Morris Central School
Student Handbook
2026-2027

Morris Central School
P.O. Box 40
Morris, NY 13808

(607) 263-6100
www.morriscs.org

http://www.morriscs.org/students/student_handbook

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Mary Dugan, President
Mrs. Wendy Moore, Vice President
Mrs. Teresa DeLaurentis
Mr. Patrick Pegg
Mr. Matthew Schiller

SUPERINTENDENT	**PRINCIPAL**	**DIRECTOR OF PUPIL PERSONNEL**
Ms. Jamie Maistros	Mrs. April Vunk	Mrs. Carolyn Cooper
GUIDANCE COUNSELORS	**NURSE**	**CAFETERIA MANAGER**
Mrs. Kelly Catella (7-12) Mrs. Rolande LeBourveau-Karn (PreK-6)	Mrs. Kasia Baker	Ms. Jill Foerster
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR	**HEAD CUSTODIAN**	**TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR**
Mr. Michael Iannelli	Mr. John Tol	Mr. Mike Anson

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL
2026-2027

September 8	Classes Begin
October 12	Columbus Day – No School
November 11	Veterans Day – No School
November 25-27	Thanksgiving Break – No School
December 24 - January 1	Holiday Break – No School
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No School
February 15-19	Presidents' Day / Winter Break – No School
March 13	No School – Conference Day
March 26 - April 2	Good Friday/Spring Break – No School
May 28-31	Memorial Day Break–No School
June 14	Last Day of Classes (7-12)
June 18	Juneteenth – No School
June 25	Graduation

REPORT CARD DATES

QUARTER	5 WEEK MARK	END OF MARKING PERIOD	REPORT CARD
FIRST QUARTER	October 9	November 13	November 20
SECOND QUARTER	December 18	January 29	February 5
THIRD QUARTER	March 5	April 16	April 23
FOURTH QUARTER	May 21	June 14	Mailed

BELL SCHEDULE

7:45	***Cafeteria Open for Breakfast / Library Open***
8:05 **8:10 – 8:58**	**WARNING BELL** **Period 1**
9:01 – 9:43	**Period 2**
9:46 – 10:28	**Period 3**
10:31 – 11:13	**Period 4**
11:16 – 12:00 (7/8 class) **11:16 – 11:43 (9-12 lunch)**	**Period 5**
11:46 – 12:30 (9-12 class) **12:03 – 12:30 (7/8 lunch)**	**Period 6**
12:33 – 1:17	**Period 7**
1:20 – 2:02	**Period 8**
2:05 – 2:50	**Period 9**

*****There will be a late bus as needed. The bus will depart at 4:00. If you plan on riding the LATE BUS home, please sign up in the Main Office before 2:30. The late bus is ONLY for students who are staying for a supervised activity.***

7-12 TEACHERS

English	Science	Physical Education
Mrs. Waffle	Mrs. Grant	Mr. Iannelli
Mrs. Sneddon	Mr. Lougee	Ms. Hagerich
	Mrs. Fredette	Mr. Hoffman
Math		
Ms. Schubach	Special Education	Social Studies
Mrs. Kane	Mrs. Thomas	Mrs. Masciola
	Ms. Lawton	Mr. Harmer
	Mrs. Mosco	Ms. Brown
	Mrs. Bolton	
	Mrs. Hartnett	Permanent Substitutes
Spanish	Mrs. Jacobsen	Ms. Stankowitz
Ms. Gray		Ms. Grover
	Music	
	Mr. Ostrowski	
	Mrs. Thompson	
Art		Technology / Computers
Ms. Halstead	Library Media	Mr. Bianchi
	Mrs. Mackey	Mr. Thom

WHERE DO I GO WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Questions About…	1st Contact	2nd Contact	3rd Contact	4th Contact
Academics / Curriculum	Teacher	Counselor	Principal / DPP	Superintendent
Technology / Chromebooks	Teacher	Technology Director	Principal	Superintendent
Scheduling	Teacher	Mrs. Catella	Principal / DPP	Superintendent
Special Education	Teacher	Director of Pupil Personnel (DPP)	Principal	Superintendent
Classroom Rules/Policies	Teacher	Principal / DPP	Superintendent	
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director	Principal	Superintendent
Clubs	Advisor	Principal	DPP	Superintendent
Discipline / Behavior	Teacher	Principal	DPP	Superintendent
Peer Issues / Bullying	Adult in Charge or >>>	Counselor	Principal	Superintendent
Cafeteria	Ms. Foerster	Superintendent		
Health Office/Nurse	Mrs. Baker	Principal	Superintendent	
School Bus (Routes/Behavior)	Bus Driver	Transportation Director	Principal	Superintendent

CODE OF CONDUCT SUMMARY

Under our Student Interaction Policy, the Code of Conduct supports our broad discretionary authority to maintain safety, order, and discipline by addressing unauthorized and improper behavior.

