

Morningside Academy

Student and Family Handbook 2021-2022

901 Lenora Street
Seattle, WA 98121
Phone: (206) 709-9500

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Morningside Academy e-mail addresses are the person's first name, followed by @morningsideacademy.org.

Administration & Staff

Andrew Kieta, Associate Director
Blue Lazarou, Director of Development
Jen Provenzano, Director of Operations
Joanne Robbins Ph.D., Principal & Associate Director
Julian Gire, School Psychologist & Vice Principal
Julianne Campbell, Administrative Coordinator
Kent Johnson Ph.D., Founding and Executive Director
Martha Staff, Director of Admissions
Robert Denton, Director of Technology
Stacy Harman, Accounting (accounting@)
Tim Smith, Facilities Manager & Morningside Press

Faculty

Adam Stretz, Faculty
Bailee Scheuffele, Faculty
Geoff Martin, Faculty
Hanna Bernhard, Faculty
Hannah Jenkins, Faculty
Jessica Turnansky, Faculty
Kaili Sandico, Faculty
Leah Herzog, Faculty
Nicole Erickson, Faculty
Paul Conrad, Art Faculty
Restita DeJesus, Physical Education Faculty
Ryan Gillispie, Faculty and Assessments
Shiloh Isbell, Faculty

Who to Contact ...

When your child will be late or absent Julianne Campbell Please call the Front Desk before school (206) 709-9500 or email absent@morningsideacademy.org

If you will be late for pick up at dismissal Jen Provenzano Please call the Front Desk (206) 709-9500

If you need to pick up your child early Jen Provenzano Please call the Front Desk before school (206) 709-9500 or email jen@morningsideacademy.org

When you or your child has a concern or question Your child's teacher, copy Joanne & Julian Teacher's email appears on the Daily Support Card – firstname@morningsideacademy.org

With questions about your child's Daily Support Card Your child's teacher, copy Joanne & Julian joanne@morningsideacademy.org julian@morningsideacademy.org

With questions about your bill Stacy Harman accountant@morningsideacademy.org

For the Extended Day programs Jen Provenzano jen@morningsideacademy.org

About the results of assessment Julian Gire julian@morningsideacademy.org

For student transcripts and records requests Julian Gire julian@morningsideacademy.org

With questions about field trips or events Jen Provenzano jen@morningsideacademy.org

To get involved with FOMA (Friends of Morningside) Jen Provenzano jen@morningsideacademy.org

To volunteer or get involved with the Gala/Auction Blue Lazarou blue@morningsideacademy.org

Schedule my child's speech therapy, etc.

We recommend scheduling on Wednesdays after early dismissal.
Contact Julian for other scheduling suggestions

About Morningside

Dr. Kent Johnson founded Morningside Academy in Seattle in 1980. Morningside has two programs: a school for children and youth, and Morningside Teachers' Academy that disseminates the Morningside Model of Generative Instruction in schools and learning centers nationally and internationally.

Morningside Academy helps students catch up and get ahead. Many of our students have not previously reached their potential; some may have learning disabilities or ADD/ADHD diagnoses; all have average to well above average intelligence. Many other students who do not have learning or attention problems and who are not behind in school attend Morningside to sharpen their basic skills and develop the necessary foundations to become high performers in school. Upon completing the program, students return to public and private schools without the need for extra educational support.

Academic Year Program

The academic year program is for students in grades 2-9. Students are divided among Foundations and Middle School programs. The Foundations program offers a full day of foundation skills: reading, writing, math, thinking, reasoning and problem solving skills, and psychology. Students enrolled in the Middle School program typically enroll for three years of middle school. Their program consists of foundation skills as well as learning how to succeed in content courses. Art and martial arts/physical education are also part of the weekly schedule.

Extended Day

After school offerings may include computer coding, drama, music, Rubik's Cubing, sailing at the Center for Wooden Boats, art, and outdoor games. Students may sign up for only one day per week or they may choose to participate in a variety of programs. The costs for the extended day program will be paid directly to Morningside Academy.

Summer School

We offer a 4-week summer program in reading, writing, and mathematics and study skills. For new full year students, Summer School functions like an Orientation. Full year students often continue in summer and focus on their skill of greatest deficit.

