

Morton Elementary School



Here We Grow!

MES Student Handbook

MORTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

485 Old 30 Road

Jacksonville, NC 28546

(910) 353-0930

(910) 353-0103 Fax

School Hours: 8:10-3:30

Vikki Childress
Principal

Dawn Brady
Assistant Principal

Welcome to Morton Elementary School! We are excited for this 2023-2024 school year! Please carefully read the Parent-Student Handbook as it is a tool containing valuable information. This publication provides only a brief explanation of school policies and routine procedures and is used in conjunction with the Onslow County Schools Student Related Board of Education Policies and School Bus Safety Regulations Handbook. Please note this handbook is not all inclusive, especially regarding discipline, and is subject to change as needed to ensure the safety and overall efficiency of our school.

Vikki B. Childress, Principal

ARRIVAL

The school building/classrooms will open at 8:10. For safety purposes, no student or parent may enter the building/classroom until that time. Exceptions are teacher scheduled conferences before school or special meetings.

Parents/guardians dropping students off (8:10-8:25) will use the car rider line. Vehicles will enter campus from Sterling Farms Drive, proceeding to the approved location and allow school officials to assist in unloading students in a safe manner. After 8:25, parents must park at the front of the school and escort students to the door or sign their child in if the tardy bell has rung (8:30). Parents/guardians may park on the car rider side of the school or in front of the school to escort their student(s) to the front of the school at the drop off location. Parents may walk their student to the class the **first two days** of school only. Vehicles are not permitted in the bus parking lot between 7:45 -8:45, and 3:00-4:00.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance in school is an integral part in developing a positive attitude toward school and the teaching-learning process. Regular attendance develops patterns of behavior essential to academic achievement and personal success in life. **Therefore, absences, tardiness, and early checkouts should be limited to illness or other extenuating circumstances.**

NC General Statue 115C-378 requires that every child between the ages of seven and 16 years (or younger if enrolled) attend school. Parents/legal guardians have the responsibility for ensuring that students attend school daily and "shall notify the school of the reason for each known absence in accordance with local board policy.

In order for a child to be counted present, he/she must be in attendance at least one half of the school day. Anyone who checks out before **12:00** or checks in after 12:00 is counted absent. **Please be prepared to show valid identification when checking out your student.**

The school day begins at **8:10 a.m.** All students who arrive in the classroom after **8:30 a.m.** are tardy and must check in at the office **accompanied by a parent/guardian.** The student will be given a pass to give to the teacher. Check outs will not be permitted after **3:10 p.m.** To check a student out from school, parents/guardians must follow the following procedure:

1. Only parents/guardians/designee may check students out of school.

2. The parent/guardian/designee must present a valid picture ID that will be compared to the child's demographic file before the child is released. This is a safety procedure and there will be **no exceptions.**

On the day returning after an absence, a note must be given to the child's homeroom teacher that includes the date(s) of absence, reason for absence, and parent's signature. All notes are kept on file in the office.

Absences will be considered excused for the following reasons only: **See Also: OCS Board Policy 4400**

1. Personal illness or injury; quarantine (of student)
2. Death of an immediate family member (parents, siblings and grandparents of the student)
3. Educational opportunity approved in **advance** by the principal (Family vacations and trips are **not** educational opportunities.)
4. Medical or dental appointments for the student only
5. Court/administrative proceedings for the student
6. Religious observances (approved in advance)
7. Military family leave (See Board Policy 4400)

All other absences are considered unexcused.

*All tardies are marked as unexcused unless a doctor's note is presented upon check-in.

Onslow County Board Policy 4400- Attendance in Grades K-8

1. Students with more than 20 absences (10 within the first ninety days and 10 within the last ninety days) in a school year shall not be promoted to the next grade except by determination of the principal/designee upon careful review of the student's records.
2. When total absences (lawful and unlawful) exceed 10 days per semester, further documentation will be required (doctor's statement, court documentation, etc.).
3. Make up work shall be assigned by the student's teacher as deemed appropriate. All make up work shall be completed within a reasonable amount of time as determined by the child's teacher.
4. Schools shall offer incentives to provide recognition of perfect attendance.
5. Students are expected to be in attendance and participate in instruction throughout the school day. Excessive tardiness and early checkouts will be referred to the appropriate authorities and may also be considered by the principal when making a promotion determination.