The complete Code of Conduct can be obtained in the Main Office or accessed on our school website at https://www.morriscsd.org/CodeofConduct.aspx.

STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

With every right comes a responsibility.

	It is the student's right:		*It is the student's responsibility:*
1)	To attend school in the district in which one's parent or legal guardian resides.	→	To attend school daily, regularly, and on time, perform assignments, strive to do the highest quality work possible, and be granted the opportunity to receive a good education.
2)	To expect that school will be a safe, orderly, and purposeful place for all students to gain an education and to be treated fairly.	→	To be aware of all rules and expectations regulating students' behavior and conduct oneself according to these guidelines.
3)	To be respected as an individual.	→	To respect one another and to treat others in the manner that one would want to be treated.
4)	To express one's opinions verbally or in writing.	→	To express opinions and ideas respectfully so as not to offend, slander, or restrict the rights and privileges of others.
5)	To dress in such a way as to express one's personality.	→	To dress appropriately according to the dress code, so as not to endanger physical health, safety, limit participation in school activities, or be unduly distracting.
6)	To be afforded equal and appropriate educational opportunities.	→	To be aware of available educational programs to use and develop one's capabilities to their maximum.
7)	To take part in all school activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, creed, religion, religious practice, sex, sexual orientation, gender, national origin, ethnic group, political affiliation, age, marital status, or disability.	→	To work to the best of one's ability in all academic and extracurricular activities, as well as being fair and supportive of others.

8)	To have access to relevant and objective information concerning drug and alcohol abuse, as well as access to individuals or agencies capable of providing direct assistance to students with serious personal problems.	→	To be aware of the information and services available and to seek assistance in dealing with personal problems, when appropriate.
9)	To be protected from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, or religious practice, sex, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability, by employees or students on school property or at a school-sponsored event, function, or activity.	→	To respect one another and treat others fairly the District Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Dignity Act. To conduct themselves in a manner that fosters an environment that is free from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination. To report and encourage others to report any incidents of intimidation, harassment, or discrimination.

Prohibited School Conduct

The Board of Education expects all students to conduct themselves appropriately and civilly, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel, and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the student's ability to grow in self-discipline. The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the penalties for their conduct.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they engage in:

1. conduct that is disorderly;
2. conduct that is insubordinate;
3. conduct that is disruptive;
4. conduct that is violent;
5. conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health, or welfare of others;
6. misconduct while on a school bus;
7. any form of academic misconduct;
8. any type of retaliation toward another student or staff member for reporting incidents of misconduct, harassment, or threats.

Penalties

Students who are found to have violated the district's code of conduct may be subject to the following penalties, either alone or in combination. The school personnel identified after each penalty are authorized to impose that penalty, consistent with the student's rights to due process.

- **Oral warning** – any member of the district staff
- **Written warning** – any staff member employed by the district, including bus drivers, teacher aides, coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, the Principal, and Superintendent
- **Written notification** to parent–coaches, guidance counselors, teachers, Director of PPS, Principal, Superintendent
- **Detention** – teachers, Director of PPS, Principal, Superintendent
- **Suspension from transportation** – Principal, Superintendent
- **Suspension from athletic participation** – coaches, Principal, Superintendent
- **Suspension from social or extracurricular activities** – Principal, Superintendent
- **Suspension of other privileges** – Principal, Superintendent
- **In-school suspension** – Principal, Superintendent
- **Removal from classroom by the teacher** – teachers, Principal, Superintendent
- **Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school** – Principal, Superintendent
- **Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school** – Superintendent
- **Permanent suspension from school** – Superintendent, Board of Education

Guidelines for Use of Personal Technology

To support a focused and respectful learning environment, Morris Central School will implement an "Away for the Day" expectation for all personal electronic devices.

1. Students will be expected to turn off all personal electronic devices and store them in their assigned lockers. Students in grades PK-5 should leave their devices at home. **Devices must remain out of sight and unused for the entire school day, from 8:10 am until 2:50 pm.**

2. There may be situational exemptions to this policy regarding student needs. If a child's health, educational, or language needs require a supervised location to use a personal electronic device, families and administration will collaborate to ensure these requirements are met.

4. PT may not be used during ASD or ISS. PT use outside of the school day at school-led activities is at the discretion of the staff member.