What to bring to school:

- Wear a mask
- Labeled water bottle
- Personal toys or books for after lunch. No electronics.
- A packaged lunch - one that doesn't require heating in a microwave to reduce touched surfaces
- We provide all notebooks, pencils, etc.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

Before entry to school

- A face mask is required at all times, from getting out of the car to leaving the school.
- Parent/guardian may not leave until Morningside has taken student's temperature and no high temperature is found. Student is sent home if 100.4 or higher.

Drop-off and pick-up procedures at Morningside are designed to ensure each student's safety. Students of all ages exit and enter vehicles from the curbside. If the drop off spot is across the street, parents and guardians should supervise the walk to the corner for safe crossing. **Students are required to use designated crosswalks.**

In the morning, our doors will open at 8:40 a.m. and school begins at 8:55 a.m.

- Students who arrive by car before 8:40 must wait in the car, not on the sidewalk.
- Students who travel by public transportation may stand beside the Lenora Street door if they arrive before 8:40. We will continue with 6' physical distancing and use marked waiting spots.

We want students to arrive calm and ready to work each morning. We can make suggestions about the ride to school. We encourage carpools if this can be safely managed.

School ends at 3:40 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

School ends at 2:40 p.m. on Wednesday for faculty seminar.

If your student will leave school without adult supervision (to take the bus, walk, etc.) we require a signed transportation plan on file. We appreciate a telephone call in advance of dismissal if something varies from the routine.

Progress Monitoring

Students typically are assessed with standardized tests at the beginning and end of each academic year. Pretesting is completed in the fall during the first 8 days of school to determine where students are performing academically, and then students will be placed in the appropriate curriculum. Additional testing is administered weekly, monthly, and bimonthly to assess progress and ensure that the placement is best serving the student. Post testing is administered at the end of the school year, during the last three weeks to measure the students' overall growth over the school year.

Conferences

We will hold Parent/Guardian/Teacher/Student conferences three times throughout the year: Fall, Winter, and Spring. Student attendance is required and they often take the leadership role. During these conferences, we will review your child's performance and progress in their coursework, and will establish reasonable goals and plans to achieve them.

Daily Support Cards

Your student will receive a Daily Support Card, which must be valued by parents, guardians and students. Success at Morningside Academy requires a conversation about accomplishments each day. We have included additional information about the Daily Support Card at the end of this handbook. This Support Card summarizes student performance in these areas: Academics, Learning Skills, Organization, and Citizenship. Orientation to the Daily Support Card will be led by each child's Advocate once academic classes begin.

Progress is indicated when the student meets expectations across those four categories. Acknowledgement at home needs to come in a positive, brief and focused period of time. If points are not earned, families take a problem solving approach. If points are not earned repeatedly, a meeting to design interventions will be scheduled with student, family, teacher and administrator. These are not punitive sessions; they are problem solving sessions.

To view a video and PowerPoint presentation about how our Daily Support Card is used, visit our website at: <http://www.morningsideacademy.org/academics/the-daily-support-card/> More information about the Daily Support Card [here](#).

Advocate Responsibilities

Each faculty member serves as an Advocate for a group of Morningside students. An Advocate is the Reading/Language Art teacher who:

- Looks out for the welfare and best interest of the student
- Monitors progress and changing needs of the student
- Communicates with other faculty and staff about the student
- Assists students with social needs
- Guides partnering during free time/recess opportunities
- Conducts Daily Support Card training for parents/guardians of Reading/LA students

Classroom Management

Managing classroom behavior is the teacher's responsibility. If a student engages in disturbing behavior, the teacher may design an individual plan for that student. Morningside is not a school for children with significant emotional and social problems. We have many ways to motivate and incentivize engagement with instruction and becoming a valued member of the community.

Lunch

Students will sit 6 ft. apart. Masks are removed during lunch and replaced upon finishing. Each student must bring a lunch or may order from the vendor's school menu. Students are expected to use the same learning skills, organization, and good citizenship that they use in the classroom. Students should follow directions of the lunch supervisors, and stay in their seats until they are dismissed. After they are finished eating, students clean up their lunch area and dispose of any trash, compost, and recyclables in the proper receptacles. Students are expected to be respectful of others during the lunch period, and to use their good manners. We may make seating suggestions to facilitate friendships.

Breaks and Snacks

Throughout the day teachers will offer breaks to the students. Playing games at home like UNO, Mastermind, and Guess Who can familiarize your student with some of the games available during break. If your student has suggestions for other games, please encourage those ideas to be shared. You may pack a healthy morning and afternoon snack for your child to eat during these times. Please do not send energy drinks to school. We have a “no sharing” policy unless a planned party is scheduled. All of our routines, including lunch, are will take a different form since we need to abide by physical distancing.

