

North Madison 6th graders celebrate Grinch Day!

Mooresville Schools

Dec. 10, 2020

# Pioneer Blast

## Staying Open to Serve Students and Community

The role Mooresville Schools plays in our community is significant, to say the least. We serve 4,400 students and their families daily and employ nearly 600 staff members. With a direct impact on 5,000 individuals, it is critical that we place the safety and well-being of our staff and students at the forefront. This is more critical now than ever as we continue to face a global pandemic.



**Dr. Jake Allen**  
Associate  
Superintendent

With an increase of COVID-19 cases in Morgan County, we

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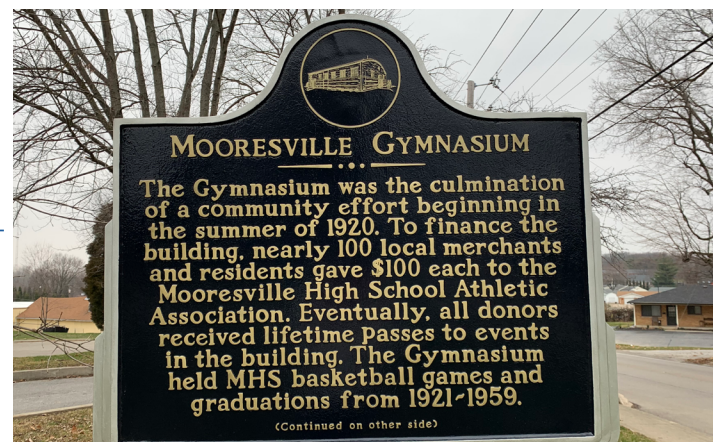
## Celebrating a Century

What started as a dream with 100 local residents each donating \$100, has now given the community 100 years of memories. On Saturday, Mooresville administrators and alumni gathered to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Mooresville Gymnasium by unveiling a historic marker.

Visit the [Historic Mooresville Gymnasium Facebook Page](#) to see the unveiling, vintage photos, and read the complete history.



From left: Superintendent Randy Taylor, Randy Haymaker (Class of '67), Bud Swisher (Class of '59), MHS Alumni Association President Darlene Heald (Class of '59), MHS Alumni Association Vice President Karen Overpeck (Class of '58), and School Board President Dr. Bill Roberson (Class of '64)



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## WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS



**Franciscan** PHYSICIAN NETWORK  
HEARTLAND CROSSING PEDIATRICS

(844) 376-2778



CORIN MARSHALL, MD



BRADLEY KLEMAN, MD



AMANDA WALTER, MD





MHS Jazz Band Performance and Christmas Play

Dec. 10, 2020

# Serving Students and Community

*Continued from p. 1*

feel it is important to address why Mooresville Schools remain open and operational. While it may seem that the safest solution is to keep everyone home, in reality - the schools are the safest haven for a large portion of our population.

With 43% of our students eligible for free and reduced priced meals, many children count on our schools to provide two healthy meals per day. Simply stated, if school is not in session – a significant portion of students are without reliable access to food.

Unfortunately, Mooresville Schools have students who suffer from neglect and abuse. Throughout the course of a year, representatives from our district make multiple reports to the Department of Child Services (DCS) about the well-being of students. When schools are not in session, these reports drop drastically. This is not because the circumstances change, but rather that staff members are unable to detect the abuse and intervene on the child's behalf. Statewide, DCS has reported a 40% drop in abuse and neglect reports since many schools are closed due to COVID.

Academically, we have worked diligently to provide a robust eLearning option for our students; however, there is simply no

From Aug. 4 through Dec. 8, 129 students and staff (out of about 5,000) tested positive for COVID-19. This comes to an overall rate of 2.6% positivity, compared to Morgan County's current positivity rate of 18.2%



replacement for the educational experience students receive in the traditional environment. Even as we continue to improve virtual programming and delivery, our students miss the interaction with their teachers and peers. While content can be taught virtually, the relationships with teachers and comradery with classmates is difficult to replicate.

Lastly, our schools are part of the Mooresville community. What happens in our schools drastically affects the lives of those who share this town with us. When our doors are closed, many parents struggle to find reliable and affordable childcare. When childcare is unavailable, many parents miss work. When parents miss work, it impacts our businesses and their ability to stay open and serve our community.

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The Mooresville School Board honored Harrison Township Representative Randy Davis (second from left) on Tuesday after more than 20 years of service.

Pioneer  
**Blast**

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## Verify Your Third Nine-Weeks Learning Plan

All families are asked to [log into Skyward](#) and complete the survey regarding whether their student(s) will take part in virtual or in-class learning for the third nine weeks.

Elementary students who change to or from full-time virtual learning will change teachers. Middle and high school students' will follow their regular second semester schedules, but some courses such as Project Lead the Way, Building Trades, etc. are not available as virtual courses. Please contact your child's middle or high school counselor with questions. Elementary parents should contact their child's principal with any questions about changing learning plans for January.