5. Inappropriate use of PT is prohibited at all times and subject to disciplinary action.

Students who bring PT to school DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK. The District will not assume responsibility for lost, stolen, or broken devices.

STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES

(ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

The Board of Education will provide access to various computerized information resources through the District's computer system ("DCS" hereafter), consisting of software, hardware, computer networks, and electronic communications systems. This may include access to electronic mail, so-called "online services," and the "Internet." It may include the opportunity for some students to have independent access to the DCS from their homes or other remote locations. All use of the DCS, including independent use off school premises, shall be subject to this policy and accompanying regulations. Further, all such use must be in support of education and/or research and consistent with the goals and purposes of the School District.

One purpose of this policy is to provide notice to students and parents/guardians that, unlike most traditional instructional or library media materials, the DCS will allow student access to external

computer networks not controlled by the School District, where it is impossible for the District to screen or review all of the available materials. Some of the available materials may be deemed unsuitable by parents/guardians for student use or access. This policy is intended to establish general guidelines for acceptable student use. However, despite the existence of such District policy and accompanying guidelines and regulations, it will not be possible to completely prevent access to computerized information that is inappropriate for students. Furthermore, students may have the ability to access such information from their homes or other locations off school premises. Parents/guardians of students must be willing to set and convey standards for appropriate and acceptable use to their children when using the DCS or any other electronic media or communications.

Standards of Acceptable Use

Generally, the same standards of acceptable student conduct that apply to any school activity shall apply to the use of the DCS. This policy does not attempt to articulate all required and/or acceptable uses of the DCS; nor is it the intention of this policy to define all inappropriate usage. Administrative regulations will further define the general guidelines of

appropriate student conduct and use, as well as proscribed behavior.

District students shall also adhere to the laws, policies, and rules governing computers, including, but not limited to, copyright laws, rights of software publishers, license agreements, and student rights of privacy created by federal and state law.

Students who engage in unacceptable use may lose access to the DCS in accordance with applicable due process procedures and may be subject to further discipline under the District's school conduct and discipline policy and the District Code of Conduct. The District reserves the right to pursue legal action against a student who willfully, maliciously, or unlawfully damages or destroys property of the District. Further, the District may bring suit in civil court against the parents/guardians of any student who willfully, maliciously, or unlawfully damages or destroys District property pursuant to General Obligations Law Section 3-112.

Student data files and other electronic storage areas will be treated like school lockers. This means that such areas shall be considered to be School District property subject to control and inspection. The computer coordinator may access all such files and communications to ensure system integrity and that users are complying with the requirements of this policy and accompanying regulations. Students should **NOT** expect that information stored on the DCS will be private.

Notification/Authorization

The District's Acceptable Use Policy and Regulations will be disseminated to parents and students to provide notice of the school's requirements, expectations, and students' obligations when accessing the DCS. Student use of the DCS is conditioned upon written agreement by all students and their parents/guardians that student use of the DCS will conform to the requirements of this policy. and any regulations adopted to ensure acceptable use of the DCS. All such agreements shall be kept on file in the District Office.

Regulations will be established as necessary to implement the terms of this policy.

DRESS CODE

A student's dress, grooming, and appearance shall be safe, appropriate, and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.

<u>Examples include but are not limited to:</u>

1. Extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and back) and arm openings, see-through garments, and garments that bare midriffs are not appropriate. Shorts and skirts should reach mid-thigh.
2. Underwear must be completely covered with outer clothing.
3. Footwear must be worn at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
4. Headgear is not permitted in the school building (hats, hoods, bandanas, etc).
5. Appearance or dress should not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous, or that denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

6. Appearance or dress should not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs, and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
7. No wheelies (sneakers with wheels) in the school building.

Student dress is not a disciplinary issue until and unless a student refuses to dress in a more appropriate fashion. ***The role of adults in the building is to advise or counsel students who have drifted outside the bounds of the dress code.***

When students wear prohibited items, they will be asked to modify their appearance by covering or removing the inappropriate item. Our school nurse, Mrs. Baker, has a limited supply of alternative clothing if a change of clothes is deemed necessary.

PLAGIARISM

A general definition of **plagiarism** is: submitting work done (in whole or part) by others as if it were one's own.

The following are all examples of plagiarism:

- copying passages from someone else's writing without using quotation marks and giving the author credit
- paraphrasing someone else's writing without giving credit
- using someone else's facts or ideas without acknowledgement
- handing in work for one course that you handed in for credit for another course without the permission of both instructors
- producing assignments in conjunction with other people (e.g. another student, a tutor, an internet-based AI) which should be your independent work

Students who commit plagiarism using Internet-based materials while on school computers violate our Acceptable Use Policy and are subject to having their in-school access suspended.