ACCIDENT, ILLNESS OR INJURY OF STUDENTS

In case of serious illness or injury, the following procedure will be followed:

1. If a student becomes ill or injured at school, his/her parent or guardian shall be notified as soon as possible.
2. A student who is ill or injured shall not be removed from school until the parent or guardian has been notified, or until a reasonable attempt to reach the parent or guardian has met with failure.
3. If a reasonable attempt to reach a parent or guardian meets with failure in cases of an emergency due to critical illness or injury, a student will be sent to the hospital in a Rescue Squad vehicle. The parent will assume the responsibility for the cost of the transportation and medical attention.
4. If the principal feels a child must be quickly transported to an emergency room, the child will be taken. The parent will be notified as quickly as possible.
5. A "Permission for Emergency Medical Care" form should be completed and updated by the parent/guardian at the beginning of each school year and/or during student registration.

AVID; ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION

AVID is an elective program for students at Hunters Creek Middle School and White Oak High School. In order to better prepare our students for middle and high school, we have adopted the elementary AVID strategies to encourage student success with: organization, use of agenda/planner, inquiry, goal setting, note taking, time management, collaboration, and college awareness. While the official "AVID elementary" program serves students in upper elementary (4th and 5th grades), the strategies are useful at all grade levels.

BREAKFAST

Students must arrive to the school **by 8:25 a.m.** for breakfast. 4th and 5th grade students will report immediately to breakfast and K-3rd grade students will check in with their teacher first. For additional information please see "Lunch/Meals."

BUSES

Parents must review bus rules and regulations that are printed in the *Onslow County Schools Student Related Board of Education Policies and School Bus Safety Regulations Handbook*. A copy of this handbook is provided to every student annually. Riding the bus is a privilege. Bus misbehavior may result in a suspension from riding the bus.

CARE PROGRAM (Before & After School)

Unless involved in a specific before or after school program, students are not permitted to be on campus outside of established school hours. This is an issue of student safety and supervision.

The OCS Before and After School program is operated by the New River YMCA. Please visit www.trymca.org/programs to sign your child up for Before and After School care online. You may also contact the New River YMCA family service director at 910-333-1416.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The parent/guardian of a student with a communicable disease or infestation must notify the school as soon as they have knowledge of their child's diagnosis. The student must remain home until no longer contagious. A doctor's or parent note must be presented upon the student's return.

All children with fevers of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater will be excluded from school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications. (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.)

Students with diarrhea and vomiting occurring more than once during the school day will be excluded and may not return until there is no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours. Please call or email the school nurse with questions and refer to [OCS policy 4230.5](#).

Class-wide head checks will be conducted periodically at

school. Any student with lice may not return until checked by the school nurse or front office staff. OCS maintains a "No-Nit" policy.

CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged to improve communication among parents, teachers, and students. If you would like to schedule a conference, notify the teacher in writing, or call the school at 910-353-0930 to make an appointment.

CURRICULA

All students at Morton Elementary School will be instructed according to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Students will receive instruction in encore classes such as Art, Media, Music, P.E., and Computer Lab.

DISCIPLINE POLICES

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS (PBIS)

The staff of Morton Elementary is committed to providing a Safe & Civil school environment for learning. Morton Elementary School participates in a schoolwide Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program which is a systematic approach to preventing and responding to classroom and school discipline problems. PBIS develops schoolwide rules and systems that support staff in teaching and promoting positive and appropriate behavior for all students. Each classroom teacher teaches and reinforces the same Morton Mustang positive behavior expectations to students coupled with rules and procedures that is conducive to learning and help each child to develop self-discipline. Most misbehavior will be taken care of by the classroom teacher in accordance with their classroom rules/consequences and with the PBIS tiered levels of infractions. For persistent discipline problems or severe acts of inappropriate behavior, students will be referred to the administration.

Mustang Pride Celebrations will be held to recognize students who consistently meet the Mustang Behavior Expectations each grading period.

