



Morse Elementary

(913) 239-6800

Principal Kim DeFries

SCHOOL HOURS: Grades K through 5 - 8:35 a.m. - 3:40 p.m.

<https://district.bluevalleyk12.org/schools/elementary/MOR/Pages/home.aspx>

REQUIRED FEES

Blue Valley Schools charges a variety of required fees. These include, but are not limited to:

Learning Resource fees (Elementary, Middle and High school)

Collected at a rate of \$100 per student, this fee is primarily used to purchase materials and supplies that support educational initiatives in the classroom.

Technology Supply fees (Elementary, Middle and High school)

Collected at a rate of \$15 per student, this fee is used for technology materials consumed during the school year and is non-refundable after the first day of school.

Fee-based programs

Blue Valley offers fee-based programs including peer model programs. Contact Julie Bolton at (913) 239-4331 for more information.

NOTE: While Blue Valley Schools receives the majority of its funding from the state of Kansas, the law allows school districts to charge back for certain expenses, including those listed above. District fees will be waived for students who qualify for free & reduced lunches, except for high school level course fees. Payment plans are also available for families who do not qualify for free & reduced lunches. Please contact your school's bookkeeper for more information.

SCHOOL ABSENCES

To report an absence please call the absence line at 913- 239-6805 or visit the Morse website at <https://district.bluevalleyk12.org/Schools/Elementary/MOR/Pages/Report-an-Absence.aspx>

SCHOOL PICK-UP

Carpool line: The car pick-up line can be overwhelming, so come prepared. The line usually

begins forming around 3 pm. The principal will come through the line and enter the number from your yellow tag to page your child from his/her classroom. To enter the carpool line, please remember to enter the parking lot from the south entrance. PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL SHEET FOR FURTHER CARPOOL INSTRUCTIONS AND MAP for flow of traffic. Bus/Daycare Van: The teachers will assist in loading the buses for dismissal.

Walk-up pick-up: Please avoid this at this time - currently parents are still not allowed to enter the school building and we would like to limit the number of people congregating near the entrances as much as possible to reduce the risk of potential spread of coronavirus. When picking up your child during school hours, please ensure that you have your ID to show the office staff in order to sign out your child.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

Join Morse PTO to help support our school and teachers! <http://www.morsepto.com/> We are also on Facebook! And be sure to check out our PTO bulletin board in the front entryway of the school. Some of the many events that Morse PTO sponsors include Father-Daughter Dance, Mother-Son Night, Book Fair, Trivia Night, and Morse Fun Run/Carnival. PLEASE SEE MORSE PTO HANDOUT FOR WAYS YOU CAN HELP and our Signup Genius linked on the website.

OTHER HELPFUL HINTS:

- As of now, Fall 2021, parents will not be entering the school. Pickups and forgotten items will be facilitated through the intercom system with the office staff. Once we are allowed to enter the building again the policy will be as follows: Visitors must enter through the office, show a valid government issued ID (ie. driver's license) and sign-in (where you will get a visitor sticker.) Visitors need to inform the office administrators of the reason for the visit and/or the office administrators will facilitate getting your child to the office. (ie. Picking up your child early, dropping off forgotten lunch/homework.) **PLEASE DO NOT GO INTO THE SCHOOL WITHOUT CHECKING IN AT THE OFFICE.**
- All doors to the school are locked after school starts to facilitate safety for staff and students. The intercom system allows contact with the office staff. Please show a valid ID and inform them of the reason you are there. They will then facilitate late dropoff/early pickup or getting forgotten supplies to your child.
- Please refer to the Nut-Safer Approved Snack List on the Morse website for ALL snacks, birthday and party treats. NO HOMEMADE TREATS ARE ALLOWED.
- Lunch visits are not currently allowed, but when they are allowed again, if you will be having lunch with your child, please sign-in at the office and wait in the front lobby area for your child's class to proceed to the cafeteria. Do not go back into the classroom.