The consequences of plagiarism are the same as those of cheating. Students who plagiarize on classroom assignments (as determined by the teacher) will be assigned a zero. Students who plagiarize on an examination/test will be assigned a zero for that work. The zero will be averaged into their ten-week grade for that course.

STUDENT LOCKERS, DESKS, AND STORAGE AREAS

Student desks, lockers, textbooks, computers, and other materials, supplies, or storage spaces loaned by the school to students remain the property of the school and may be opened and inspected by school employees at any time. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy concerning school property; school officials retain complete control over such property. This means that student desks, lockers, textbooks, computers, and other materials, supplies, or storage spaces may be subject to search and/or seizure of contraband/prohibited items at any time by school officials, without prior notice to students and without their consent.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is the expectation of Morris Central School that all students will be present in school daily. Absences from school will be monitored on an individual student basis.

An excused absence is an absence, tardiness, or early departure for which the pupil has a valid school-approved excuse. Such excused non-appearances shall include: illness, death in the family, medical appointment, required court appearances, religious observance, military obligations, attendance at another school activity, pre-approved scheduled college visitations, pre-approved educational experiences, or others as approved by the Principal or Superintendent.

The school must receive written notification from a parent, or a person in a parental relationship, for the absence to be considered excused. All absences for which notification has not been received will be considered as unexcused absences. Credit for coursework missed must be made up at the discretion of the teacher.

When a pupil has not been marked present for the first period of scheduled instruction and the school has not been previously notified of the absence, the District will attempt to contact the parent/guardian to learn the nature of the pupil's absence and make notification that the pupil has not arrived at school.

Please note that even if an absence is called in, a written excuse must follow upon the student's return to school.

The complete attendance policy can be obtained from the Main Office or on the school website at http://www.morriscs.org/district/attendance_policy

PROCEDURE FOR UNEXCUSED TARDINESS TO SCHOOL

>Tardy, unexcused (no valid excuse) 3 times = **After School Detention (ASD). This is for tardiness to school (arriving after 8:10 a.m.)**

>After the first assigned ASD, you will be given an ASD for every additional unexcused tardy.

>At the end of the first semester (January 27), you will have a clean slate, and the count will begin again.

*****ASD will be on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons unless other arrangements are approved by the principal.*****

STUDY HALL RULES

Study halls at MCS are expected to be a productive time for students to spend on academic assignments or for quiet reading. They are not considered free time or break time. Study halls are class periods and will be treated as such.

1. Students must sit in assigned seats and remain there until the bell rings to end the period unless the study hall supervisor grants permission to do otherwise.

2. To leave a study hall for another area, a student must have a pass from the study hall supervisor or a pre-signed pass from the person in charge of the other area.

3. Pre-signed passes must be obtained in advance of the study hall. If a student arrives late to the study hall, the pre-signed pass will not be honored. Students may not leave the study hall to obtain a pre-signed pass.

4. No passes from study halls will be issued for the first week of a semester.

5. Students must report to study hall with work to do or something to read. Permission to leave study hall to get books or materials from other locations is not a right. It is a privilege granted at the study hall supervisor's discretion.

6. Personal Technology may not be used during study halls.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Class	Regents Diploma	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
English	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
Mathematics	3	3
Science	3	3
Health	.5	.5
The Arts	1	1
LOTE (Spanish)	1	1
P.E.	2	2
Sequence Courses, Electives	3.5	3.5
TOTAL	22	22

Examinations	Regents Diploma	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
Comprehensive English	1	1
Global History & Geography	1	1
US History & Geography	1	1
Mathematics	1	3
Science	1	2
LOTE (Spanish)		1*
TOTAL	5	8 or 9

NYSED has eliminated the Regents Exams for Foreign Language. In order to receive a diploma with Advanced Designation, a student will need to demonstrate proficiency on a local examination.

No students will be permitted to participate in graduation unless <u>ALL</u> requirements have been met.

