

— The Winter Issue 2025 —

PAC Bison Bulletin

A newsletter for Morning Star families from the parent advisory council



JUST LAUNCHED: Morning Star PAC Website

The website is your hub for all things PAC; including upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and the programs we support.

Check it out at
www.morningstarpac.org



A Message from the PAC President Sarah Lutiger

Hello Morning Star Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you and your family well. As the President of our Parent Advisory Council (PAC), I want to take a moment to remind you that you are an important part of the Morning Star PAC. Every parent and guardian of a student at Morning Star is automatically a member, and your voice matters in shaping the future of our school community.

We are reaching out today to inform you about two important items; **open PAC board positions for the 2025/26 school year** and an **upcoming vote on updates to the PAC bylaws**.

2025/26 PAC Board Positions:

We are in most need of someone to be the President Elect and someone to be the Communications Coordinator, as the other roles have incumbents interested in fulfilling. Voting will happen in April and results will be announced at the May meeting. **Please send an email to msparentsac@gmail.com by April 1st** if you have any questions or are interested in getting involved, we'd love to have you!

- **President** - Lauren Hill (Year 2 of 2 year term)
- **President Elect** - This is an OPEN, 2yr commitment position. The first year you shadow the current president to learn the ropes and the second year step into the President role.
- **Treasurer** - This is an open, 2yr commitment position. The incumbent Kara Barton intends to run.
- **Communications Coordinator** - This is an OPEN, 1yr commitment position.
- **Fundraising Coordinator** - This is an open, 1yr commitment position. The incumbent Lyndsey Babcock intends to run.
- **Volunteer Coordinator** - This is an open, 1yr commitment position. The incumbent Ruth Guest intends to run.
- **School Community Enrichment Coordinator** - This is an open, 1yr commitment position. The incumbent Lindsay Smith intends to run.

If a board or chair position is not for you and you would like to be more involved, we have a number of committees that you can join, including:

Yearbook, Events, Fun Run, Ice Rink, Fundraising & Finance

Bylaw Update

At the December meeting, the PAC Board and members conducted their annual bylaws review. Key updates will be highlighted, followed by a vote for adoption at the March meeting. Your participation is encouraged.

Thanks for all your continued support!
-Sarah





Yearbook 2024-2025: *Outta This World!*

Yearbook sales are LIVE, to order, visit: inter-state.com/order and enter this code: 92403T.

Thank you to everyone who has sent photos so far—your contributions are greatly appreciated! However, **we still need more photos** to make this yearbook truly special. *Please continue sending them to morningstaryearbookpictures@gmail.com.*

We're excited to announce that the Yearbook Club for 4th and 5th graders will return! Students will have the opportunity to help design pages for the yearbook. Sign-ups for the club will be sent home in mid-February.

Did You Know?

Field trips are made possible because of your support and donations to the PAC. Bus transportation costs and most fees are covered by PAC dollars, allowing our students to explore and learn beyond the classroom.

Treasurer's Update

Kara Barton

Midway through the school year, the PAC is starting to focus on planning for next year's budget to ensure the continued success and sustainability of our programs. To guide this process, we're excited to announce the formation of a Finance Committee, which will be key in developing the budget and coordinating fundraising efforts to support our current and future initiatives.

Please complete this survey from the PAC Finance Committee. Your responses will help shape the 2025-2026 budget and ensure we're prioritizing what matters most to our school community. The survey will close Sunday, Feb 9 at 7pm.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/budget2526>

Fun Run Update: A Huge Success!

Lyndsey Babcock

We are excited to share that the ***Fun Run*** raised over **\$94,000** this year! This incredible achievement wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of our students, families, and volunteers. These funds are critical to supporting the many programs and activities that make Morning Star a special place for our students. Thanks to **your generous contributions**, PAC is able to provide:

- The amazing **art program with Mrs. Summerfield**, where students explore their creativity throughout the year.
- The beloved **ice rink**, which offers both physical activity and fun for students and the wider community.
- The **school musical**, where students shine on stage and grow in confidence and creativity.
- **Field trips** that provide hands-on learning experiences, from visits to farms to exploring local history.
- **Classroom support**, including essential materials and enrichment activities that enhance the learning environment.
- **Schoolwide events** that bring our community together, fostering school spirit and connections between students, parents, and staff.
- We also fund **special projects** like Chromebooks for second grade, Smart TVs for the classroom, and marimbas for music.



Thank you for making these opportunities possible and for your continued support of PAC and our school community!



Volunteer Update

Ruth Heerdt

We've had an incredible year so far thanks to our amazing parent volunteers. A huge thank you to those who volunteered your time at the Fun Run and Christmas Performances — your efforts made both events run seamlessly. Thank you for the generous donations for Fuel-Up Fridays, which provide our hard-working staff with delicious breakfast items on the last Friday of each month. The staff has expressed how much they appreciate and look forward to these breakfasts. We plan to continue them throughout the year.

Ice Rink Update

What a success! We are THRILLED to have a fully functioning, level, and smooth ice rink to skate on this year! The rink has been operational since Christmas break, and we hope to keep it open through the end of the winter season, weather permitting. It's been getting lots of use from the Morning Star community, HE classes, and kids skating at recess. A huge thank you goes out to Morning Star parent, **Brandon Gatlin**, who spearheaded the rink project! He and his team of parents have been out there day and night, in sun and snow, setting up the rink, keeping it shoveled, and maintaining its surface. It's no small task and requires dedication and hard work. Please be sure to thank Brandon if you see him around school or out on the ice. We're always looking for help shoveling and keeping the rink cleared-if you have a free moment, the shovels are kept by the rink.

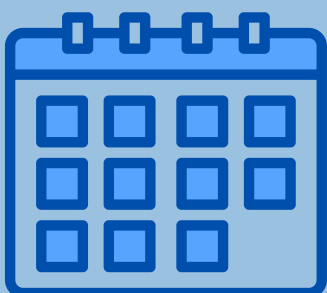
School Community Enrichment Update

Lindsay Smith

Our school community is more vibrant than ever and we're working hard to keep it that way! In November, we hosted a family BINGO night which was so fun and had an amazing turnout. Be on the lookout for more information about Family Game Night in February and a Spring Hop in April.

In December, PAC treated our wonderful staff to a catered meal with all the fixings. On the last Friday of each month, staff are treated to Friday Fuel Up breakfast, 100% donated by Morning Star families. Watch your email inbox for a monthly SignUp Genius if your family would like to participate!

We're proud of the community we've created: thank you for helping to keep our school spirit strong!



Calendar of PAC Events | Spring 2025

Feb 19 | 6-7:30 PM PAC Executive Board Work Session at Morning Star Library
Feb 21 | 6-8 PM PAC Family Game Night at Morning Star Gym
Feb 22 | Jungle Book Kids Auditions (4th & 5th grades) at Morning Star
March 5 | 6-7:30 PM | PAC All Member Meeting at Morning Star Library
March 27 & 28 | 7PM Jungle Books Kids Musical Performance
April 11 | 5:30-7:30 PM PAC Family Night- Spring Hop at Morning Star Gym
April 16 | 6 PM PAC Executive Board Work Session at Morning Star Library
May 21 | 6-7:30 PM PAC All Member Meeting at Morning Star Library
June 6 | Year End Celebration at Morning Star Playground