



Morningside Academy

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How to Celebrate Your Child's Daily Accomplishments

When is a good time to review the Daily Support Card?

Please find a quiet time when you can spend a few minutes reviewing your child's day. To make the most out of the Summer School program, review the Support Card every day.

Often students are eager to show off their day upon being dismissed. When they jump in the car, this is not the time for review! You want to sit without distractions and look at the Kind of Day and comment on all the credit (points) earned.

How do I make sense of what's on the Support Card?

We offer several sessions for families during the first two weeks of Summer School. We provide an overview of the Morningside Model of Generative Instruction and explain the Daily Support Card.

During the course of the day, a teacher begins the section of the lesson by explaining what is expected. As our students meet the expectations, the teacher writes tally marks on the Support Card with a purple pen. Our Support Card is a place to record feedback that tells the students they are working as we'd wish. If something needs improvement, that too, will be noted in the **Remarks** column.

Why is a symbol circled at the top of each category?

Teachers set the Aim and students earn the tally marks while the lesson is taught. At the end of the session, the teacher meets with the student and reviews the day's progress. The symbol, an Equal sign, a Check, or a Minus, represents how well the child met the day's expectations in each of the categories: Academics, Learning Skills, Organization, and Citizenship. The ✓ means it was a good day. Almost all possible points were earned. The = (equal) means everything went well. The - (minus) symbol means a change needs to be made. The circled symbol represents the Kind of Day across each of the categories. Look down the column that says Aim and compare the Aim to the tally marks.

How do I comment on the Kind of Day?

Focus on the positive: spend more time talking about points earned than those not earned. Look at the positive comments in the remarks column and read them aloud with your child. If a point is not earned, have a conversation about how tomorrow can be a better day. We all try to take a problem solving approach.

How do I contact my child's teacher?

The teacher's email address is at the top of the Support Card. You may copy our principal, Joanne Robbins, on your email: joanne@morningsideacademy.org You can also leave a note at the Front Desk.

How do I show my child that I value the Daily Support Card?

- Keep a notebook
- Post exceptional Support Cards on your refrigerator
- Talk about the Support Card when the focus is only the Support Card.
- Create a Menu of ways to celebrate. Look at the attached list with your child and select 3 or 4 choices that can be made on any day when all or most points are earned.

Celebrate when your child meets a goal. Goals can be based upon improvement in terms of number of "equals" per day or based upon a particular category on the Support Card. A long list of celebration choices generated from our families is below. We recommend activity-based celebrations. We do not want students to work for costly presents.

In general, we suggest that you

- Spend extra time with your child on something of his/her choice (reading an extra bedtime story, playing a board game, watching a cartoon together, share an internet activity)
- Allow your child to do something of choice for additional time (extra access to internet, more time for bike riding)
- Let your child participate in simple activities usually reserved for special occasions (helping with dinner, selecting menu items, getting a ride to visit a friend)

Ask your child for ideas regarding ways to celebrate the daily accomplishments. After you settle on a few ideas, create a short menu and allow your child to pick one way to celebrate that day.

Create your own menu – here are some suggestions from our families:

1. Go to Seattle Center fountain after school
2. Visit Tesla showroom after school
3. Go to Guitar Center after school
4. 10 minutes of extra TV/screen time
5. Choose the main course for dinner
6. Take an extra 5 minutes in the shower
7. Have a parent's time to yourself
8. Sleep in ten minutes extra in the AM
9. Extra 15 minutes at community center
10. Extra minutes of play with a friend
11. Extra reading time with a book or magazine of my choice
12. Extra minutes of outside play time
13. Select the cereal from the cereal aisle
14. Play a table game
15. Go out for breakfast
16. Go out for lunch
17. Go out for ice cream
18. Take a trip to the library
19. Time to yourself with no interruptions
20. Trip to skateboard park
21. One-on-one basketball time with parent
22. Take a bath instead of a shower
23. Go biking with a parent/guardian