

THE MORGAN READER

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Russ Clifton Receives Outstanding Classified Member Recognition



Russ Clifton from Morgan Local Schools in McConnelsville was recognized as the Outstanding Classified Staff Member at the Ohio School Boards Association's Southeast Region Fall Conference.

The conference took place at Logan High School in Logan on September 26, 2019. Presented annually, the award recognizes the top community business leader from nominations received throughout the region's 18 counties representing 84 school districts. The Region Recognition Program was established in 1993 as a way to help local school districts showcase outstanding achievement and educational excellence. Nominations are received in ten "outstanding" categories. As a school bus driver in the Morgan Local School District, there is much that explains why **Russ Clifton** has been chosen as the **Outstanding Classified Staff Member** of the Southeast Region for 2019. Nominated by former superintendent Lori-Snyder Lowe, she notes:

"Mr. Clifton is so passionate and caring about his job as a bus driver that all of us who work with him are inspired! He drives a bus route for students with special needs and truly loves his students! The Morgan Local community and parents are well aware of Russ and how he goes out of his way to welcome students on his bus each morning and wish them a good evening each afternoon when he drops them off. He recently purchased new "The Russ Bus" T-shirts for all the students on his bus. The students were so excited to get these amazing shirts! He treats all students on his bus with respect, no matter the circumstances or how they may have treated him the previous day. Because of his display of respect and his ability to foster relationships with students, he is viewed by students as a trusted mentor. Russ is truly a remarkable staff member who makes a positive difference in the lives of the special needs students every day.

MORGAN DISTRICT NEWS

Morgan Local Ranks #33 (Adjusted for Income) in Ohio with 2019 Report Card Grades

Cleveland.com has developed a system for ranking Ohio school districts after adjusting for income levels of their communities. This report, while not flawless, is presumably the fairest representation of how well districts are doing with the students they serve within the context of the communities. The report discusses state testing and report card data that when adjusted for income, ranks Morgan as #33 out of 608 districts in the state!

To put it in perspective, a chart of some of the area schools, along with their rankings, is listed to the right.

The full report can be found on Cleveland.com under the article "Ranking every Ohio school district (adjusted for income) with 2019 report card grades" by Rich Exner.

School District	Rank
Athens City	44
Crooksville Exempted	295
East Muskingum Local	86
Fort Frye Local	90
Franklin Local (Philo)	173
Marietta City	241
Maysville Local	247
Morgan Local	33
New Lexington City	159
Northern Local (Sheridan)	197
Tri Valley Local	82
Trimble Local	321
Warren Local	355
West Muskingum Local	372
Wolf Creek Local (Waterford)	410
Zanesville City	230

Morgan Local Schools

Proud of Our Past, Focused on Our Future



Morgan Schools Welcomes New Staff Members at Opening Day Ceremony

Each new school year at Morgan is celebrated with an Opening Day Ceremony at Morgan High School. At this year's ceremony, several new staff members were introduced:

First row from left: Superintendent Dr. Kristin Barker, Sierra Davis, Kelly Daniel, Brittany Mayle, Cody Meadows, Andrew Gray, Alison Haines, Gabrielle Latture, Gloria Sydebotham

Second row from left: Athelia McDaniel, Shan Ziegler, Joel Fox, Steven Chambers, Kate Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Hilgenberg, Maala Cox, Alyssa Tabler

MORGAN HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations MHS Marching Band! (article upper right)

On September 21st, Morgan High School Marching Band finished first place in class B at the Bloom Carroll Classic, earning best overall percussion, and Grand Champion, class B and C. Additional awards this season include Licking Heights and Maysville, earning second place, and third place at the Meadowbrook Festival of Bands. The final competition of the season will take place at Tri-Valley High School on Saturday, October 26, 2019. Their goal is to qualify for OMEA State Marching Band Finals for the third consecutive year. Best of luck!



Meet the Superintendent Tailgate Party



On September 20, 2019, Superintendent Barker held a "Meet the Superintendent" Tailgate Party prior to the football game at the Athletic Field. The Raiders hosted the West Muskingum Tornadoes directly after the party.



MORGAN HIGH SCHOOL



FFA Apple Butter

The Morgan High School FFA held their annual apple butter making day on September 26, 2019. To order your apple butter, please call the high school at 740-962-2944 and ask for the Ag Department! They are \$6 per jar. This supports future FFA activities, and is delicious!