SCHOOL RULES & EXPECTATIONS:

1. Be Kind, Be Safe, & Be Responsible
2. Respect yourself and others
3. Keep hands and feet to yourself at all times
4. Use self-control -Remain quiet and orderly in the buildings and on the school grounds
5. Be Prepared for class. Bring only educationally necessary materials to school. **Items such as toys, games, radios, cell phones, unauthorized electronic devices, matches, weapons (or facsimile of) and sharp objects are not allowed on school grounds and buses.** The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. **See also: Electronic Devices**

Morton Elementary School does not tolerate threats, assaults, harassment, bullying, or hazing. Any of these behaviors should be reported to the teacher or other adult as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of the teacher and principal/designee to investigate any claims of threats, assaults, harassment, bullying, or hazing. According to [BOE Policy- 4331](#), except where certain consequences are required by law, principals in the elementary grades are expected to use good judgment and reasonable discretion in determining the appropriate

consequence for violation of board policies, school standards or rules. Violations of this section may result in suspension and/or legal involvement.

DISMISSAL

The bell for dismissal will ring at **3:30**. Students will be escorted to the car rider line by the Teacher/Teacher Assistant or sent to the bus lot. (See also: Early Release)

Any changes to afternoon transportation must be made in writing or in person by the parent/guardian prior to 3:10 p.m. Changes via phone will not be accepted.

1. Bus tags are attached to student backpacks to assist in afternoon transportation and dismissal.
2. Only adults listed on the student's transportation form may pick up students from school. Additions to the list may be made in writing. Please be advised that school personnel **will** ask to see photo identification before releasing students to any adults.
3. Car riders are picked up in the car rider line which is accessible via the Sterling Farms Drive entrance. Be sure to drive all the way around to the approved location and allow school officials to assist in loading students in a safe manner. **Please do not begin lining up for car rider line prior to 2:45.**
4. A Car Rider tag will be provided and must be displayed in the front windshield when picking up student(s) in the Car Rider line. Students will have matching tag numbers and **will not** be released to a vehicle without a car rider tag. Parents/guardians must come into the office and show identification for a duplicate tag.
5. **Cars are not permitted in the bus lot during arrival or dismissal for any reason.**

DRESS CODE

The dress and appearance of students has a significant effect upon conduct and behavior while at school. It is expected that students will be dressed and groomed appropriately for the age group of the individual. Morton Elementary School, in accordance to OCS Board Policy has adopted the following dress code guidelines:

- No hats inside any building
- Appropriate shoes should be worn for safety reasons. **Flip flops and sandals that expose the toes are not permitted during PE. (No cleats or Heelies are allowed at any time)**
- No brief or revealing attire. Shorts, skirts, and skorts must be appropriate length (generally fingertip length). Baggy pants/shorts are not permitted without a belt worn around the waist. A jacket or shirt should be worn over/under tank tops and spaghetti strap shirts.
- Clothing that encourages the use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs, or contains the use of profanity is not permitted.

EARLY RELEASE

Onslow County Schools provides professional development days for staff. On those days, students will be released at **12:30**. Normal dismissal procedures and

practices will be followed. The parent must provide the child's teacher with any changes in the normal routine. It is important that parents/guardians make the necessary arrangements in advance to ensure student safety and proper supervision when the student arrives off the bus. Lunch will be provided to students before dismissal.

The Early Release Dates for 2023-2024 are as follows:

- September 20, 2023
- October 18, 2023
- November 15, 2023
- February 14, 2024
- March 13, 2024

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

(cell phones, gaming devices, smart watches, etc.)

See Also: [OCS Board Policy 4318](#)

To maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning and free from distractions, students are not allowed to have cell phones or any unauthorized POD (Personally Owned Device) on or visible during school hours. For students that commute to and from school on bus transportation, all devices must be turned off prior to boarding in the morning and remain off until departing transportation in the afternoon. When cell phones are in sight or turned on, they may be confiscated. The student's parent/guardian may be called to come pick up the device.

Morton Elementary is not responsible for any lost or stolen cell phones or PODs.