**STUDENT CENTERED AND COMMUNITY STRONG...WE ARE MORSE
IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A MARKSMAN!**

4 WAYS TO MAKE MORSE AMAZING

<http://www.morsepto.com>

1. Become a Morse PTO Member:

By simply becoming a member of the Morse PTO, you support our efforts to do good things for our kids.

2. Accept the 2-Hour Volunteer Challenge:

With opportunities to fit everyone's schedule, we encourage you to volunteer for just 2 hours over the course of the school year.

3. Contribute to *Take Stock in Morse*:

Morse PTO does not ask students to fundraise. Instead, we ask you to fulfill staff grant requests, this allows 100% of your money to go directly back into the classroom.

4. Donate and attend our fundraisers and special events:

Plan to donate items and/or experiences to our fundraisers. Then, be sure to attend our events--you'll have a great time and meet other Morse parents.

Volunteer Myths Busted!!!

Myth: *PTO is just for stay-at-home moms.*

FACT: **PTO is for everyone.** Our volunteers are moms, dads, grandparents and other caregivers who come from all different life circumstances and seasons.

Myth: *PTO has all the help they need.*

FACT: **We need volunteers all year long.** We need help with special events, fundraisers, monthly jobs, one-time tasks and many others. The bottom line is **we need you.**

Myth: *Volunteering for the PTO takes too much time.*

FACT: **Only YOU can decide how much time you can give.** Even if you can help at just one event or handle one task per year, it would be greatly appreciated.

Myth: *PTO volunteers need to be at the school during the day.*

FACT: **Much of the PTO work can be done on your own schedule from home, in the evening or on weekends.** Yes, there is some volunteering during the school day. But no one does it all, so choose what works best for you.

Myth: *PTO has the same volunteers every year and everyone knows each other.* **FACT:** **We welcome and absolutely need new volunteers every year.**

Yes, we are fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who return each year, but there are plenty of new faces and volunteering is a great way to meet other Morse parents.

Carpool Procedures

Enter the carpool line by heading NORTH on Monrovia and turning right into the first entrance to the parking lot. There is a NO LEFT TURN sign with specific hours posted as you head south on Monrovia. If you come from this direction, you will loop through the neighborhood to join the carpool line from south of the school.

- When dropping off or picking up, please pull up as far as possible. This means you may wind up at the top of the circle drive. This allows us to unload or load more students at a time.
- Only unload or load students on the curbside of your vehicle.
- Please use extreme caution when pulling out from the carpool line. Watch out for students in the crosswalk as well as other moving cars.
- If you feel your child needs extra help getting in and out of the car, park in the parking lot and walk them to/from your car. It holds up the carpool line if we have parents getting out and walking around the car to help children in and out of cars. There are teachers outside that can assist if needed.
- If you choose to park on side streets, walk your child across all streets and use the crosswalk at the top of the circle drive. Please note the NO PARKING signs on Monrovia and 152nd Street.
- STUDENT DROP OFF TIME IS 8:20 – if you need to drop them off earlier than 8:20, please contact Y-club for child care arrangements. After 8:20, students may enter the building and will be supervised inside until 8:25, when they will be dismissed to class. School begins at 8:35 am. If you arrive after that, please walk your student in the office to sign them in.
- All students, including kindergartners, should use the carpool line. Do not use the bus circle for drop off. The bus circle must be kept clear at all times. It is only for bus use, no car drop off please.
- Please pick students up on time; school is dismissed at 3:40.
- After school pick up: Please remind your child to be looking for you after school; students can get pre-occupied and not see you. Hang your yellow number tag on your rearview mirror, it will be entered into the system to page your child from his/her

classroom. Please do not exit your vehicle and walk up with your tag. If you are picking up your child early, remember that you will need to show id when signing him/her out.

We appreciate your cooperation in making the carpool safe and efficient for everyone.