UNITY DAY AT MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



With many thanks to The Masons, The Junior High recently held their second Unity Day. The Masons have sponsored Unity Days in many states for over 30 years, so local Masons wanted to make sure our students have the same chance to experience this leadership-building opportunity. Unity Day was attended by all 7th grade students and 8th grade Student Council members who participated as Junior Leaders. Students were placed in teams of eight to ten with one teacher working alongside them. The teachers participated with the students and encouraged them to take leadership roles in their groups.

Throughout the day-long sessions, students performed various activities in the gym. Although the presenters did spend some time talking to the students, much of the time was spent in small groups working together on projects and helping them understand the main point of each particular lesson. The Unity Day was a great success and served to produce a sense of community, with students clearly seeing that they can make a positive difference in other students' lives.

Students completed the day with an eye-opening activity that helped them empathize with others who have gone through tough times. The overall emphasis was on respect, responsibility, kindness, and the importance of doing one's very best. Students finished the day with a much deeper appreciation of how they are part of a school family that loves and supports one another.

MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Tech Camp

Morgan Schools held a tech camp July 29-August 2 at Morgan Junior High School. Students learned about PC Repair, 3D Printing using TinkerCAD, drone racing, Lego Robotics Programming, electronic circuits, and online gaming (eSports.)



Grades 5 - 9 Summer Tech Campers along with Mr. Mardis (left) and Mr. Lawson (right)



Karly Smith flies drone in the MJHS gymnasium



Mr. Lawson teaches students how to reassemble a computer

At right, 7th Grade students are sharing in a leadership-building opportunity during "Unity Day" at Morgan Junior High School.

(see article on left)



MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Junior High Be Wise Campers



Elementary Be Wise Campers

Several young ladies from Morgan Junior High attended the BE Wise STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) camps for girls in June at Kenyon College. "BE Wise Camp's mission is to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in middle school girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. They hope to provide the girls with the confidence and motivation to enroll in more STEM classes at high school and college levels to prepare them for careers in a STEM field. The camp is designed to provide real-life, hands-on experiences in STEM using problem solving and thinking skills." This is the second summer Morgan Local School District was able to send students to the annual camps. Eighteen Junior High students and seventeen Elementary students were able to take advantage of this learning opportunity.

Morgan Local Schools and the campers would like to send a sincere thank you to the local sponsors who assisted with the financial costs for the camp. Donations to help offset camp tuition and travel expenses were received from MIBA Bearings, Morgan County Job and Family Services, Muskingum Valley Grocery, Shelly and Sands, Inc., VFW Post 4713, E-Z Grout, Mrs. Lori Lowe, Save-A-Lot, and Workman Wood Designs/Contraxx Furniture. Thank you for being a partner in providing educational opportunities for Morgan Local students.

MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Camp Hervida

Morgan Junior High 7th Graders recently traveled to Camp Hervida for Outdoor Education. Students had the opportunity to visit stations like Bottle Rockets, Fishing 101, Teambuilding, Furs and Skulls, Positive Living, Nature Hike, Archery, Stream Exploration, and Ice Cream. This experience allows students who are blending together from three elementary schools time to get to know each other and have a little fun while learning. Community agencies join teachers to make this day possible for the students of MJHS. Thanks to all of you!



Trout in the Classroom



Mrs. Shaw's seventh grade class is participating in Trout in the Classroom this school year through Trout Unlimited. This program provides a free tank, equipment, food, and trout eggs (pictured to the right) to learn how fish grow and develop in a stream. A tank with a filter system and chiller system (trout like it really cold and dark) was set up and water tested for the trout. The rainbow trout eggs recently arrived and were placed in the egg basket to hatch in a few weeks. Students will take care of the trout until a release date in the spring. It will take a few weeks of darkness for the eggs to hatch.



Trout Eggs

MORGAN EAST



B CEP

October 1st was East Elementary's annual Building Community Engagement Panel (B CEP) Family night. Parents and students were invited to the school to participate in meetings about grade level expectations, the Third Grade Guarantee, PAX Behavior, Nutrition, and After School. After the meetings, dinner was served and the evening concluded by awarding door prizes. *(photo above)*



Omegaman *(pictured left)* visited the students at all three elementary schools this fall. He used his super strength to teach the students that Hero's make good choices and **Help Everyone Respect Others**. When we make good choices we become Dream-Makers instead of Dream-Breakers.



Renovation Promotes Kindness!

(photo at left)

MORGAN EAST



Air Test Awards

The top three scorers at each grade level were recognized for their hard work on the State Tests.

(top pictured L to R) Fourth Grade in Reading and Math: Adisyn Hoskinson, Kylea Driggs-Holland, Sophia Griesmyer, Elana Wilson, Landen Shook, Jackson Shuster and William Shriver.