7th and 8th GRADE COURSES

All Year/ Every Day	All Year/ Every Other Day	Half Year/ Every Other Day	Half Year/Every Day	Electives
Science	P.E.	Art	Health (7th)	Band
Social Studies		Music	Life Skills II (7th)	Chorus
English				
Math				
Spanish				
Tech 8				

GRADING SYSTEM

1. The passing grade is **65%**.
2. If a student repeats a subject, the better of the two final marks is the one used. The same holds for Regents examinations.
3. Quarterly grades will be determined by giving 60% for assessments and 40% for daily assignments, including formative assessments.
4. A midterm exam or project will be administered and will include all content covered in the first 20 weeks. A final exam or project will include all content studied in the last 20 weeks.
5. Final grades are calculated using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{2 x each quarter average + midterm + final}}{\text{10}}$$

6. For one-half-year courses, the above formula will be divided by 5, not 10.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. ***A course may be dropped up until the end of the 2nd full week with the appropriate signature and paperwork completed. After the end of the 2nd full week, a course cannot be dropped.***
2. You must remain in a course for at least one week before being allowed to drop it.
3. You must take a minimum of 6.5 credits, including P.E,. each year.
4. AM/PM students must take a minimum of two classes plus P.E.
5. Scheduling will be done in the spring. Scheduling conferences will be set up by the guidance office. Schedules will be mailed during the summer for the next school year.

See Appendix A for more information on academic achievement information and grade weighting, and class ranking procedures.

HOMEWORK

If you are going to be absent for an extended time, the Guidance Office should be notified so that your assignments can be collected and sent home for you.

If you are unable to attend class due to participation in a school-sponsored event (music lesson, field trip, etc), you will be allowed to make up class work. ***It is your responsibility to contact the teacher and make the arrangements as to when and where the missed work will be completed.***

All homework will be posted on the classroom teachers' websites or Google Classroom.

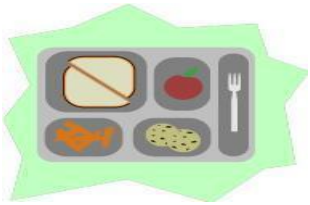
EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

The school will send out an automated message if school is closed, delayed, or closing early. You can also receive school closing information on the school website (www.morriscs.org). In addition, you can get information on the following radio stations: WSRK, WDOS, WCDO, WSKG, WGY, WZOZ, WKXZ, and WCXN. You may also receive information on television through WBNG, Binghamton, and WKTV, Utica.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Students in 7-12 may eat breakfast beginning at 7:45 a.m. in the cafeteria. Breakfast items cannot be taken to first-period class unless permission is granted by the homeroom teacher. No students in 7-11 may leave school property during their lunch period (or at any other time during the school day). Seniors who are in good academic and behavioral standing and have **a signed permission form** are permitted to walk home or downtown for lunch. Students may eat in the school cafeteria, outside on school grounds on the school side of Route 51.

Seniors and National Honor Society members may eat in the 9-12 hallway.



Students must dispose of all litter in proper containers or risk losing their privileges.

HEALTHZONE SERVICES

All Morris Central School students can enroll in Healthzone. Healthzone provides medical care for students right here at school. If you would like to be enrolled, please have a parent or guardian call 263-2169 or 263-6111 for enrollment forms or questions about the program. Healthzone information can also be found at http://www.morriscs.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=117671&pageId=195931

WORKING PAPERS

To obtain working papers, please see the school nurse, Mrs. Baker. If she is unavailable, Mrs. Parker can assist you. You must complete a form and have it signed by a parent or guardian. You must have a current physical to receive working papers.

SCHOOL DANCES

Dances are an important and fun part of your high school experience. Dances have been scheduled for the year, and information will be posted before each dance.

1. Times for dances vary. See advertisements for time. The doors close one hour after the start time.
2. Only students in grades 7-12 may attend dances.
3. If a student leaves the dance, he/she will not be allowed to return.
4. Guests from other schools will be admitted if they are in grades 7-12 and have received prior approval. There will be a sign-up sheet posted in the Main Office. You must provide the name and school your guest attends. **Guests MUST be registered no later than 3 p.m. on the Wednesday before the dance.**
5. Chaperones may ask you to leave for any violation of the Student Code of Conduct. If you are asked to leave, you may be denied entrance to future dances.
6. ***To attend a dance, you must be in attendance and not tardy on the day the dance is held. If the dance is on a Saturday, you must be in school the day before.***
7. Breathalyzers are randomly given at the discretion of the chaperones.

PEDESTRIAN GUIDELINES

When crossing Route 23 to go to the main parking lot, all pedestrians are to cross at the crosswalk where the crossing signal is located. Do not cross between or behind buses. Help keep everyone safe!

STUDENT CARS

- Cars must not be driven during school hours. This includes during lunch.
- Students are **not to drive to or from** the Occupational Center unless they have been granted permission from BOCES, a parent, and the Principal or Superintendent.
- Students are to park their cars in the areas designated by student parking signs.
- Students who drive to school cannot use or be in their car during school hours.
- Students are to drive safely while on school property.
- Failure to comply with these regulations will result in disciplinary action.

