

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

October 2026| Morton East High School



September Attendance

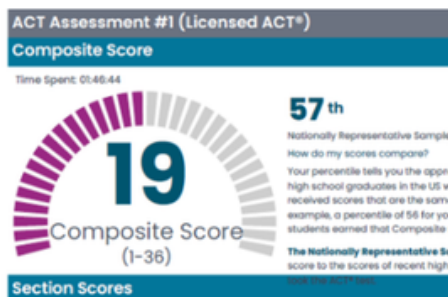


During the month of September, we continued our attendance initiative by recognizing and rewarding students who demonstrated strong attendance. A total of 2,112 students were eligible to participate in the challenge. We held a raffle to select winners, who received a ticket for a walking taco in the Student Café. Our Deans of Students served the walking tacos during each café period, creating an opportunity to celebrate student attendance and reinforce the importance of being present and engaged in school every day. Through initiatives like this, we continue to encourage positive attendance habits and recognize students for their commitment to academic success.

Progress Learning Practice ACT

Our fall testing season was a positive and rewarding experience for both students and staff. Students demonstrated strong effort, focus, and commitment as they completed their assessments and worked toward their academic goals.

We have begun analyzing the fall assessment data and using the results within our instructional teams to establish academic goals and develop incentives for students who meet established standards in English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. In addition to recognizing students who meet these benchmarks, we will also celebrate and reward students who demonstrate academic growth throughout the school year through our new platform. These efforts will help us recognize student achievement, celebrate individual progress, and continue building a culture of academic excellence across our school.



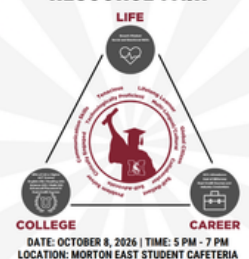
Community Events



September was a busy month with Homecoming, Mexican Independence, and Houby parade season.

Parent Teacher Conferences

PORTRAIT OF A MORTON GRADUATE RESOURCE FAIR



Join us to explore the three key components that define our graduates. Students and families will have access to resources including:

- College Representatives
- Early College Credit
- Financial Aid Application Workshop for Seniors
- Schoollinks
- Seal of Biliteracy
- Career Resources
- School and Community Support



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2026 | Morton Freshman Center

September Attendance Initiative

During the month of September, we continued our consistent attendance initiative by recognizing and rewarding the houses with the highest attendance and lowest tardiness to class each week. This initiative continues to promote the importance of regular attendance and being on time.



Celebrating School Spirit

September was a month filled with Mustang pride! We hosted our Homecoming celebration and Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly, giving our students opportunities to celebrate school spirit, culture, and community. Also, participated in local and school parades. Thank you to our students and staff for making these events special!



Testing & Student Goal Setting

.We recently completed our fall Progress Learning assessment. Students will review their results, reflect on their performance, and set individual goals focused on reaching their academic benchmarks. This process will help students take ownership of their learning while providing teachers with data to guide instruction and support.



We hosted our monthly Coffee with the Principal and celebrated our Students of the Month.

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OCTOBER 2026



J. S. MORTON

ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 201

Students recently had the opportunity to visit Northern Illinois University (NIU) and attend Spark Fest at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), providing valuable experiences that encouraged exploration of future educational and career pathways.



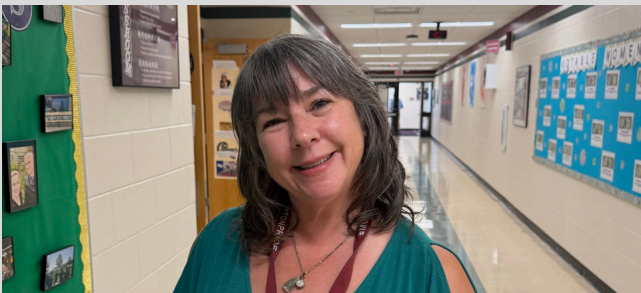
P.B.I.S. September Reward Old Joilet Prison



targeted interventions and supports to promote student growth. These discussions will help guide instruction and ensure students receive the resources necessary for academic success.



Met with all parents to help them connect to Parent Square.



M.A.S. Staff of the Month
Lisa Litberg

Looking Ahead: Students will visit the Cicero Public Library with Ms. Duke to participate in a hands-on art project in the library's Makerspace

Always a pleasure to have a visit from the Cicero Public library!