(middle pictured L to R) Fifth Grade in Reading, Math and Science: Gabe Pettet, Isaiah Clawson, Brynn Shannon, Payton VanNess, Krissy McCort, Haven Nunley, Mya Norris, Clark Smith, Braylon Miller, Conner Larrick and Julius Strelec.

(bottom pictured L to R) Third Grade in Reading and Math: Jackson Church, Levi Holland, MaKenzie Kidd, Jade Rose, Ja'Kia McMannis, Gwen Musgrave, Max McDaniel, and Tyler Moody.

Congratulations!

East Superheroes



The staff at East Elementary has decided on a Superhero theme for this year. They are using the theme to encourage students to make good choices all day, every day. We can all work harder to be Super-Students, Super-Teachers, or Super-Friends.

MORGAN SOUTH

On August 13,14,15, the incoming Kindergarten students enjoyed two days of learning what Kindergarten was all about and one day with their parents learning about expectations for Kindergarten. Students enjoyed several camp-themed activities including making s'mores, bus safety tour, camping books, and many more exciting adventures. All who attended were more prepared and thrilled to start the school year!



(pictured at left)

**Kindergarten students
listen on the carpet.**



Gabriel Hoover and Creed Newsom



Mr. Fox and his family



Ms. Latture

WELCOME!

South Elementary gives a warm welcome to Principal Joel Fox and 2nd Grade teacher, Gabi Latture!

Principal Fox is a 2010 Morgan High School graduate, 2014 Ohio University graduate, and 2017 graduate from American College of Education. He spent the last five years in Newark as an intervention specialist and resides in McConnelsville with his wife Chelsi, daughter Peyton, and dog Miley. He loves spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, lifting weights, and sports in his free time. Here he is pictured (*upper left*) enjoying the beautiful weather at South's BCEP Family Night .

Miss Latture is from Marietta, Ohio and is a 2019 Ohio University graduate. She is excited for her first year of teaching! She stated that being a part of the Morgan School District is exciting and that she is the fifth person in her family to work in the school district!



Monroe and Nikki Holland



Aria Kilgore and her Mom

MORGAN SOUTH

Family Night at South Elementary

South Elementary held a family game night filled with a variety of fun games for the families to enjoy together, ranging from classic board games along with bubble print art making to outdoor games with giant chess, connect four, volleyball, spikeball and bocce ball, to name just a few.

This night is also known as BCEP (Building Community Engagement Panel). In the past few years, the format was for the parents and guardians to attend 15 to 30 minute sessions on matters concerning their children's education and programs that were being implemented in the school. This year the staff decided it would be more fun to have a game night and supply the parents with a brochure concerning educational events and programs in their school. The handouts this year covered information about the Raider Youth Academy, the importance of attendance and academic success, the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, and Mrs. Best was available for band instrument rental information.

Over 130 people attended this event which included a raffle for a set of cornhole boards (made by the High School Carpentry class), gift certificates and other items.

The following are a couple quotes from students:

Craig Bennett - "This family night is different. We used to sit around and now my family can be together to enjoy it." Craig also stated that he really enjoyed the food and the raffle even though his family didn't win anything.

Jude Garber - "I really liked the Thunder Dogs (hot dogs) and it was fun to go outside and do whatever game I wanted."

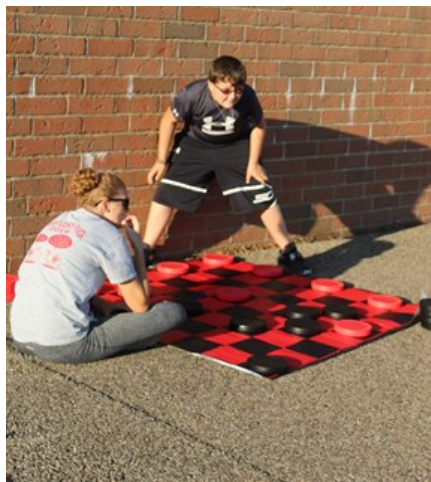
The staff at South Elementary would like to thank everyone that attended. We hope to see all of you at next year's Family Game Night!



A group of 5th and 6th grade students enjoying the volleyball nets at BCEP.



3rd Grader, Braden McGrew, and his family enjoying giant Jenga at South's BCEP



Raq Ponchak and his Mom playing a game of giant checkers.