Students who park their vehicle on school grounds during the day may be subject to search if there exists "reasonable suspicion" that the search will result in evidence that the owner/driver violated the law or the district code of conduct. Refusal to submit to a search could result in immediate forfeiture of driving privileges and possibly additional disciplinary consequences as well.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT ATHLETES

- Be a good student, be respectful of teachers, staff and classmates
- Updated health physical on file cleared by school physician
- Complete health history questionnaire prior to start of each sport season
- Attend all practices
- Follow all school rules and athletic training rules
- Communicate practice and game schedules with parents.
- Display sportsmanship towards opponents, officials, spectators and coaches
- Report all injuries to your coaches immediately
- Listen to your coaches
- Have fun and represent MCS with pride

For additional information and sports schedules, please visit the school website at
http://www.morriscs.org/athletics/athletic_schedule

Athletic Handbook
http://www.morriscs.org/athletics/athletic_handbook

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Advisor: Mrs. Fredette & Mrs. Thompson

The National Honor Society is committed to upholding the principles of scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

Scholarship: To be eligible for NHS, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 90.0 or higher after their tenth-grade year. Once a student is accepted into the chapter, they must maintain a GPA of 90.0 or higher.

Character and Leadership: Once a student is academically eligible, they must fill out a membership application. The application must be filled out at school and cannot be sent home. The students are also evaluated by their teachers for their character and leadership traits. Teachers rank students on a scale of 1-5, with specific reasons provided for a ranking of 1 or 2 for character or leadership. Students who score a 3.0 or higher in both categories and have successfully filled out the application will be considered for membership to the NHS by the faculty council. Please note that the NHS advisor presides over the meeting of the committee as a facilitator, but is not permitted to vote.

Service: Once admitted, NHS members must fulfill a minimum requirement of 32 community service hours each year. Service hour sheets must be turned in quarterly, with proper signatures and contact information. The member must participate in two school-sponsored events for hours during the year, not including the two must-work activities for NHS.

Member Privileges & Activities:

NHS members receive a membership card, which they can use in place of a pass. During nice weather, NHS members have permission to go out back to the picnic table area during study halls. NHS members may eat upstairs in the 9-12 hallway. NHS members will meet once a month, and attendance is required.

Like other clubs, the National Honor Society will also participate in a variety of fundraising activities.

TELEPHONE

You should come to school each day prepared with all the needed materials, supplies, and homework. Phone calls home should be on a limited basis. If you have an urgent situation and need to call home, you must use the **telephone at the Reception Desk** in the Main Lobby. Calls will not be made from the Main Office.

STUDENT RESOURCES

http://www.morriscs.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=191435

Faculty Advisors

Senior Class	***Mrs. Waffle***
Junior Class	***Mrs. Thompson***
Sophomore Class	***Mrs. Marino***
Freshman Class	***Mrs. Masciola***
Yearbook	***Mrs. Waffle***
National Honor Society	***Mrs. Fredette & Mrs. Thompson***
Student Council	***Mrs. Masciola***
Senior Play	***Mrs. Thompson & Mrs. Fredette***
Spanish Club	***TBD***
Jazz Band	***Mr. Ostrowski***
Athletic Club	***Mr. Iannelli***
Drama Club	***Mrs. Fredette***
Safety Patrol	***Mrs. Mackey & Mrs. Sneddon***
Colorguard	***Mrs. Connally***
Science/Math Club	***Mrs. Grant***
Outdoor Club	***Mrs. Waffle & Mrs. Thompson***
Athletic Director	***Mr. Iannelli***

Interscholastic Sports

Cheerleading	***TBD***
Varsity Boys Soccer	***Coach Lougee***
Modified Boys Soccer	***Coach Mackey***
Varsity Girls Soccer	***Coach Flint***
Modified Girls Soccer	***Coach Callea***
Varsity Boys Basketball	***TBD***
JV Boys Basketball	***TBD***
Modified Boys Basketball	***TBD***
Varsity Girls Basketball	***Coach Flint***
JV Girls Basketball	***TBD***
Modified Girls Basketball	***Coach Fraser***
Varsity Cross Country	***Coach Sherwood***
Varsity Indoor Track	***TBD***
Varsity Track	***TBD***
Modified Track	***TBD***
Varsity Baseball	***Coach Pat Harmer***
Modified Baseball	***TBD***
Varsity Softball	***TBD***
Modified Softball	***Coach Deysenroth***

NOT HERE. NOT NOW. NOT EVER.

What is Bullying and Harassment?

