

Lincoln Elementary School September 2021 Newsletter



Dear Lincoln Parents and Families,

The calendar has turned to September, which means that the Morton Pumpkin Festival is just around the corner! And this year, we are so excited to see that many of our Festival Favorites are back! We definitely missed things like the carnival rides, the nightly entertainment and the annual parade. Our festival creates a lot of buzz and excitement throughout our village. My favorite part of the festival is seeing so many friends out and about throughout the festival, along with all of the delicious pumpkin themed foods...especially those pumpkin donuts! I hope you and your family enjoy a memorable Pumpkin Festival together, creating your own family's traditions!

This year, our Lincoln School staff will be volunteering in the Pumpkin Sweet Shop from 4:30-7 pm on Thursday, September 16th. This is an annual tradition that we missed last year! If you are out and about at the Festival on Thursday night, please be sure to stop by the Sweet Shop to see us!!

Our first Early Dismissal Wednesday of the school year is actually NOT on a Wednesday. For most months this school year, we will dismiss students at 11:55 am on the first Wednesday of the month. However, this will be the second year that we have planned the September early dismissal on the Friday of the Pumpkin Festival, September 17th, which is also wristband day at the carnival. We'll return back to our first Wednesday of the month early dismissals in October.

Our students continue to do an amazing job of adjusting to all of the changes COVID has brought to our schools. They are troopers with their mask wearing, and are considerate of others and making the best of the situation. We thank our parents for ensuring students are ready to learn, have the materials they need and have their masks/face coverings. And our teachers and staff members have put all of the routines and expectations in place to make safety a priority, reassure students when needed and help our students thrive with in-person instruction. Thank you as we continue to navigate this road together! I appreciate your cooperation and the opportunity to work together.

Coming up later this week is our annual tribute to honor and remember the events of September 11, 2001. Each year, we host a Patriot Day Assembly to honor the memory of those lost on that tragic day in American history, twenty years ago. Last year, we altered our assembly plans so that students could view a digital version of the assembly with their classmates in their classrooms. Mr. Shane Rocke, our general music teacher, will put this digital presentation together for us. We will again have classes watch the digital version of the assembly in their own classrooms. Last year, our teachers found that the smaller setting for viewing the assembly provided more opportunities for students to ask questions and participate in meaningful conversation about the events of September 11th, 2001. There will also be an opportunity for students to share the names of parents, grandparents and extended family members who have served/are serving in the Military or are/were First Responders during their class discussions.

The 2021-2022 school year is off to a fantastic start. Our students are getting settled into their new school routines and expectations and handling the challenges that COVID still presents for us, while teachers and staff members continue to go above and beyond in providing a safe learning environment for your child. Thank you for all you do to help our teachers and support your children! We appreciate you!

Ms. Julie Albers
Principal

A Message from Mrs. Michelle Peterson, Assistant Principal

Hello, September! We have had a wonderful start to the school year, and the fun will continue into fall festivities. Your children have been amazing so far with all the regulations to attend in person school. Thank you for all of your support with our Step It Up! fundraiser. We can't wait to celebrate with our Day of Awesomeness at the end of the month. Hopefully our weather will continue on this cooler trend with sunshine everyday!

Mrs. Michelle Peterson, Assistant Principal



Thank You for Keeping the Car Line Moving at Morning Drop Off!

Our car drop off line in the mornings has been moving right along almost every morning! It even seems that the line is starting to drop off by 8:15 am!! Thank you!! We are grateful to all of our parents and drivers who are helping to follow the drop off expectations. Just a couple of reminders for everyone to help us to ensure the safety of all each morning:

-PULL YOUR CAR UP TO THE FAR SIGN, EVEN IF THERE IS NO ONE BEHIND YOU. This is usually the biggest reason that our drop off line gets bogged down. By pulling your car all the way to the far sign (to the fence), it allows more cars to come through the drive and drop off students.

-STUDENTS SHOULD EXIT FROM THE PASSENGER'S SIDE, NOT THE DRIVER'S SIDE. It is not safe for children to exit from the driver's side into the passing car traffic. This also forces children to walk between cars to get to the sidewalk and enter school.

