary.

No matter how it is affected there are several items that you need to know and I will briefly address in the list below. Please make sure you read and understand the bullets below as this will have a direct impact on learning:

- **Orientation**

Morton Elementary will be holding student/parent/teacher orientations the first five days: September 1,2,3,8 and 9th (7 days for Preschool and Kindergarten). Orientation, which will be scheduled with you by the classroom teacher, will include the following:

- Address/phone number update and verification;
- Checking out chromebooks to those students who need one;
- Giving login and passwords for chromebooks, IXL, Fast Forward, etc;
- Free/Reduced lunch paperwork;
- Review of daily schedule, attendance, expectations, grading, etc;

The Morton School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, cc sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provide designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged : Coordinator/Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator and Superintendent John Hannah, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, ; or Section 504 Coordinator Becky Brooks, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, 98356, 360-496-5137, bbrooks@morton.k

- **Orientation Continued**

- Passing out necessary school supplies for working at home. Please note that we have had many donated backpacks, which we will pass out once students return to inperson schooling. I also wanted to give a HUGE THANK YOU to those who have donated backpacks for our students!!!

- **Safety Precautions**

We are following current Health department guidance to ensure a safe return to school. For students attending Morton Elementary starting in September or students attending when we return to in person learning, we have the following safety protocols/procedures established:

- Masks/face shields required EXCEPT for those with medical documentation AND those students in preschool;
- Desks are six feet apart;
- No more than five students in a room with a staff member, EXCEPT at recess and cafeteria;
- Hand sanitizer available throughout the building;
- Frequent handwashing;
- Frequent sanitizing by staff;
- Temperature checks before getting on bus or entering school if NOT riding a school bus;
- Students not feeling well sent home

- **ECEAP Preschool**

This free preschool for 3 and 4 year old students, will attend school twice a week. Preschool students will be divided by days, either M/ Th or T/F and by AM or PM. AM preschool will run from 8am-10:30am. PM preschool will run from 11:30-2:00pm. AM students will have bus transportation provided as needed to school ONLY, however, parents will have to provide transportation at 10:30am home. PM students will need to be dropped off at school, however, they can ride the bus home as needed. Morton School District does NOT provide midday transportation. Preschool will start on Monday, September 14, 2020 to allow for the state required parent/student/teacher meetings and assessments (WAKids). Please note that the WAKids assessments will be ongoing throughout the months of September and October. Mrs. Hayden will be contacting each registered preschool parent to schedule the meeting during one of the following dates: September 1,2,3,8,9,10 or 11th.

- **Kindergarten**

Kindergarten will start on online lessons on Monday, September 14, 2020 to allow for the state required parent/student/teacher meetings and assessments (WAKids). Please note that the WAKids assessments will be ongoing throughout the months of September and October. Mrs. Henderson will be contacting each registered kindergarten parent to schedule the meeting during one of the following dates: September 1,2,3,8,9,10 or 11th.

- **1st-6th Grades**

Students in 1st through 6th grade will begin online lessons on Thursday, September 10, 2020. Classroom teachers will be contacting each registered parent to schedule the orientation meeting during one of the following dates: September 1,2,3,8 or 9th.

- **Special Education**

One of the update/changes to our plan was the ability to have special education students attend school based on their Individual Education Plan (IEP). Ms. Muth is currently reviewing all 30+ IEPs and working to create a schedule based on minutes served from each IEP. Note that some students may attend one day per week, while others may attend five days a week, with others somewhere in between. Again, the number of days is determined by each students IEP. She will be contacting parents once she has finalized the schedule. Special Education students will attend school from 8am-2pm.

- **Daily Schedule**

Daily schedules are divided amongst grades bands (PK/K, 1st-3rd and 4th-6th), however, school for ALL students is 8am-2pm. Students will have Zoom lessons each day for Math, English Language Arts and Science, as well as a Zoom with Mrs. Fairhart for either PE, Music (singing) or a Read-A-Loud. Time is built into the day for independent work, family meetings, etc. Please reference the schedule(s) for additional information.

- **Pictures**

Pictures for Morton Elementary will be Wednesday, September 9th in the elementary gym from 9am-3pm. Additional information will be posted regarding online ordering, etc. as we receive it from LifeTouch.

- **Canvas**

All online learning and activities that take place in our school district will be done through a system called Canvas. This is true for all grades K-12, and in all courses and classes. Students will use the school email login and password to access their courses in Canvas.

- **Zoom**

When classes are held online Zoom is our portal where students will have to access their classes. While in Zoom, students are expected to participate and engage appropriately.

- **Attendance**

Last spring the State of Washington determined that attendance would not be held against kids during our immediate shutdown of school. This year is different. Attendance will be taken daily and will include not only students being logged in to Canvas and/or Zoom during their assigned class time, but also based upon their participation and engagement. If your child is NOT able to attend daily lessons, please notify the teacher during orientation. The daily lessons will be recorded and posted for students to access at a later date and time. If they complete the lesson and independent work, attendance will be counted.

