



Mustang Minute 4/06/23



Hello Morse Families!

We are in the final push of the school year! When we returned from break on Monday, we had an assembly to review our expectations and talk about goal setting for the rest of the year. I let the students know that on Monday we had only 75 total days left until our last day of school - including weekends! We talked about how we can end the year successfully and set ourselves up for success heading into summer. A few of the reminders I also shared (*that I wanted to remind our families about as well*) were regarding the dress code, birthday treats and spring testing. There are also several important events coming up this spring, so please keep an eye on the important dates and information below.

Dress Code:

We have been a little relaxed with hoods and hats during the winter months and are looking to get back on track. While in school, students should have their hoods down and hats put away in their backpacks. The dress code is below:

We want students to be as comfortable as possible while attending school, yet we request that their clothing be appropriate for a school environment. Please follow these guidelines in helping your child dress appropriately for school.

- *Students should not wear short shorts, cutoffs, or high-cut athletic shorts.*
- *Students (boys and girls) should not wear halter tops or midriff tops. Sleeveless shirts should have at least one-inch straps.*
- *Clothing that advertises alcohol, cigarettes, or that have inappropriate sayings or “put downs” are not to be worn to school.*
- *Sandals are discouraged since they do not offer sufficient protection for the feet while children are playing at recess. Tennis shoes are required for gym. These should have white or light-colored soles since dark soles mar the surface of the gym floor (even the so-called scuff proof shoes).*
- *Students are not permitted to wear hats inside the building except on “special days” as announced.*

Birthday Treats

Please see the attached birthday policy for the district. In short, treats are not allowed on birthdays. We know birthdays are very important to our elementary aged students so here are some ideas we shared so parents can still help celebrate their child’s day at school:

- Send in favorite book to read to the class.
- Donate a book for the classroom library.
- Donate a recess game for indoor recess.
- Donate a game or piece of playground equipment for outdoor recess (*soccer or basketball, jump ropes etc.*)

Spring Testing

We have our required state testing (MStep) coming up later this month. 3rd – 5th grade students will get a chance to demonstrate grade-level proficiencies on this test in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. Students in 5th grade will also take the Science and Social Studies tests. The dates that we are starting these tests are below. Parents and families can help their students and the school by doing the following:

- Try to schedule any appointments around these days if possible.
- Ensure students eat a healthy breakfast and get a good night's sleep.
- Send student iPad to school fully charged.
- Allow student to bring in their own wired headphones (Bluetooth or wireless headphones are not allowed). We will have wired extras.

The other way parents can help is to understand that this test is only one measure of a student's ability and knowledge. While we can learn a lot about a student and our school from this test, it doesn't tell us about their love of learning, resilience, effort or character. Please encourage your child to just do their best.

MStep Schedule:

3rd Grade

Mon: 4/24 ELA
Wed: 5/3 Math

4th Grade

Mon: 5/1 ELA
Mon:5/8 Math

5th Grade

Tues: 4/25 ELA
Tues: 5/2 Math
Tues: 5/9 Science
Mon: 5/15 Social Studies

****I have heard from a few families regarding spring family trips. If you know your child will be absent during their testing period, please let their teacher know so we can attempt to plan around their absences.***

Upcoming Important Events

- 4/7 Friday - No School – Good Friday
- 4/11 5th grade camp presentation 5:00pm
- 4/11 PTO meeting 6:30pm
- 4/12 Kindergarten Round Up 6:30-7:30
- 4/18 Preschool Information Night @ Morse 6:00 pm

As always, if you have any questions regarding the school or your child, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or your child's teacher.

Your Proud Principal,



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