-DO NOT PUT YOUR CAR IN PARK AND GET OUT TO ASSIST YOUR CHILD LEAVING THE CAR. This again significantly slows down the drop off line. If you want to help your child out of the car, give him/her a kiss or a hug, assist with getting a bulky item out of the car, please pull into a parking spot and assist your child there.

-DO NOT DROP OFF YOUR CHILDREN ON NEBRASKA AVENUE AND EXPECT THEM TO CROSS THE CIRCLE DRIVE TO ENTER THE SCHOOL. Some parents think that they can avoid the hassle of drop off by letting kids out on Nebraska and having them walk into the school by crossing in front of all of the traffic. Again...drivers are not looking for students to be crossing and children have to cross between cars to get in the building. While it's more convenient for the driver, it ends up slowing down the car line for everyone else and it makes it a safety concern for students who are crossing alone.

-FOR THOSE PARENTS WHO PARK THEIR CARS AND WALK THEIR STUDENTS INTO THE BUILDING: Please make sure that you look and wait, then cross when directed to cross in front of the cars. Don't just immediately cross, thinking that drivers see you and will stop. (This isn't Kroger or Wal-Mart where people walk out

of the store and into the crosswalk without looking at the cars!) Be aware of the cars, drivers and other students when you are crossing with your student.

We greatly appreciate your help to ensure a safe, stress free and hassle free morning drop off for EVERYONE! Thank you!!



Like a Good Neighbor...

We realize that parking around our school at the end of the school day and during school events can be challenging. Imagine being a neighbor to Lincoln School who wants to enter/exit their driveways during this time. It's nearly impossible! Please help us to be good neighbors to those who live directly across the street from Lincoln School:

-Do not block the driveways. You might be thinking "I'll only be here for just a few minutes" or "Maybe they aren't home right now." But just when you think that, the neighbor might be trying to leave his home or turn into her own driveway, only to find it blocked. Please be considerate and don't block driveways!

-Don't turn around in the driveways. Again, please be considerate to our school neighbors. Just because their driveway is across the street from the school, that doesn't mean their driveways are public turnarounds.

-Don't make U-turns in the middle of Nebraska Avenue. We frequently see this. A parent will drop off or pick up their child, then try to make a quick U-turn in front of the school rather than drive around the block. We know it takes a few more minutes to drive around the block. But it's also safer than making the U-turn in the middle of the road. Please be considerate of other drivers on Nebraska Avenue...don't make U-turns!

Thank you for your attention to all of these concerns!



Patriot Day Assembly to be Presented Digitally on Friday, September 10th

It's hard to believe that the events of September 11th, 2001 happened twenty years ago. Our annual Patriot Day Assembly will be presented on Friday, 9/10, and it will again be presented in a digital format. Last year, we did not gather in the gym for our annual assembly where we remember the heroes of that day in 2001, while also honoring First Responders and Military Heroes from our school community. Our teachers found that they were able to have more meaningful discussions with their students in the classrooms and could have developmentally appropriate discussions about the events of September 11th with their students. Students will be invited to share the names of parents, grandparents and extended family members who are/were members of the Military or who are/were First Responders. Just have your child ready to share that information with their classmates during the classroom discussions on Friday. And students...don't forget to wear something patriotic/red, white and blue to remember this unforgettable day on Friday, 9/10.

Mark Your Calendar!

Early Dismissal dates are planned for the 2021-22 school year so that teachers can participate in a time of professional development. We also have early dismissal days at the end of each

quarter. Students will be dismissed at 11:55 am on the following dates:

September 17th	October 6th	October 15th
November 3rd	December 1st	December 21st
January 10th	February 2nd	March 2nd
March 11th	April 6th	May 4th
	May 26th	

facebook

Did you know Lincoln Elementary School has a Facebook page? Keep up to date with important information and see pictures and information about activities happening here at Lincoln! Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/LincolnElementarySchoolMortonIL>

Like our page to get the latest information!



A FEW OF OUR NEW STUDENT SIGNS ARE STILL MIA!!