- **Assignments**

Assignments will be assigned and are required to be turned in on time and complete. Each grade level will look a little different regarding assignments, however, they will be age and grade appropriate.

- **Grades**

For the 20/21 school year final grades for classes will be our usual standards based grading of 4,3,2 and 1.

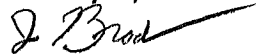
- **RTI/STAR 360**

With so much of the last school year done remotely, the state is requiring all schools to measure and address student progress. For our school, this includes our assessment of students with STAR 360 and DIBELS. We are still exploring ways to make this happen.

We know that many of our families have limited access to the internet. We have a limited supply of hotspots from T-Mobile to help relieve this need. These hotspots will only work with district devices. For our families who live in areas where T-Mobile doesn't have service students/families will be able to download their work for Canvas by accessing the WiFi available on campus. We are looking for other options and will continue to look for ways to improve access as we move forward.

Finally, as with most other places, masks are required to enter Morton Elementary. Please come prepared with a mask for each person attending the orientation.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Brooks", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Josh Brooks

Elementary Principal

Morton School District

PreSchool and Kindergarten Daily Schedule

	M,T,Th & F
8:15-8:30	Check-in /Community
8:30-9:00	Synchronous learning (lesson)
9:00-9:30	Learning Engagement (based on individual learning plan)
9:30-10:00	Recess
9:00-10:00	Family Meetings
10:00-10:30	Specialist Music/PE
10:30-11:00	1:1 Conference with Teacher/ Small Group with Teacher
11:00-11:30	Synchronous learning (lesson)
11:30-12:00	Learning Engagement (based on individual learning plan)
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:00	Recess
1:00-1:30	Synchronous learning (lesson)
1:30-2:00	Learning Engagement (based on individual learning plan)
2:00-3:15	Family Meetings (1:30-3:15)

	Wednesday
8:15-8:30	Check-in /Community
8:3-9:00	Synchronous learning (lesson)
9:00-9:30	Learning Engagement (based on individual learning plan)
9:30-10:00	Recess
9:00-10:00	Family Meetings
10:00-11:00	1:1 Conference with Teacher/ Small Group with Teacher
11:00-11:30	Synchronous learning (lesson)
11:30-12:00	Learning Engagement (based on individual learning plan)
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:00	Recess
1:00-1:30	Synchronous learning (lesson)

1st – 3rd Grade Daily Schedule

	M,T,Th & F
8:00-8:30	Check-in/ Community
8:30-9:15	Synchronous learning (ELA lesson)
9:15-9:30	Recess
9:30-9:45	Independent Work
9:15-9:45	Family Meetings
9:45-10:30	Synchronous learning (Math lesson)
10:30-11:00	Independent Work
11:00-11:30	1:1 Conference with Teacher/ Small Group with Teacher
11:30-12:30	Lunch/Recess
12:30-1:00	Specialist PE and Music
1:00-1:15	Independent Reading
12:30-1:15	Family Meetings
1:15-2:00	Synchronous learning (Science lesson)
2:00-3:15	Family Meetings

	Wednesdays
8:00-8:30	Check-in/ Community
8:30-9:00	Synchronous learning (ELA lesson)
9:00-9:30	Recess
9:30-9:45	Independent Work
9:00-9:45	Family Meetings
9:45-10:15	Synchronous learning (Math lesson)
10:15-10:45	Independent Work
10:45-11:30	1:1 Conference with Teacher/ Small Group with Teacher
11:30-12:30	Lunch/Recess
12:30-1:00	Independent Reading
12:30-1:00	Family Meetings
1:00-1:30	Synchronous learning (Science lesson)
1:30-2:00	Family Meetings

4th-6th Grade Daily Schedule

	M,T,Th & F
8:00-8:30	Check-in/ Community
8:30-9:15	Synchronous learning 4 th Science 5 th ELA 6 th Math
9:15-9:45	Independent Work
9:15-9:45	Family Meetings
9:45-10:30	Synchronous learning 4 th Math 5 th Science 6 th ELA
10:30-11:00	Independent Work
11:00-11:30	1:1 Conference with Teacher/ Small Group with Teacher
11:30-12:00	Specialist PE/Music
12:00-1:00	Lunch/Recess
1:00-1:15	Independent Reading
1:15-2:00	Synchronous learning 4 th ELA 5 th Math 6 th Science
2:00-3:15	Family Meetings

	Wednesday
8:00-8:30	Check-in/ Community
8:30-9:00	Synchronous learning 4 th Science 5 th ELA 6 th Math
9:00-9:30	Independent Work
9:30-10:30	Family Meetings
10:30-11:00	Synchronous learning 4 th Math 5 th Science 6 th ELA
11:00-11:30	Independent Work
11:30-12:00	1:1 Conference with Teacher/ Small Group with Teacher
12:00-1:00	Lunch/Recess
1:00-1:30	Synchronous learning 4 th ELA 5 th Math 6 th Science
1:30-2:00	Family Meetings