Recess

Recess is held at Denny Playfield, Denny Park or the Urban Triangle Park. Recess is designed to be a fun, active time. We encourage everyone to get exercise and go outside for Recess, Students have a choice of organized games such as basketball, soccer, kickball, and Capture the Flag. Having a conversation or watching the games are also options. We do offer indoor recess as well.

Homework

The work to be completed through the course of the day happens with the teachers’ guidance and supervision. Our philosophy about homework is that homework is another skill to learn. We do not send students off to do homework until we teach students how to do homework.

Public Health Safety in the Building

Safety is Morningside’s #1 priority for our students, faculty, staff, and our visitors. This is critical during this time of public health concerns as we attend to the reduction of the spread of COVID-19. We have many building procedures in place for everyone’s safety, subject to change as we monitor the CDC and local health mandates.

No one should come to the building if experiencing flu-like symptoms, including but not limited to:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache

- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Students showing signs of illness must stay home until the symptoms have subsided, and a negative COVID-19 test will be required to return to campus.

When entering the Morningside Academy building:

- Temperature checks are required at entry. If a person has a fever of 100.4 or above, we require them to exit the building
- Masks are required
- Regular hand-washing schedules and assigned restrooms to reduce potential exposure are in place
- Regular sanitizing schedules are in place
- Supplies assigned and labeled for each individual

Classroom and Sanitizing

- Students will remain physically distanced from their fellow students in the classroom, taking restroom breaks to the assigned Pod restroom, and handwashing/hand sanitizing afterward.
- Students should bring labeled water bottles. We'll have backup plastic water bottles if they need more.
- Students will have their own labeled pencil cases and cubbies to store their books and supplies in the classroom.
- Our custodial team cleans nightly and weekly the high-touch areas in the building. Classroom assistants wipe down tables, chairs, and materials after the morning students vacate, and again once the afternoon students leave.

Keeping Healthy

Morningside will conduct weekly COVID-19 screening. Diagnostic testing will be available when applicable. Cloth face masks are required of everyone entering Morningside Academy. We require all Morningside employees and eligible students (currently 12+) to get vaccinated against COVID-19. All adult visitors must be fully vaccinated as well.

If your child or anyone in their household exhibits COVID-19-like symptoms, they are required to stay home. They should not attend school. To ensure everyone's safety and wellbeing, and to ensure classes continue to run in full, we ask that these instances and ailments are reported in an honest and timely manner to absent@morningsideacademy.org.

If there is a positive Covid-19 test

Under CDC guidance:

If a student shows COVID-19 symptoms while at Morningside, that student will be isolated with a school monitor with appropriate physical distance from others. They will be administered a COVID-19 rapid antigen test by a trained staff member, and based on those results possibly a diagnostic PCR test (see next section re: opt-out options). The student in question is to go home immediately regardless of test results.

If a student tests positive they will be required to quarantine for 14 days, at the end of which, show a negative COVID-19 test result to return to campus.

If there's a positive confirmed case, a general email will go out to all families and employees. In this event, all families of close contacts will be notified, but for sake of privacy the student in question will not be identified.

“Close contact” is defined as individuals who were in the same area and were within 3 feet, or less, for more than 15 minutes of another individual who tested positive for COVID-19.

If your child was in close contact, families will receive a *separate email on immediate COVID-19 test requirements specifying whether they were in the close contact group, or in the classroom where the positive case was reported.*

The CDC procedure we follow requires individuals in close contact of a person testing positive for COVID-19 to remain home for 3-5 days, and at the end of which show a negative COVID-19 PCR test even if fully vaccinated and regardless of showing symptoms.

If a student tests positive, those other students who were not in close contact are encouraged to get a COVID-19 test but not required.

COVID-19 Testing and Screening at Morningside

Morningside has partnered with the Department of Health and the Health Commons Project through an organization called Learn to Return. We will be conducting COVID-19 screenings at Morningside for all students, faculty, and staff regardless of vaccine status.

If you wish to have your child opt-out of these screenings or any COVID-19 testing at Morningside you may contact our Vice Principal, Julian Gire (julian@morningsideacademy.org). However, you will still be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 status each week at your own expense.