Bullying is a deliberate and hurtful pattern of behavior meant to belittle, frighten, hurt, or exclude someone. Bullying is intentional; it happens more than once, and there is an imbalance of power. In short, bullying is a one-sided, unfair match.

Below are examples of some behaviors that can be considered bullying. Harassment is defined as one instance of any one of the behaviors that are deemed as bullying.

- Shoving, pushing, hitting, and other physical aggression
- Spreading Rumors
- Threatening harm with looks, notes, or pictures
- Gossiping
- Excluding - like telling others not to be someone's friend
- Publicly humiliating others
- Picking on someone because of any difference
- Teasing
- Stealing

These behaviors are prohibited, and many are also against the law.
Please report BULLYING to an adult in the building as soon as possible.

What about Cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is engaging in the same behavior listed above using a cell phone, game device, or computer system. Many students use FACEBOOK, SNAPCHAT, INSTAGRAM, TWITTER, and other online programs. Knowledge is power. You will be held responsible for how you CHOOSE to use technology, and held responsible at school and by law enforcement. Even things you write or send to one person become public records and are permanent.

CHOOSE WISELY.

If You Are a Victim of Bullying, You Might:

- Feel angry, sad, lonely, or depressed.
- Feel like you have no friends.
- Find that you are getting into fights.
- Want to hurt someone else or yourself.
- Feel like taking steps to defend yourself.
- Feel helpless to stop the bullying.
- Feel hopeless that anything can be done.
- Be afraid to go to school, or feel anxious all the time.
- Feel bad about yourself.

You are NOT alone.
Talk to a trusted adult or friend.

Bullying is a form of emotional or physical abuse that has three defining characteristics:

1. **DELIBERATE**
   - a bully's intention is to hurt someone
2. **REPEATED**
   - a bully often targets the same victim again and again
3. **POWER IMBALANCE**
   - a bully chooses victims he or she preceives as vulnerable

Bullying occurs in many different forms, with varying levels of severity. It may involve:

1. **PHYSICAL BULLYING**
   - poking, pushing, hitting, kicking, beating up
2. **VERBAL BULLYING**
   - yelling, teasing, name-calling, insulting, threatening to harm
3. **INDIRECT BULLYING**
   - ignoring, excluding, spreading rumors, telling lies, getting others to hurt someone

Contact Ms. Karn, Dignity for All Students Coordinator,
to report incidents of bullying and/or harassment.
263-6116
rkarn@morriscsd.org

Appendix A

GRADE WEIGHTING/CLASS RANKING – (For Juniors and Seniors)

Morris Central School's policy for the procedure used for calculating the class rank based on a weighted scale as determined by Regents/non-Regents/AP/college courses. The following table indicates the points (or weight) assigned for a particular grade range:

	AP/COLLEGE	R- ½ CR	R-1 CR	Non-R- ½ CR	Non-R-1 CR
95-100	18	8	16	7	14
90-94	16	7	14	6	12
85-89	14	6	12	5	10
80-84	12	5	10	4	8
75-79	10	4	8	3	6
70-74	8	3	6	2	4
65-69	6	2	4	1	2
<65	0	0	0	0	0

Points are assigned for a particular grade depending on whether or not the course is a ½ credit course or a full credit course, and whether or not it is a Regents or AP/college course. More points are given for AP/college and Regents courses and full credit courses. These point totals are added up for each course the student has completed and then divided by twice (2X) the sum total of the number of units of study. An example follows:

Student X:	**Grade**	**Credit Given**	**Points Assigned**
English (Regents)	92	1 unit	14
Math (non-regents)	94	1 unit	10
AP History	83	1 unit	12
Science (non-regents)	78	1 unit	6
Spanish (non-regents)	62	1 unit	0
PE	96	½ unit	7
Total		5.5	49

Class rank = points ÷ 2 times the number of credits
= 49 ÷ (2 x 5.5)
= 49 ÷ 11
Class rank = 4.4545

GRADE WEIGHTING/CLASS RANKING – (For Freshmen and Sophomores)

Morris Central School's policy for the procedure used for calculating the class rank is based on a weighted scale as determined by Regents/non-Regents/AP/college courses. The following table indicates the points (or weight) assigned for a particular grade range:

	AP/COLLEGE	**R- ½ CR**	**R-1 CR**	**Non-R- ½ CR**	**Non-R-1 CR**
100	18	8	16	7	14
98-99	17.5	7.75	15.5	6.75	13.5
96-97	17	7.5	15	6.5	13
94-95	16.5	7.25	14.5	6.25	12.5
92-93	16	7	14	6	12
90-91	15.5	6.75	13.5	5.75	11.5
88-89	15	6.5	13	5.5	11
85-87	14.5	6.25	12.5	5.25	10.5
82-84	14	6	12	5	10
79-81	13	5.5	11	4.5	9
75-78	12	5	10	4	8
70-74	11	4.5	9	3.5	7
65-69	10	4	8	3	6
Below 65	0	0	0	0	0

(There are no points given for Regents classes even if the Regents is passed.)