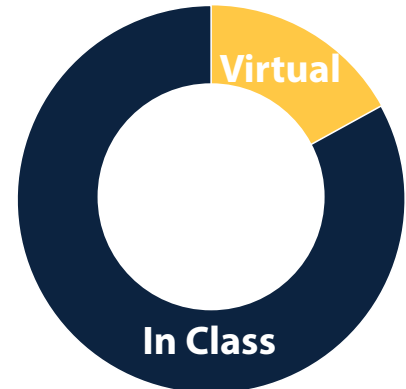
Completing learning plan surveys helps the schools balance class loads, set up classroom spaces, balance bus loads and much more. Surveys must be completed by Friday, Dec. 11.

## Serving Students, Families

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We at Mooresville Schools believe in remaining open to the extent possible, due to the services provided to our students and the role we play in our community. While the county is seeing a positivity rate over 18%, the schools are under 3%. Using this data, and knowing the responsibility our schools have in serving our students and community, Mooresville Schools will continue to work collaboratively with the Morgan County Health Department to safely remain open.

We greatly appreciate your support in these efforts to care for and educate our children, and to serve our community under these unique circumstances.



**Currently, 17% of Mooresville students are full-time virtual learners.**

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Mrs. Taylor's class at Neil Armstrong celebrates Grinch Day!

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## News Briefs

**Free Books Online** - Mooresville students can access thousands of books to read virtually. MHS and PHMS students can use school logins on [Sora](#) and elementary school students can use [TumbleBooks](#) to access books through a partnership with the Mooresville Public Library

**Community Information** - Local nonprofits may share fliers on our [Community Webpage](#). Current fliers include:

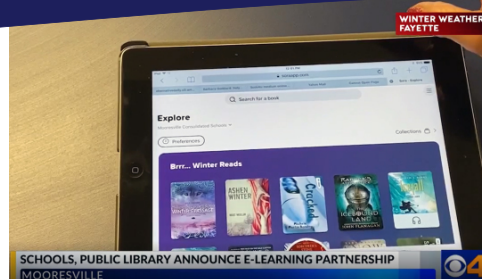
[National Anthem Singing Contest](#)

[Ripfest Diving Lessons](#)

[Mooresville Wrestling Club \(Gr. PK-6\)](#)

[Illustrating America Art Contest](#)

[Winter Baseball Camp \(ages 5-12\)](#)



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## Upcoming Events

**December 17**  
Last Student Day

**December 18 - January 3**  
Winter Break

**January 4**  
School resumes

**January 18**  
MLK Day (NO School)

# MOORESVILLE Christmas LIGHT TOUR



*Take the tour and vote through Dec. 24*

Drive our town to view the beautifully decorated homes and businesses and donate to our nonprofits to vote for your favorite! Learn more and download the free map at [MooresvilleLights.com](#).





# DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

**Mooreville Families -**  
Please be sure to assess student and staff member health each day before attending school.

## COVID-19 Screening for Parents

**Every morning before you send your child to school please check for signs of illness:**



FEVER 100.4\* OR CHILLS



SORE THROAT



COUGH\* OR SHORTNESS OF BREATH

\*especially new onset, uncontrolled cough



DIARRHEA, NAUSEA OR VOMITING, ABDOMINAL PAIN



HEADACHE\*

\*particularly new onset of severe headache, especially with fever



NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL

\*May present with more than one symptom. This list does not include all possible symptoms.

- 1** Does your child have any sign of illness above?
  - 2** Were you in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19?
  - 3** If the answer is **YES** to any of the questions, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, begin isolation of your child and contact your healthcare provider. Have you been tested for COVID-19? Only a positive test or provider diagnosis can confirm if someone has a current infection.
  - 4** Please keep your student home until they meet the criteria on the chart on back of the page.
- ➔** If you have trouble breathing, chest pain, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake or bluish lips or face **CALL 911!**



Updated: 8/27/20

### School Telephone Numbers

MHS	317-831-9203
PHMS	317-831-9208
Neil Armstrong	317-831-9210
Newby	317-831-9212
North Madison	317-831-9214
Northwood	317-831-9216
Waverly	317-831-9218

*Please alert the school office if absent due to COVID-related reasons for attendance coding purposes. Students may take part in virtual school during quarantine.*

### In addition to the above, do not attend school if:

- You are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Any member of the household has tested positive or is awaiting test results due to exposure/symptoms.
- Any member of the household is home from work or school with COVID-19 symptoms.

If a person is at home for any of the above reasons, the person should stay at home until Indiana State Department of Health Return to School guidance is met. When in doubt, stay home and contact your school nurse or the Morgan County Health Department (765-342-6621) for guidance.

**Find complete state guidance, visit the [Indiana State Department of Health Coronavirus Information Page](#) and click on "Back to School Resources"**