FEES

School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way for parents to pay for their children's school fees and field trips, etc. Teachers must give parents their children's school ID numbers for them to create an account at <https://onslow.schoolcashonline.com/>

The Onslow County Board of Education has established the following fees:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Art | \$ 1.00 |
| Instructional Supplies | \$ 5.00 |
| 1:1 Technology Usage Assessment Fee | \$25.00 |
| Insurance (optional) | TBD |

***Students are held responsible for lost and damaged textbooks, library books, laptop, and laptop chargers.**

FIELD TRIPS

Students may have opportunities to participate in off campus activities throughout the year. Information on the purpose of the trip, the cost, and schedules will be shared with parents before the trip. Many of the trips require special bus arrangements and advance ticket purchases. Therefore, we ask that you please adhere to the payment deadlines and due dates. **No refunds will be given due to illness or behavior after the payment deadline day.**

If you need to make special arrangements or requests, please notify your child's teacher as soon as possible. Parental permission slips will be required for all students who leave campus during the school day for a field trip.

FORMS OF PAYMENT

Morton Elementary utilizes School Cash Online for all payments. If you do not already have an account, one may be created at <https://onslow.schoolcashonline.com/>. When making payments for lunch accounts, make payment to Child Nutrition. You can visit the cafeteria to make payments or pay online using a credit card. The website is www.lunchprepay.com. You will need your student's lunch number. This can be provided by the teacher, the cafeteria, or in the office.

GRADING POLICIES

Report cards are sent home every nine weeks. Interim reports are sent home midway through the grading period on the dates designated on the Onslow County School calendar. Onslow County Schools is on a 10 point grading scale for students in grades 3-12.

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: <59

GUIDANCE & MFLC COUNSELORS

Morton Elementary has a Guidance Counselor and a Military and Family Life Counselor (MFLC) who conducts small group, whole class, and individual counseling sessions. The counselors are available to assist students and parents who are experiencing school-related problems with their child and to assist/teach units needed by students. Please call the school to schedule conferences with the appropriate counselor as needed.

HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

All first-time kindergarten students and all students who are enrolling for the first time in a NC public school are required to have a completed health assessment (physical) by a health care provider within 30 days of the first day they begin school. This must be completed on the State Health Assessment form which can be picked up from the school office or downloaded from the nurse's webpage on the school's website. If not provided in the allotted time period, the student will be excluded from school until presented. See OCS policy 4110.

HOMEWORK

Students in all grade levels will be assigned homework. Homework is an integral and relevant part of every student's instructional program. Homework assignments reinforce/extend classroom instruction.

HONOR ROLL & PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Students in grades 3-5 who attain all A's on their report card during the nine weeks grading period will be placed on the Principal's List for that grading period.

Students in grades 3-5 who attain all A's & B's on their report card during the nine weeks grading period will be placed on the Honor Roll List for that grading period.

Both Principal's List and Honor Roll List are published in the local newspaper each grading period. If you wish to have your child's name withheld from publication, please send written notification to the principal.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Morton Elementary follows all state laws with regards to childhood immunizations. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to provide the school with an up-to-date immunization record within 30 calendar days of enrollment. If not provided within this time period or the student does not have a religious or medical exemption, the student will be excluded from school until documentation is presented. Please contact the school nurse with any questions. [See OCS policy 4110.](#)

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In preparing for severe or inclement weather, it sometimes becomes necessary for a decision to be made concerning the closing of school or delaying of school hours. After conferring with the National Weather Service and various emergency agencies, a decision will be made on whether to delay or close school. This decision will be made in a timely manner so that information can be communicated to all parties. Since we are a county-wide school system, a decision to close schools or delay school hours will affect all schools throughout Onslow County. In order to effectively communicate this information, school officials are asking all students, parents and school employees to follow the suggestions listed below:

1. The parent's/guardian's primary contact phone number will be registered with your child's school to receive automated messages. School cancellations or delays will be announced through the school system's automated alert network. **In addition, the registration of your phone numbers is essential to allow the school to contact you in case of an emergency.**
2. Log-on to the Onslow County Schools system's web site at www.onslow.k12.nc.us to read current information on school closings or delays.
3. Call the Onslow County Schools "Information Line" at (910) 989-2211 to hear current information on school closings or delays.
4. Listen to one of the area radio stations WKOQ (98.7FM), WXQR (105.5FM), WDLX (93FM), WSFL (106.5FM), or WRNS (95.1FM) or your local favorite radio station.
5. While we will notify area television stations, they have certain time restraints in getting information on the air, due to the large volume of closings they list.
6. Please do not call the radio or television stations, newspaper offices, school officials or school offices.
7. **THE ABSENCE OF ANY ANNOUNCEMENT MEANS THAT THE SCHOOLS WILL OPEN OR CLOSE AS USUAL.**

Over 15,000 of the approximately 26,000 students in the Onslow County School System travel to and from school by bus. Often road conditions on our much-traveled primary roads are quite different from those on our less frequently traveled secondary roads. When making the decision of opening or closing schools, school officials are primarily concerned with the safety and welfare of all pupils and staff members.