Based on the recommendations received from Learn to Return, Morningside will be screening with a rapid antigen test. If an individual tests positive with the antigen test they will be administered a PCR diagnostic test. This test sample will be sent to a lab and the results will be available within 48-72 hours. The individual in question must stay home until the results of the diagnostic test are available. If the diagnostic test comes back positive, Morningside will follow the procedures listed in the previous section.

Birthdays

We like to celebrate everyone's birthday with song and good wishes. Birthdays can be celebrated with individually wrapped treats to share within a class; most likely the class will go outside to have a snack this year. Celebrating is optional, of course. Some children have allergies to wheat, peanuts and food coloring.

Medication

Please notify us of any prescription and/or nonprescription medication your child's needs to take on a daily basis. We will keep a supply at the Front Desk and administer it as directed. Additionally, if your student has any medication that must be taken occasionally, please notify us and submit a supply to the Front Desk. We will need a separate, completed *Instruction for Medication* form on file for each medication your student takes at Morningside.

All student medication must be in an original prescription container, and must include the student's name, medication name and strength, amount and frequency with which the medication is to be given. Families are responsible for providing refills of their child's medication in a timely manner.

We understand that unexpected health problems will occur, so the Front Desk keeps a small supply of pain relievers and antacids. In addition, we have ice packs, bandages, and a fully stocked first aid kit. Before we can give your student any medication, we must have a signed medical consent form on file.

We have an isolation tent in the event that a student has a fever or other symptoms during this period of the epidemic.

Immunization:

We require that we have each student's current immunization records on file by the start of school on day one. We require all applicable students to be vaccinated against Covid-19, age currently 12+. As of August 1, 2020, The State Board of Health (SBOH) has approved changes to Chapter 246-105 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) concerning school and child care immunization policy. These rules apply to all public and private schools and licensed child care centers in Washington State. The update to Chapter 246-105 WAC has three major focuses:

- It now requires medically verified immunization records for school
- It clarifies conditional status in regards to school and child care immunization requirements and implementation.
- It changes the Tdap immunization requirement to 7th through 12th grades.

Please visit www.doh.wa.gov for more information.

Attendance

We have a strict attendance policy at Morningside because classroom time is extremely valuable. We keep track of the class time that your student misses including late arrivals and early dismissals. This attendance record will be reported in the Parent/Guardian/Student/Teacher conferences. Class begins promptly at 8:55 a.m.

If a student will be late or needs to leave class early, please notify the Front Desk or absent@morningsideacademy.org.

Weather and Emergency-Related Closures

We will notify families in the event of full school closures if there is a Covid-19 related closure, or weather closure. These notifications will come by email and posted on our website. In the event of inclement weather, please tune in to local television and radio stations for school closure. We follow the Seattle Public School system. For example, if the Seattle Public Schools open two hours late, we open two hours late; if the Seattle Public Schools close for the day, we close for the day.

Emergencies

We are prepared for a disaster in case of an earthquake, fire, flood, or any other situation. We hold emergency drills throughout the school year to ensure the safety of the students. Morningside Academy has a disaster plan posted outside of each classroom and throughout the building. We have an intercom system that allows us to communicate throughout the school. Students practice fire drills, earthquake drills, and lockdown procedures with their teachers monthly.

Earthquake Procedures

If we are indoors we take cover under the desk or table and hold onto the table with one hand. We turn away from windows, and stay under shelter until the shaking stops. If we are outdoors, we lie down or crouch low to the ground away from any buildings, and look around to be aware of dangers that demand movement.

Fire Procedures

Fire drills are scheduled on a regular basis throughout the school year. The directions for evacuation are posted throughout the building. All exits are labeled. In the event of a fire emergency students evacuate the building through their assigned exit and meet with their designated faculty member. Each class has an assigned meeting place at least 50 feet from the school building. Teachers must account for all students.

Disaster Preparedness Kits

Morningside Academy requests that all students have a Disaster Preparedness Kit that will be stored with us. This is a precautionary measure in case there is an emergency situation during school hours. Disaster kits can either be made or purchased and should include the following in a gallon-sized Ziploc bag: nutrition bars, tissues, list of phone numbers, poncho, emergency/ survival blanket, flashlight, and a body warmer. We will send a reminder prior to onsite learning.