Points are assigned for a particular grade depending on whether or not the course is a ½ credit course or a full credit course, and whether or not it is a Regents or AP/college course. More points are given for AP/college and Regents courses and full credit courses. These point totals are added up for each course the student has completed and then divided by twice (2x) the total sum of the number of units of study. An example follows:

Student X:	GRADE	CREDIT GIVEN	POINTS ASSIGNED
English (Regents)	92	1 unit	14
Math (non-regents)	94	1 unit	12.5

AP History	83	1 unit	14
Science (non-regents)	78	1 unit	8
French (non-regents)	62	1 unit	0
PE	96	½ unit	6.5
Total		5.5	55

Class rank = points ÷ 2 times the number of credits

= 55 ÷ (2 x 5.5)

= 55 ÷ 11

Class rank = 5.000

Selection of Valedictorian and Salutatorian

- The students are ranked in order from the highest class rank value down to the lowest class rank value. The valedictorian will have the highest class rank value, and the salutatorian will have the second-highest class rank value.
- Eligible seniors must be full-time students of the school district in their junior and senior years.
- Students who are enrolled after the first day of school in their junior year will not be eligible.
- Final calculation of ranking will be completed at the end of the third quarter of the senior year.
- In the event of a tie using the weighted system, there will be more than one recipient for the honor. No tiebreaker will be used.

Selection of the Scholar Recognition Award

- The recipient will be the student who is ranked first at the end of the first semester, senior year. In the event of a tie using the weighted system, the student with the highest GPA (of the tied students) at the end of the first semester will be the recipient.

Selection of the New York State Academic Excellence Scholarship

- The recipient will be the student with the highest grade on state-selected Regents entering his/her senior year.

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL GRADING SYSTEM

1. The passing grade for all courses is 65.
2. If a student repeats a subject, the better of the two final marks is the one used. The poorer mark is not counted. The same holds for Regents exams.
3. The quarterly average will be determined by giving 40% credit for daily class work and 60% for unit tests given during each quarter. Daily work includes all work except the unit tests (class participation, daily quizzes, homework, special reports, etc.). Unit tests are to be given during each quarter. The quarterly test mark is the average of all unit tests given during the quarter. A unit test is defined as a block of information studied in each subject area that is related to a particular topic.
4. A midterm exam or project is to be administered that is inclusive of all subject matter studied in the first 20 weeks.
5. A final exam or project is to be administered that is inclusive of all subject matter studied in the entire 40 weeks.

6. Any student taking a Regents exam will have that grade count as their final examination mark.
7. A final mark will be computed using the following formula

$$\frac{2 \times (1^{st} \text{ quarter average} + 2^{nd} + 3^{rd} + 4^{th}) + \text{midterm} + \text{final}}{10}$$

8. For ½ year courses, the above formula will be divided by 5 and not 10
9. All final grades, both in January and June, once they have been placed on report cards, cannot be changed or altered without the approval of the principal.
10. All the students are allowed to drop a course up until two weeks into the course. After the second week, the student must remain in that course until completion.
11. All students must remain in a course for at least one week before being allowed to drop it.
12. Students must take a minimum of 6 ½ credits, including physical education, each year.
13. No incompletes can exist at the end of the school year.
14. AM/PM students must be taking a minimum of 2 regular subjects plus physical education.
15. Any online classes, except those taken for credit recovery or required for graduation, taken by a student will not be calculated in his/her GPA or used when calculating rankings. All online classes that are elective will be paid for by the student and will not be noted on report cards or a student's final transcript.
16. When assigning a numerical score to a college-level course that uses a letter grading system, the following numerical scores will be assigned to letter grades: A=95, B=85, C=75, D=65, F=55.

HONOR ROLL

1. Students attaining an overall average of 94.5-100 will qualify for the Principal's List. All subjects taken will be averaged.
2. Students attaining an overall average of 89.5-94.4 will qualify for the High Honor Roll. All subjects taken will be averaged.
3. Students attaining an overall average of 84.5-89.4 will qualify for the Honor Roll. All subjects taken will be averaged.
4. To be considered for the Principal's List, High Honor Roll, or Honor Roll, all subjects taken must have a passing grade. No incompletes will be honored.