LUNCH/MEALS

(OCS Policy [6200](#), [6225](#), [6230](#))

Onslow County Schools provides nutritious breakfast and lunch meals designed to meet the USDA federal guidelines and nutrition standards for school meals. These guidelines limit the

amount of fat, sodium, and sugar in meal selections and encourage increased consumption of fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grain products, and calcium rich foods. Well-balanced breakfasts and lunches contribute to the success in the classroom and students' academic performance. Menus are available on the Onslow County Schools website at www.onslow.k12.nc.us and in local media.

Meal prices are \$1.25 for breakfast and are \$2.50 for lunch. Reduced price breakfast is provided at no cost and reduced lunch cost is \$.40. Supplemental a la carte items that meet the Smart Snack guidelines are available for additional purchase. Parents/Guardians may request restrictions (such as no a la carte purchases) for students with a written note sent to the cafeteria. If your student has dietary restrictions, you will need to complete a diet order form (available from the nurse or on the Onslow County Schools website) and turn in to the school nurse. Students in grades K-8 with no money will be fed and charged for a meal only. A la carte items may not be charged. **Families are responsible for all meal costs for food eaten by the student until the new meal application has been approved and any charges accrued until that approval.** A parent/guardian may request a copy of their student's account. For any information, contact the school cafeteria manager at 910-353-0930 extension 10008.

Payment for purchases in the cafeteria may be made by cash or check to the school cafeteria. Please do not send money to the school office. Other methods of payment are debit/credit card online at www.k12paymentcenter.com .

Meal applications for free or reduced meals can be found online at www.lunchapplication.com. This is the quickest method. **Only one application per household** should be completed. Return meal applications to the school cafeteria or the school nutrition central office. If you do not receive notification for **all (each individual child)** students in the household, please notify the school nutrition central office immediately.

If your child was free or reduced last year, it is not an automatic approval this year. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the Child Nutrition office notified you in writing that your child is eligible for the new school year.

Students approved for free or reduced priced meals must choose a FULL meal. Individual items and milk selections result in a la carte pricing. A la carte items are not available for charging.

Unpaid lunch charges roll over every year until paid. These unpaid fees could affect your child's ability to participate in extracurricular activities as they move on to middle and high school. Fee letters will be sent home monthly. If you have questions, please contact the cafeteria manager 910-353-0930 extension 10008.

MEDICATION

Onslow County Board of Education has in effect a policy for the administration of medications to students during the school day. Every effort should be made to give medications at home before or after school. Students who must take any type of prescription medication during the school day must have a completed "Permission for Prescribed Medication Form" (available in the school office) signed by both doctor and parent/guardian prior to the medication being dispensed. **Students may not transport medication to and from campus.** All medication is to be registered with the school nurse in an appropriately labeled container. School personnel are not allowed to dispense over-the-counter (OTC) medication to students without a doctor's prescription and completion of the proper form. The form can be found on the school website under nurse. See [OCS policy 6125](#).

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Onslow County Board of Education has adopted the following policy for all schools:

"A moment of silence shall be observed at the beginning of each day in all grades in the school system. The moment of silence may not exceed one minute in length, must be completely unstructured and free of influence from any source and no other activity shall be allowed during that time."

NEWSLETTERS/ E-NEWS/BLACKBOARD

School newsletters are sent home weekly to inform parents/guardians of events that will be taking place throughout the year. Emergency information and reminders are sent via Blackboard (an automated phone messaging, email, and text system) as needed. Therefore, it is critical our school has the most current and up to date phone numbers entered within PowerSchool by our data manager. Please contact the data manager at 910-353-0930, extension 10005, with all updates.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Parental participation throughout the school environment is necessary to achieve total school success. Parent participation shows support for the child and the school, helping the child to realize the importance of education. Morton Elementary would like to invite you to spend time each week as a SCHOOL VOLUNTEER. If you can devote some time to school volunteer work, please contact your child's teacher or call the school at 910-353-0930. To volunteer you must be fingerprinted and attend the volunteer orientation. After meeting these requirements, someone will contact you regarding a work schedule. When coming to school to volunteer, please be sure to report to the office and sign in.

