



MORTON
UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

May 20, 2022

Morton District 709 Weekly Update

The end of this school year is fast approaching and we continue to hit our marks across the board.



We gave our Morton High seniors a proper sendoff this past Saturday, handing out 246 diplomas. We also extended our thanks for all they have done to make this year such a triumph, as well as our “good luck” to them as they pursue college and careers. We cannot say enough about the Class of 2022 and all they have endured, though we trust the experience will serve them well as they confront the inevitable challenges of the future.

Meanwhile, we also will be saying goodbye to 18 District 709 employees taking retirement, yours truly among them. As soon-to-be Superintendent Craig Smock said at the reception we held for that group last week, “that’s almost four centuries of experience about to walk out the door.” We can’t replace that, but one of the things we accept in education is that our classrooms are ever-changing, if also that our collective

futures are built upon the shoulders of those who came before. To all, thank you for your contributions, nothing but the best, and you're always welcome back. Once a Potter, always a Potter.



Graduating Employee Class of 2022

Our Staff Awards Ceremony will occur this coming week, May 25.



Teamwork on the track

Our students, meanwhile, have not missed a beat. Three of our track athletes are participating in the girls' state meet in Charleston. Our Lady Potters soccer squad won its playoff game Friday against Metamora. Post-season play begins or continues this coming week in multiple sports.

Going into the weekend, 10 students were home with a positive COVID diagnosis, compared to nine a week ago, for an overall infection rate of .31 percent in a student body of more than 3,200. Five staff members were out with the virus vs. four last week.



Last choir concert at Morton Junior High

Again, please monitor student symptoms at home and err on the side of caution, as we wish to finish this very successful year on a high note, with fingers crossed that our weekly health chart will

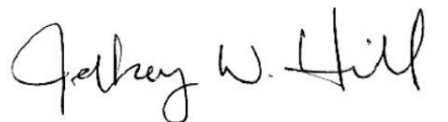
Purple for St. Jude at Lettie B

become but a distant memory when the 2022-23 school year begins next fall.

Finally, this is the last week of school, with students finishing up this coming Friday, which will be a half day. With all that we have been through together, it seems almost impossible that it has come down to these last few days. Time marches on, so quickly sometimes that it can be hard to soak in all that we have accomplished and enjoy it in the moment.

That said, this historic 2022 school year is concluding with an immense amount of satisfaction and gratitude, for me personally and, I hope, for our district and community. We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey W. Hill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey W. Hill, Ed.D

Superintendent

Morton Community Unit District 709



At Grundy, one happy DQ customer