Remember those fun, cute "Welcome our Newest Lion" signs which we placed in the yards of our kindergarten students and all of our new families last month? We are still missing a few of them!! We have collected some of the signs (many had already been returned to us...thank you for bringing them in!), but still need to get them all collected! Did you move the sign at your house when the lawn was mowed and didn't put it back? Please let us know if you still have

our sign...we will be happy to come pick it up...just let us know your address and we will pick it up!!



DEADLINES FOR PHYSICALS AND IMMUNIZATIONS QUICKLY APPROACHING!

If you have not turned in your child's school physical or updated immunizations (depending on grade level), please remember that Friday, October 15th is the deadline for those documents. In the past, Morton CUSD 709 has accepted appointment cards and notes regarding future appointments after the October 15th deadline. Our policy has changed in that we will NO LONGER ACCEPT APPOINTMENT NOTES OR CARDS in lieu of having physicals and immunizations turned in by the October 15th deadline. If you have any questions, please contact Nurse Jennifer Cook at 284-4038 or jennifer.cook@mcusd709.org.

COVID Reminders:

If someone in your family household is either testing for COVID or awaiting COVID test results, we ask that you keep all children home from school until the test results are known. We have had many situations this school year where children are sent to school while a parent or other family member is either testing or awaiting test results. In most of the situations, the parent/family tests positive, then the students need to be taken out of school and quarantined. If the child subsequently tests positive for COVID, then we have to trace for close contact here at school. Those situations could be avoided if students stay home when family members are testing and do not risk exposure to others here at school. We appreciate your help in following this guideline. If you have a specific question before sending a child to school, please call Ms. Albers or Nurse Jen for guidance.

We appreciate your help!



"Bytes" from Mrs. Wright in the Computer Lab

We are excited to welcome students back to school this year! As we did last year, some of the classes will come into the lab while others will do lab time in their classrooms. As for the classes that come into the lab, we are taking steps to make sure each station is sanitized between each use. We have one more week of MAP testing, then the classes will be able to come in and start their regular lab sessions. I am looking forward to having your kids in the lab this year!

-Mrs. Jennifer Wright, Lincoln Building Technologist



CAUGHT YA! CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS WHO WERE CAUGHT ROAR-ING DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

KINDERGARTEN: SLOANE B., CHLOE Y., WYNN P., HEIDI G., KYREE N., ADELIN K., IVY T., LEYA B., CHELSEA C., HAZEL L., BELLE P., JOVIE W., JEREMIAH J., EVIE C., BECKETT R., PAISLEY C., RYLIE C., GENEVIEVE Z., JON J., JACK G., MASON S.

FIRST GRADE: HALLE W., WILL J., HUDSON R., BRYNLEE K., DYLAN S., TUCKER H., SAWYER M., LOGAN V., ELISA H., DANE H., HAYES A., LIAM D., BRODY T.

SECOND GRADE: CORDELIA R., GRACE P., SYDNEY P., GRIFFIN A., BELLA L., OTTO G., COLIN P., HENRY J., TAD J., JOSH S., WYATT S., REID K., MASON S., JAX H., TY A., ROWEN Z., HUDSON C., DOMINIK S., ELSTIE R., CONNOR C., TRIPP L., MCKENNA M.

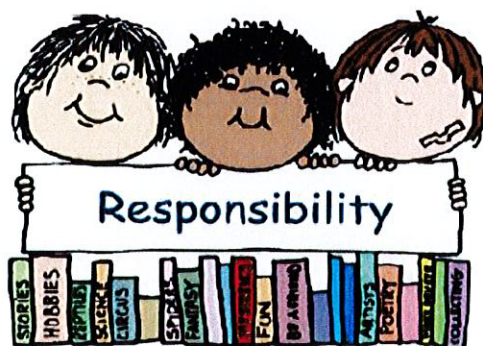
THIRD GRADE: JERRY C., BRIGGS O., SCARLET C., TRIPP Y., KINLEY H., MILA R., SCARLET C., MATTHEW K., BROOKLYN S., MADISON S., MAX Z., LEWIS Z., MAX M.