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Morton Elementary has a parent-teacher organization that works hard to help the school in various projects. The school needs all parents to be active in this organization. The structure and time of meetings will be published at the beginning of the school year.

PROMOTION

Onslow County School System promotion standards ([Policy 3420](#)) are:
K-2 Promotion Requirements

- By the end of kindergarten and first grade, progress on the Onslow County School System K-2 Literacy and Math Assessment shall be considered for promotion to the next

grade.

- By the end of second grade, students will have acquired on-grade level proficiency as determined by the Onslow County School System K-2 Literacy and Math Assessments to be promoted to the next grade level.

3-8 Promotion Requirements

- Students in grades 3-8 shall perform at least at grade level as identified by the state end-of-grade tests, observations, grades, teacher-generated, locally generated, and state-generated assessments; work samples, portfolios and/or other factors in all areas of the curriculum.

§ 115C-288. Powers and duties of principal. (a) To Grade and Classify Pupils. – The principal shall have authority to grade and classify pupils.

SAFETY

1. Emergency Drills – As a part of our Safe School Plan, we will practice safety drills on a regular basis. It is important that you stress the importance of participating seriously in the drills so that your child will be better prepared for emergencies. Fire and emergency drills are held in accordance with state regulations. Additional safety drills, including lock down drills, will be practiced throughout the year as well.
2. Loading and Unloading Your Child at School – Students may be dropped off in car rider area where staff is assisting with car doors or parents/guardians may park in designated areas only to escort their student(s) to the drop off location. Students may not be dropped off in the parking lot on their own.

RECORDINGS

Any video, audio, or photographic recording in classrooms or other areas designated for student learning without prior consent from the teacher and/or school administration is strictly prohibited.

SCHOOL HOURS

The school day begins at **8:10 a.m.** Students who arrive to school after **8:30 a.m.** are considered tardy and must be checked into the office by a parent or guardian.

Dismissal for students is 3:30 p.m. (see also, Arrival, Dismissal & Early Release)

Students may not arrive before 8:10 AM as adult supervision is not available before that time.

STUDENT RECORDS

Pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), & the OC Board of Education, parents of students under 18 years of age have the right to inspect school records. Parents/Guardians that move to a new address, obtain a new work phone number, or obtain a new home telephone number should call the school and provide the office with their new demographic information. **It is important that all student information is kept up to date so parents can be contacted if necessary.**

Directory Information: Onslow County Board of Education classified the following as directory

information: name, school, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight, and height of members of athletic teams and degrees and awards received. School officials may release this information to any person without the consent of the parent or student. Any parent who objects to the release of any or all this information without consent must notify in writing the principal of the school where the records are kept within 30 days. The objection must state what information the parent or student does not want classified as directory information. If no objection is received within 30 days, the information will be classified as directory information until the beginning of the next school year.

TELEPHONE

Students are permitted to use the telephone only when there is a real need or in case of emergency. Missing homework or needed material does not constitute an emergency. The school will not be responsible for delivering phone messages to students.

TITLE IX STATEMENT

Onslow County Schools does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding Title IX: Title IX Coordinator, Onslow County Schools, 200 Broadhurst Road, Jacksonville, NC 28540, 910-455-2211.

VISITORS

All visitors and volunteers **must** check in at the school office. Upon check in, a visitor's badge will be issued that must be visibly worn at all times while on campus.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents/guardians, grandparents, etc. are encouraged to participate in the school program and their child's classroom. Participation shows support for the child and the school and helps the parent/guardian gain insight into the child's progress. In accordance with Onslow County School Policy, classroom volunteers and field trip chaperones **must be fingerprinted.** For additional information, call the school receptionist. Additional requirements may be needed due to COVID guidelines.

Volunteers can be utilized in several ways.

If you are interested in volunteering, we would appreciate your help. Please notify your child's teacher or the receptionist if you would like to participate in any of the following activities.