Social Climate Issues

Reporting at School and at Home

If your child reports a disturbing social interaction, we encourage you to remind your child of the process listed here. This is reviewed in each of our classes:

- First, the student needs to report to the teacher who is responsible for the group at the time of the occurrence.
- Students should go to the closest available teacher or go to the Front Desk and ask for Julian, our School Psychologist and Vice Principal or Joanne, our Principal.

At each point in our process, the person to whom you are reporting will ask you if you have asked the person in charge for assistance. For example, if something troubling happens at Lunch and you return to your Math teacher with a report, your Math teacher will ask you what happened when you reported the problem to a Lunch Supervisor.

Recognizing Good Citizenship

There are many ways that we build our social community at Morningside Academy.

Good citizens:

- Give genuine positive strokes often
- Welcome and include everyone
- Are allies if they hear or see unkind or hurtful transactions or biased or prejudicial or racist comments
- Report disturbances immediately in a genuine way to an adult at Morningside

Respect for Our School Community

All students are responsible for respecting the personal dignity and worth of each person in our Morningside Academy community. We expect respect from faculty, staff, and from students, between faculty, between students, and of course, between faculty and student.

We show respect for each other in what we say, and how we say it.

Continual verbal or written comments that are negative or threatening could be harmful to a person or make them feel unwanted or in danger at our school. This kind of behavior is not allowed.

Students will learn to respect the personal space of all others and must not become physical in any way. Pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking or pulling on another person are examples of being physical with another person. Students are not allowed to be physical with other students even if it is considered *joking around*. This makes our school safer for everyone. COVID policies require physical distance between students. We need to maintain space for health reasons as well.

Policy on Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sexual discrimination. It is the policy of Morningside Academy to provide a learning and working environment based on respect for students, employees, and visitors. Sexual harassment by any person, male or female, which creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment will not be tolerated.

Consequences will vary based upon the particular conditions.

Any person who believes that they have been a victim of or has knowledge of conduct which may constitute sexual harassment should report it to the principal, any faculty or staff members, and can expect support from these persons.

It is important for parents and guardians, faculty and staff, as well as students, to raise our awareness of what constitutes sexual harassment and to understand that what may be considered horseplay in elementary school, becomes much more serious in middle school.

Definition

Sexual harassment is behavior that is directed at people because of their gender (either boy or girl) or is sexual. Sexual harassment makes people feel embarrassed, uncomfortable or upset.

Sexual harassment is not just touching or name-calling. It can be verbal, physical, non-physical or visual in nature. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Verbal harassment and/or abuse of a sexual nature
- Subtle pressure for sexual activity or requests for sexual favors
- Unwelcome sexual advances
- Inappropriate patting or pinching
- Pantsing

- Intentional brushing against a student's body
 - Any sexually motivated unwelcome touching
 - Obscene gestures
 - Excessive flirting
 - Leering
 - Comments about a person's body or physical appearance
 - Repeated requests for dates
 - Crude or dirty jokes
 - Gossip
 - Sexual pictures or graffiti

Whether or not a perpetrator's conduct is considered harassment depends upon how the person to whom the conduct is directed and/or the people standing nearby, feel about what was said or done, and *not* upon whether the harasser intended to hurt or bother anyone. People can wrongly harass others of the same sex or the opposite sex.

Reporting Procedures

If another student or an adult in school harasses a student, the student should tell the person who is doing it to stop and that it bothers them.

If a student feels uncomfortable telling the person to stop, the student should come forward to ask for help immediately because harassment is wrong and it can be stopped. The school knows how to protect and help students. The school is committed to supporting the students if there is ever a problem.

The administrators at school may talk to a student's parents or guardians and make sure that the student feels safe and protected. They will try to keep the matter as quiet as possible and will make every effort to see that no one bothers or threatens any student for telling someone at the school about harassment.

Reprisal

The school will make every effort to ensure that no student is subject to any form of retaliation or discipline for making a complaint or helping out with an investigation of a complaint.

Weapons Policy

Students and non-students, including all adults and visitors, shall not possess, use or distribute a weapon when in a school location. We will take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school employee, or volunteer who violates this policy.

Play weapons are not allowed at Morningside Academy, not even with a costume.

Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Cameras

Cell phones are not to be used during school for music streaming, watching videos, etc. Cameras are not to be used because some children are not to be photographed. We collect the phones at the beginning of each school day.

The phone must remain off from the start of school in the morning until after dismissal. Teachers will collect the phones first thing in the morning and return them at Checkout. Phones will always be available in case of emergency.