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

October 2026 | Technology and Trade Center



Construction Management & Contract Review

- Continued reviewing and comparing construction management submissions for the TTC project.
- Reviewed construction management pricing and contract information from local districts to better compare proposed costs, contract structures, and overall value.
- Continued analyzing CM proposals with a focus on pricing, contractual terms, team structure, and alignment with district needs.

Design & Program Layout Planning

- Began planning for an upcoming kickstart meeting with DKA following an internal review of finalized programs and layout priorities for the TTC.
- Developed additional layout concepts with in-house architectural interns, focusing on program adjacencies, internal and external visibility, and stronger use of the building footprint.
- Refined the TTC budget and identified programs that may be reintroduced into the project as funding and space allow.
- Rank ordered potential program additions to support future decision-making around scope, budget, and instructional priorities.



- Visited Snap-on headquarters and three Wisconsin schools using Snap-on build-a-bay systems and tool management systems.
- Gathered feedback and insight from school staff and industry representatives regarding equipment layout, tool storage, instructional use, and long-term tool outfitting needs for the TTC.
- Used these visits to better understand how tool systems, shop organization, and equipment packages may support future TTC programs.

Student Industry Connections

- Students have begun using their no-cost AFE memberships in Construction Trades classes.
- AFE, the Association for Facilities Engineering, supports careers in facility operations, maintenance, and building systems.
- The memberships are valued at approximately \$9,090 and provide access to industry resources, newsletters, events, and professional development.

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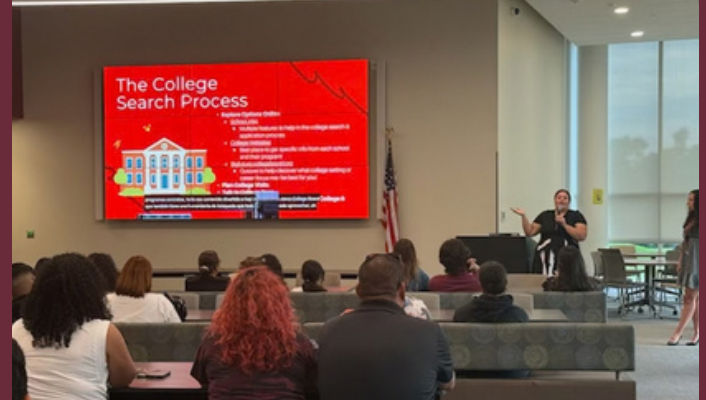
October 2026 | Morton West High School

Homecoming



Homecoming Week at Morton West was a great success! Our students and staff came together to celebrate Mustang pride, school spirit, and community. From the activities throughout the week to the parade and dance, it was great to see so many Mustangs engaged and enjoying the experience.

Senior Info Night



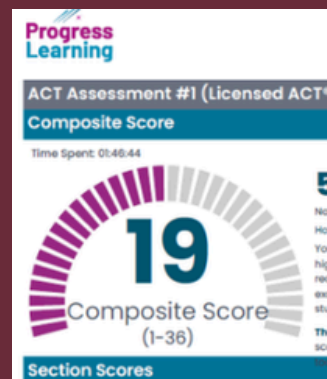
We had a great turnout for Senior Information Night! Senior Information Night was a great opportunity for our seniors and their families to learn more about the college and career planning process, important deadlines, and the next steps after high school. Thank you to our staff and families for making the evening a valuable experience for the Class of 2027

Community Events



We wrapped up a great parade season at Morton West! Our Mustangs proudly represented the school at the Berwyn Hispanic Parade, Cicero Hispanic Parade, and Houby Parde. It was a great opportunity for our students and staff to celebrate our community, share Mustang pride, and be part of these important local traditions.

Fall Testing / Challenge 95



challenge
ninety - five

Challenge 95: A Morton West Attendance Initiative
Show up. Stay connected. Reach your goals.

What is it?
Challenge 95 is an initiative to incentivize students to come to school. This celebrates attendance progress, inspiring students to stay on track, recognize that showing up matters for success at school and beyond.

How do I meet the challenge?

Our fall testing season was a positive experience for students and staff. Students showed strong effort and focus as they completed their assessments and worked toward their academic goals. We are also excited to launch Challenge 95, a positive attendance initiative that recognizes students who maintain at least 95% attendance with opportunities to earn prizes. The goal is simple: Be here. Be engaged. Be successful.