- Classroom (your child's or any other)
- Encore Classroom Assistant
- Fall Festival or other school event
- PTO/SLT team
- Library Assistant
- Office Assistant
- Cafeteria monitor
- Others TBD

Fingerprint schedule is posted on the Onslow County Schools website.

WITHDRAWALS

If you move during the school year, please notify the office of your new address. If you move anywhere that will require the transfer of your child from Morton Elementary, please notify the school at least five days prior to your child's last day. This will allow teachers to have ample time to compile your child's records and prepare them for transfer to his/her new school. You will be furnished a transfer slip which you should present to the new school.

Hearing Screening Notification Letter

Onslow County Schools provides mass hearing screenings to all preschool, kindergarten, and 1st graders. In addition, any student can receive a hearing screening with a verbal or written request from a teacher or parent.

Why is it important to have your child's hearing screened?

- Hearing is important for speech, language, reading and learning.
- A hearing screening can detect if your child needs further testing.
- Even if your child has passed a hearing screening previously, their hearing can change.
- Hearing loss is invisible and can go undetected.

A hearing screening is only a snapshot of how your child is performing and is not a substitute for a complete hearing evaluation.

If your child fails the screening, a rescreen and/or referral will be made. If your child passes the hearing screening, you may not be contacted.

If you do not want your child to be screened or if you have questions, please contact:

Katie Wegman, Au.D., CCC-A

Educational Audiologist











910-455-2211 x 20243

katie.wegman@onslow.k12.nc.us

| Teacher | Time In | Time Out | Recess | Encore | Intervention |
|--------------------|---------|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| First Grade Lunch | | | 1:40-2:10 | 9:45-10:30 | 11:35-12:35 |
| Matt | 10:50 | 11:20 | | | |
| Odum | 10:50 | 11:20 | | | |
| Rodriguez | 10:55 | 11:25 | | | |
| Silence | 10:55 | 11:25 | | | |
| Stayer | 11:00 | 11:30 | | | |
| Whitney | 11:00 | 11:30 | | | |
| Wollery | 11:00 | 11:30 | | | |
| Fourth Grade Lunch | | | 1:10-1:40 | 1:45-2:30 | 8:35-9:35 |
| Carter | 11:10 | 11:40 | | | |
| Chambers | 11:10 | 11:40 | | | |
| Clark | 11:15 | 11:45 | | | |
| Graham | 11:15 | 11:45 | | | |
| Henderson | 11:20 | 11:50 | | | |
| Fifth Grade Lunch | | | 12:15-12:45 | 2:35-3:20 | 1:00-2:00 |
| Lowry | 11:35 | 12:05 | | | |
| Robinson | 11:35 | 12:05 | | | |
| Moratalla | 11:40 | 12:10 | | | |
| Tyciak | 11:40 | 12:10 | | | |
| Wilson | 11:40 | 12:10 | | | |
| Second Grade Lunch | | | 12:40-1:10 | 8:50-9:35 | 2:15-3:15 |
| Blakey | 11:45 | 12:15 | | | |
| Curl | 11:45 | 12:15 | | | |
| Dickerson | 11:50 | 12:20 | | | |
| Kiehl | 11:50 | 12:20 | | | |
| O'Brien | 11:55 | 12:25 | | | |
| Sooy | 11:55 | 12:25 | | | |
| Kendall | 12:00 | 12:30 | | | |
| Third Grade Lunch | | | 11:35-12:05 | 12:55-1:40 | 10:30-11:30 |
| Centeno | 12:10 | 12:40 | | | |
| Bennett | 12:10 | 12:40 | | | |
| Dixon | 12:15 | 12:45 | | | |
| Girard | 12:15 | 12:45 | | | |
| Grant | 12:20 | 12:50 | | | |
| Taylor | 12:20 | 12:50 | | | |
| Kindergarten Lunch | | | 2:30-3:00 | 10:40-11:25 | 9:35-10:35 |
| Davis | 12:35 | 1:05 | | | |
| Molloy | 12:35 | 1:05 | | | |
| Scott | 12:40 | 1:10 | | | |
| Slaughter | 12:40 | 1:10 | | | |
| Vincent | 12:45 | 1:15 | | | |
| Slaggs | 12:45 | 1:15 | | | |