If you need to contact your student during school hours, please call Julianne at the Front Desk (206-709-9500) and we will have the student come to the desk to receive your call. Please do not call or text your child's cell phone during the school day.

We urge parents and guardians to monitor students' cell phone use at home, including social media.

Computer Use

Each student is supplied their own password to access particular programs. It is their responsibility to keep their password private and not share it with other students. If they forget their password, they can ask their teacher. The Internet is for *school-related use only*. It is not for personal use.

We urge parents and guardians to monitor students' online use at home, including social media.

Dress Code

Although we do not have a formal dress code, we expect students to dress appropriately for a school setting. Occasionally we will talk privately with a student about what is appropriate if the need arises. We request that students do not wear perfume, cologne, or other body fragrances.

Single Occupancy Bathrooms

All restrooms have been updated to single-use.

Friends of Morningside Academy (FOMA)

Friends of Morningside Academy (FOMA) is our parent and guardian organization. FOMA helps us strengthen our community. FOMA sponsors family events such as our family dance in the spring. FOMA members also serve as room parents, party planners, and volunteers for our Gala/Auction.

Student Leadership

Volunteers from each classroom participate in the Student Ambassador leadership program. When student visitors come to Morningside, the ambassador serves as a partner and host. Student leaders may also serve as event planners for activities such as field trips and the school dance.

Field Trips

Throughout the school year, we typically offer students several opportunities to go on field trips. Students may offer input on where we might go on field trips. Our annual trips have included a trip to the mountains for tubing, skiing or snowboarding and the end of year trip to Wild Waves. We also visit local spots such as the Urban Rest Stop, The Seattle Braille Library, and Mad Art, Individual classes may go to a bookstore together, to an exhibit at PATH Seattle, or KEXP. Prior to a trip we send home permission slips with the details as well as any information regarding cost. Sometimes we will seek parent and guardian volunteers to chaperone these events. The pandemic will certainly alter our typical plans.

Field trips serve an important function at Morningside. Because our students work hard throughout their day, the trips are a way for friendships to build, and for bonds to form within the classroom group between students and teacher, and between classrooms to create a strong school spirit. Some of our trips are scheduled as celebrations of accomplishments. For example, your student's writing class may walk to the Seattle Center to celebrate the goal of having mastered several types of writing genres in a set period of time. We expect all of our students to participate in field trips. Scholarships are available for any field trip costs.

Lost and Found

There is a box at the Front Desk for lost and found items. Please be sure to regularly peruse this for personal items that may have been misplaced. Twice per year any unclaimed items will be donated.

The End of the Day: How to Celebrate Your Child's Daily Accomplishments

Learn how to read the Daily Support Card. Focus on the positive. If expectations are not met, have a conversation about how tomorrow can be a better day. We take a problem solving approach.

Communicate with your child's teacher. Ask the teacher if there is anything more that you can do to support your child's effort. We welcome communication.

Show your child that you value the Daily Support Card:

Celebrate when your child meets a goal.

- 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, sharing an internet activity)
- Let your child participate in simple activities usually reserved for special occasions (helping with dinner, selecting menu items, getting a ride to safely visit a friend)

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 comment on the Kind of Day on the Daily Support Card? 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 morning teacher's email address is at the top of the Support Card. Others are first name@morningsideacademy.org. Include our principal, Joanne Robbins and our Vice Principal, Julian Gire if you like. You can also leave a message 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.

Ways to Celebrate

We do not want students to work for costly presents. In general, we suggest that you discuss activities that are typically reserved for vacations or when you have extra time. Since there is no homework (until your child has learned how to complete homework independently), that homework time is no longer part of "family time."

- Spend extra time with your child on something of his/her choice: playing a board game, watching Youtube together, share an internet activity, read an extra bedtime story, movie and popcorn
- Allow your child to do something of choice for additional time (extra access to play or socializing, 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)

After you settle on a few ideas, create a short menu and allow your child to pick one way to celebrate that day.

Transcripts, Records and Applications for Transitioning

Please submit your requests for transcripts in writing to Julian, our School Psychologist and Vice Principal. He will distribute any necessary forms to the appropriate faculty members. Please do not give the forms to your child's teacher or other administrators. We will send completed paperwork to the schools you specify. Please note that it can take up to 10 business days for the processing of these forms, so please plan accordingly and submit to Julian at least two weeks in advance.