

# CONSTELLATIONS

MORNING STAR PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER

## Morning Star: Welcome Back!

It is that time of the summer when the light starts to shift ever so slightly and we all start gearing up for the start of a new school year. Gary, Brian and Noah are just finishing up a school-wide refresh. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and hard working custodial team.

Francine and I have also been working to ensure a smooth start to the school year. In the next several pages I hope to include everything you need to know as parents and students to launch the best possible year at our school.

I am pleased to announce that we are fully staffed for the upcoming school year. We are EXTREMELY lucky to have a full staff of paras. That said, we are looking at large class sizes district-wide and there may be opportunities to serve as overflow support in the near future. It's a great way to make a little money and spend time with kids. I will send you all updates as needs arise.

Please take a quick moment to review the information in this newsletter. In the coming weeks you will start receiving a steady stream of information. In early September I will be sending a newsletter specifically focused on volunteer opportunities and our PAC's ongoing efforts to ensure that all of our students are provided with multiple opportunities to learn and grow.

In the meantime, please reach out to me with any questions as we head into the first week of a new academic year.

Enjoy the last couple of weeks of summer break.

Will Dickerson  
Principal  
[will.dickerson@bsd7.org](mailto:will.dickerson@bsd7.org)  
406-522-6500

## LOOKING FORWARD

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- **8/21 1st-5th Grade Classroom Assignments Shared w/ Families**
  - **8/24- Sneak Peek (New Families 2:00-2:30, Classrooms open up 2:30-3:30)**
  - **8/28 FIRST DAY 1st-5th!**
  - **8/31 1st Full day of Kindergarten!**
  - **9/14 Open House 5:30-6:30**
  - **9/15 Student Pictures**
  - **10/6 FUN RUN!**
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## IMPROVING PARENT ACCESS AND COMMUNICATION

I have been working to improve every aspect of our website. You will notice that quite a few of the links below will point you directly to resources on <https://ms.bsd7.org>, our school-specific web page. Here are a few of the resources that will be updated weekly and are, hopefully, functional and useful:

- By clicking on "Grade Level Information!" dedicated tab for each grade-level with an easy to use schedule and direct links to weekly bulletins as they become available. ([Click here to give it a try! You can see students' current schedules!](#))
- The landing page, [linked here](#), includes several tabs, including, upcoming dates for the next month, current topics of interest, and links to past and present newsletters.
- [Click here](#) to access the "Our School" page. It includes a current directory and will continue to grow in order to reflect our approach to supporting all students.

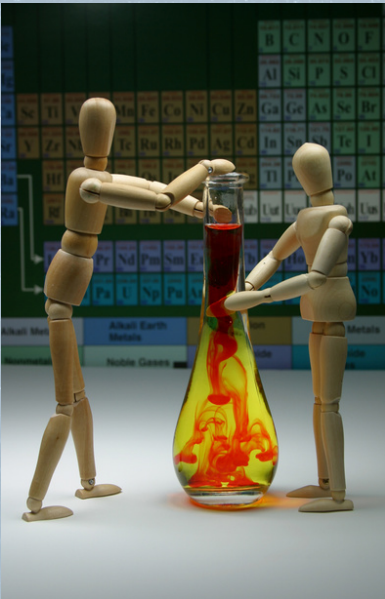
It is my hope that the site is a useful resource right from the start. That said, I am still learning how to optimize this tool and make it as user friendly as possible. We will continue to email you updates directly. PAC and I will be working together to update the information on their page and keep you posted on upcoming meetings, new Morning Star Bison merch, and volunteer opportunities...





# Did you say volunteer opportunities!?

We did! Please explore the links below to get in on a few exciting opportunities to kick off the school year:



**Science Fair is Back and we need you!** Do you work in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math? Do you want to share that knowledge with the potentially-brilliant-as-long-as-they-develop-a-growth-mindset young minds of Morning Star students? [Click here to fill out a quick survey and we will include you in our next steps!](#)



**We are piloting a Bike Bus at Morning Star** - We need two volunteers , a.m. and p.m. to help make this happen. The group will leave from Tuckerman Park. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more and help make this new opportunity safe and successful.



# Things to do before the first day...

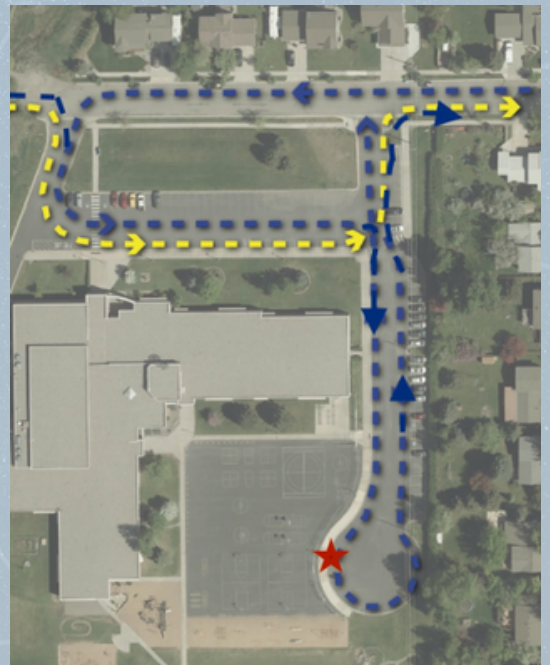
- Please login to the PowerSchool Parent Portal
  - <https://bsd7.powerschool.com/public/home.html>
  - Once logged in, click on Forms on the left hand side of your students page and complete all forms under Annual Student Forms (under the General Forms Tab).
    - Complete the following forms:
      - 1. Contacts and Legal Guardians
      - 2. Health
      - 3. Permissions
      - 4. Responsible Use of Technology
      - 5. Review, Acknowledgement, and Consent
      - 6. Title I Compact (Title I Schools Only)
- Make sure to plan for lunch Everything you need to know about meals can be found [HERE](#)
- Make sure to plan for transportation. Everything you need to know about transportation is [HERE](#) or you can contact [Doug Kellie](#) directly with questions.
- School Starts at 8:15 am for 1st-5th grade on Monday, August 28th and ends at 3:15 pm. **We begin playground supervision at 8:00 am every day.** Please review the map below if you are picking up or dropping off. We rely on your ability to unload/load quickly to start the day on time.

!! Yellow Arrows indicate Bus Traffic

!! Blue Arrows Indicate Parent Traffic

!! Please Do Not Block Bus Flow !!

**Our Parents and Crossing Guards Are The Best!**





# SNEAK PEEK

Thursday August 24th

2:00-2:30

Mr. Dickerson, PAC, and our Thrive Liaison Welcoming Families new to Morning Star

2:30-3:30

Classrooms open for families to briefly meet teachers and drop off supplies.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING  
THESE HALLS FULL OF  
STUDENTS AGAIN!