Morton Mustang Behavior Expectations

| |  Classroom |  Walk Way |  Bathroom |  Playground |  Cafeteria |  Bus |  Technology |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| Be Kind  | Respect yourself and others. | "Mustang Walk" (use quiet hands, quiet feet, quiet voices) | Take turns Allow for privacy. | RESPECT yourself, others, and equipment. Be a good sport. | Respect personal space. Use manners. | Respect the driver and others. | Treat the equipment with respect. |
| Be Safe  | Use self control. Listen and follow directions. | Single file line on the right side of the hallway or sidewalk. | Wash with soap and water. Enter and exit quietly. | Follow directions. Use equipment appropriately. | Stay seated. Walking feet. Use appropriate voices. | Seat to Seat Back to Back Feet to Floor Use quiet voice. | Use internet safety. |
| Be Responsible  | Be prepared for class. Use materials appropriately. | Walk directly to the correct location. | Keep the bathroom clean. | Stay alert and follow rules. Actively participate. | Clean up after yourself. Have your tag ready. Get all your food and utensils the first time. | Sit in assigned seat. Book bags on your lap. | Be where you should be, when you should be, and how you should be. |

**ELEMENTARY AND
OVS K-5**

Onslow County Schools

2023-2024 School Year Calendar

ELEMENTARY and OVS K-5 SCHOOL CALENDAR

**ELEMENTARY AND
OVS K-5**

| July 2023 | | | | |
|-----------|--------|----|----|----|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| 3 | 4 H | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 31 | | | | |

| August 2023 | | | | |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 W | 23 W | 24 W | 25 W |
| 28 * | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

| September 2023 | | | | |
|----------------|----|----------|---------|----|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | | | | 1 |
| 4 H | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 PD | 21 | 22 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 I | 29 |

| October 2023 | | | | |
|--------------|---------|----------|----|----|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 9 W | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 PD | 19 | 20 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30 | 31 G | | | |

| November 2023 | | | | |
|---------------|--------|----------|---------|---------|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 7 R | 8 | 9 | 10 H |
| 13 | 14 | 15 PD | 16 | 17 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 W | 23 H | 24 H |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

| December 2023 | | | | |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | | | | 1 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 I | 8 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 L | 20 L | 21 L | 22 L |
| 25 H | 26 H | 27 H | 28 L | 29 L |

| January 2024 | | | | |
|--------------|---------|----|----|---------|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| 1 H | 2 W | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15 H | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 G |
| 22 W | 23 W | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29 | 30 R | 31 | | |

| February 2024 | | | | |
|---------------|----|----------|----|----|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | | | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 PD | 15 | 16 |
| 19 W | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | |

| March 2024 | | | | |
|------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | | | | 1 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 PD | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25 L | 26 L | 27 L | 28 L | 29 H |

| April 2024 | | | | |
|------------|----|----------|---------|----|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| 1 W | 2 | 3 | 4 G | 5 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 PD | 11 R | 12 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29 W | 30 | | | |

| May 2024 | | | | |
|----------|----|--------|----|----|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 I | 9 | 10 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27 H | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| June 2024 | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| M | TU | W | TH | F |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | 11 G** | 12 W | 13 W | 14 W |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

Holiday (H) - No school for students and all staff.

Teacher Workday (W) - No school for students.

Leave Day (L) - No school for students and 10-month staff.

Professional Development Day [Prof Dev Day] (PD) - 3-hour early release for students with professional development for staff.

Elementary School -

Interim Reports - Sept 28, Dec 7, Feb 26, May 8

Grading Periods - Oct 31, Jan 19, Apr 4, June 11

Report Cards - Nov 7, Jan 30, Apr 11

| Legend | |
|--------|------------------------|
| * | First Day for Students |
| H | Holiday |
| W | Teacher Workday |
| L | Leave Day |
| PD | Prof Dev Day |
| E | Exams (High School) |
| ** | Last Day for Students |
| I | Interim Reports |
| G | End Grading Period |
| R | Report Cards |

Make-up days may be **Teacher Workdays** or **Leave Days**.

Additional make-up days to be determined as needed.

Approved by the OCS BOE - January 3, 2023