MORGAN WEST

Bus Driver, Russ Clifton, Wins Prestigious Award

Congratulations to West bus driver Russ Clifton for winning the prestigious award of Outstanding Staff Member for Southeast Ohio from the Ohio School Boards Association! He was nominated by former superintendent Lori Snyder-Lowe for being passionate, caring and inspirational for the students on his bus. She also recognized his recent gift of Russ Bus T-shirts for his students. Superintendent Lowe's last statement of the nomination mentioned, "Mr. Clifton is truly a remarkable staff member who makes a positive difference in the lives of our students every day! Morgan is very blessed to have Mr. Russ Clifton on our team!"



Pictured at left: Mr. Russ Clifton with the 2018-2019 "Russ Bus" crew. Pictured above: T-shirts Mr. Clifton purchased for his bus riders in the 2018-2019 school year.

Zap!

In 4th grade, we are working to master our basic multiplication facts! Zap is a fast paced game where each student pulls a popsicle stick from the container and answers the multiplication fact written on it. If a student pulls a stick with the word ZAP written on it, they must put ALL of their sticks back in the container and start again! Students love this interactive way to learn multiplication.



MORGAN WEST



Miss Fleming's First Grade class won the challenge among the classrooms to bring in donation items! The boys and girls brought in a total of 211 personal hygiene items to donate to the Morgan County United Ministries!



Daytime at the Fair



Nighttime at the Fair

The first grade students discussed what they learned about the fair from reading books, their observations, and class discussions. The week culminated with the students creating murals to show what they know.

West Kinder Camp

West Elementary held its second year of Kinder Camp August 13-15 for incoming kindergarten students. Parents chose a morning or afternoon session for their child to attend. Students were able to explore the building and learn the structure of a day in kindergarten. They had a fun time learning as they enjoyed a camp theme. Parents were invited the third day for an informational meeting and to share in the learning with their child.



Ms. Barringer reads with students during circle time as they learn school routines.

MORGAN WEST



West Elementary Student Council Members

Our 2019-2020 student council consists of three 5th grade students and four 6th grade students. These students are eager to brainstorm new ideas to make West Elementary an even better place to be!

(pictured L to R): Jada Riley, Mya Miller, Jillian Holland, Zack Porter, Gianna Myers, Wiley Palmer, and absent from the photo Reagan Lee.

THE CAROL HAMMOND CHILDREN'S THEATRE



Rehearsals for the annual Carol Hammond Children's Theatre Musical are well underway! This year's production, based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture, is Shrek The Musical Jr. You won't want to miss seeing a talented cast and crew from all three Morgan Elementary Schools and Junior High. There are two performances for your convenience: Saturday, November 16th at 7:00 pm and Sunday, November 17th at 3:00 pm at the James McKinney Little Theatre in the Morgan High School. Tickets are available at the door for \$5.00. Doors are open one hour prior to the show.

THIS YEAR'S EXEMPLARY EDUCATORS



Exemplary Educators

During the Opening Day Ceremony at Morgan High School, the district recognized its exemplary educators. Ms. Jessica Wilson was the Morgan Local School District Nominee for the Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center award. Other nominees included Patricia McDermott, Alex Fleming, Grant Wilcoxon, and Kenzie Jadwin.

Give the Gift of Music to a Local Morgan Student!



We are in need of instruments for our band students! You can help by donating a new or used instrument. How? It's easy! Simply call or email one of our music teachers below to make your donation arrangements.

East Elementary: Mr. Chambers @ 740-962-3361 schambers@morganschools.org

South Elementary: Mrs. Best @ 740-559-2377 sbest@morganschools.org

West Elementary: Ms. Bishop @ 740-342-4873 sbishop@morganschools.org

Thank you!

Morgan Local School District 2019-2020 Calendar

August 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	★25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2019

15) New Teacher Day

16) Cert Flex Day

19-20) All Staff Days

21) First Day of School

September 2019

2) Labor Day- No School

3-6) Morgan County Fair- No School

6) Staff PD Day

October 2019

25) End of first grading period

29) No School- Staff PD

November 2019

4 & 7) P/T Conferences

11) Veteran's Day- No School

27-29) Thanksgiving Break- No School

December 2019

2) No School

20) Last Day before Christmas Break

Christmas Break - Dec. 23- Jan. 3

January 2020

6) School Opens after New Year

17) End of 2nd grading period

20) MLK Day- No School

21) No School- Staff PD

February 2020

6 & 11) P/T Conferences

17) Presidents' Day- No School

March 2020

20) End of 3rd grading period

April 2020

10) Good Friday- No School

13) Easter- No School

May 2020

25) Memorial Day- No School

27) Last Day of School

28) All Staff Day

January 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	★17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

March 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	★20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						