

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

September 2026| Morton East High School



Opening Day for Teachers

Sophomore Experience



We kicked off the school year by giving our newest Mustangs a warm and spirited welcome! Our cheerleaders and band brought incredible energy to the gymnasium as students arrived, helping create a sense of excitement, pride, and belonging from day one. Students also enjoyed fun interactive games and a vibrant folkloric dance performance that celebrated culture and community. It was a fantastic way to welcome our sophomores and show our MORTONPRIDE!!!

First day of school for our faculty provided an opportunity to collaborate, and prepare for a successful school year. Staff came together to attend several sessions presented by building administrators. The focus for this year was on Literacy and Numeracy and our new safety guidelines. The day helped ensure we are aligned to support every Mustang academically, socially, and emotionally.



Open House/Club Fair

We welcomed families to our annual Open House, giving parents and guardians the opportunity to connect with teachers, learn about their students' academic experiences, and discover ways to support learning at home. The event also featured student clubs, book giveaways, and a celebration honoring students who demonstrated significant growth on the ACCESS test.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2026 | Morton Freshman Center



Welcome the Class of 2030

- Welcomed our newest students and celebrated the start of their high school journey with a first-day photo backdrop. The week concluded with an assembly focused on school spirit and a successful start to the school year.
- Coffee with the Principal, providing families with an opportunity to connect, learn more about the school, and ask questions.

OPEN HOUSE

Welcomed families to our annual Open House, providing parents and guardians an opportunity to connect with teachers, learn more about their student's academic experience, and explore ways to support learning at home.



Club Fair

Hosted a Club Fair to introduce students to the wide variety of extracurricular opportunities available at school. Students were encouraged to explore their interests, connect with peers and staff, and become actively involved in after-school activities.

Attendance Incentive

To promote consistent attendance and celebrate students' commitment to being in school, Morton Freshman Center recognized students who achieved perfect attendance during the first three weeks of school with an ice cream incentive.

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SEPTEMBER 2026



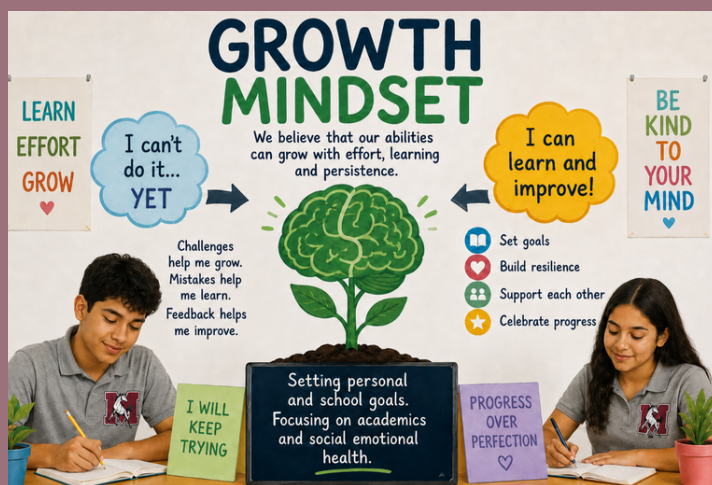
J. S. MORTON

ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 201

GROWTH MINDSET

Teachers and staff have been working with all students to set both personal and school goals. Focusing on academics and social emotional health.



P.B.I.S. Kickoff

Welcome back Barbecue!



M.A.S. Staff of the Month
Matt Edquist



Parents visited with classroom teachers and learned about community resources during open house.

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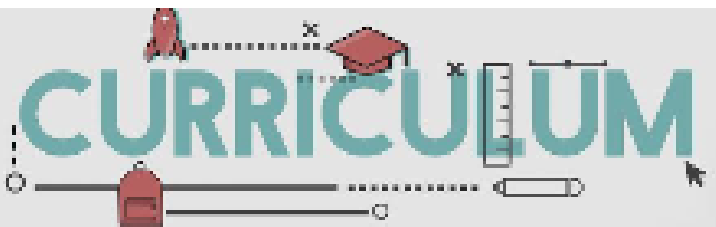
September 2026 | Technology and Trade Center

Facilities & Construction Planning

- Developed two alternative TTC layout options to share with the architect, with a focus on increasing program capacity, improving program adjacencies, and better utilizing indoor and outdoor instructional spaces.
- Met with final construction management team to review TTC project timeline, team roles, contractual terms, and best-and-final pricing.

Partnerships & Program Development

- Met with Inventionland Education to explore immersive, branded instructional spaces for the TTC.
- Reviewed possible classroom and common-space design features that could support program identity and student engagement.
- Discussed coordination with architects and potential visuals to support future sponsor conversations.
- Continued reviewing sponsorship models and framework materials connected to TTC partnership planning.



- Created a Mustang Musts video-sharing Padlet for staff to submit short classroom examples
- Continued supporting PE department needs, including PLT structures, instructional planning, and equipment requests.
- Completed PE equipment request process to support current and future instructional needs.
- Continued work with staff connected to TTC-aligned content support and strong-entry planning.

Budgetary

- Reviewed final CM pricing, timeline information, team biographies, and additional contractual terms.
- Reviewed Inventionland cost estimates for a fully immersive classroom and a library sized or common-space transformation.
- Initiated review of potential state funding opportunities that could support additional services if approved.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

September 2026 | Morton West High School

Building Institute



Building Institute Day welcomed our faculty back and provided an opportunity to reconnect, collaborate, and prepare for a successful school year. Staff came together to review key priorities, strengthen our shared vision, and align our work around instructional goals and student growth, MTSS, culture and climate, and comprehensive student support. The day helped ensure we are aligned to support every Mustang academically.

Welding Tech 1



Students are enjoying their Welding class with Mr. Nolan, gaining hands-on experience while building a strong foundation in welding techniques and safety. Students are actively engaged in learning new skills, working with equipment, and developing practical skills that can prepare them for future careers in the skilled trades.

Welcoming Our New Mustangs



We kicked off the school year by giving our newest Mustangs a warm and spirited welcome! Our cheerleaders and band brought incredible energy to the building as students arrived, helping create a sense of excitement, pride, and belonging from day one. It was a great way to welcome our freshmen and remind them that they are now part of the Mustang family.

Club Fair / Open House



Our Club Fair and Open House welcomed over 1,000 students and families who had the opportunity to meet with teachers, explore clubs and activities, and learn more about the opportunities available at Morton West.