FOURTH GRADE: ZENEK R., ROSE S., FISHER R., IRIS R., COLTON S., COLTON H., ANNA B., AJ J., MARK K., ABRYNA O., SIMON M., COLTON W., REESE W., PAYTON J., ADDIE A., PAX L., NOLAN H., QUINN R.

FIFTH GRADE: KAITLYN S., TARYN M., NATHANEAL U., MAGGIE H., KAILA P., BRYCE E., REAGAN M.

SIXTH GRADE: AIDAN R., JASON R., PIPER W., KYLIE T.

GREAT JOB LIONS!!
R-O-A-R
R: Responsible
O: On Target
A: Act with Kindness
R: Respectful



Monthly School Wide Themes and Administrator Read Alouds

For the 2021-22 school year, we have identified common monthly themes which we will focus on each month. During the month, Ms. Albers and Mrs. Peterson will each share a read aloud or activity with every K-6 classroom which will be related to the school wide theme. At the beginning of the month, we will share ideas and ways in which our theme can be incorporated into our daily school lives. In addition, our school social worker and school psychologist will visit classrooms monthly and share lessons related to our monthly theme! We are excited to continue this initiative at Lincoln this year!

For September, our monthly theme is RESPONSIBILITY, and we will discuss and learn ways in which we can be responsible in different areas in our lives.

We will kick off our discussions this week by sharing a video about responsibility. In the video, Ms. Albers and Mrs. Peterson will explain how we can demonstrate responsibility in our daily lives, while several of our students

will be featured, describing how they were caught showing responsibility already this year!

This month, Mrs. Peterson will read the book The Paperboy to all classes, while Ms. Albers will read the book The Juice Box Bully: Empowering Kids to Stand Up for Others. Both books have a theme of responsibility and we are looking forward to the discussions we'll have with students while sharing these books!

Looking Ahead to Important Upcoming Dates at Lincoln!

Tues., 9/7:

- 6th Grade Band and Orchestra begins
- School Board Meeting at 5:30 pm at District Office

Wed., 9/8:

- 5th and 6th grade Girls Volleyball Club 2:45-3:45 pm

Thurs., 9/9:

- Morton Elementary Choir for 5th and 6th graders begins after school

Fri., 9/10:

- Virtual Patriot Day Assembly presented to students
- Students are encouraged to wear patriotic clothing/red, white and blue for Patriot Day

Mon., 9/13:

- 5th and 6th grade Girls Volleyball Club 2:45-3:45 pm

Thurs., 9/16:

- Lincoln teachers and staff work at Pumpkin Festival Sweet Shop from 4:30-7 pm

Fri., 9/17:

- 11:55 am Early Dismissal Day

Mon., 9/20:

- 5th and 6th grade Girls Volleyball Club 2:45-3:45 pm

Tues., 9/21:

- 3rd/4th grade Challenge Reading and 5th/6th grade Challenge Math begins

Thurs., 9/23:

- PTO Luncheon Day (PTO provides lunch for teachers and staff); 6th grade parents host
- The Parents Guide to Generation Z at MJHS 6-7:30 pm (see enclosed flyer)
- Night Under the Lights at MHS 7-9 pm (see enclosed flyer)

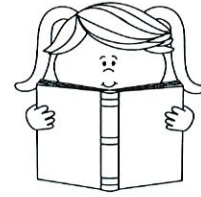
Fri., 9/24:

- PTO Fundraiser Day of Awesomeness (more details to come)

Reading Newsletter

September 2021

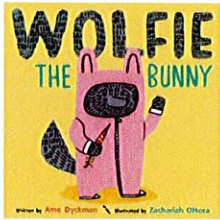
Jenny Auxier - Literacy Coach - jennifer.auxier@mcusd709.org



Book Spotlight

Wolfie the Bunny

(Grades K-2)

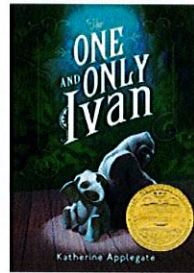


The Bunny family has adopted a wolf son, and daughter Dot is the only one who realizes Wolfie can--and might-- eat them all up! Dot tries

to get through to her parents, but they are too in love with the new member of their family to listen. A new brother takes getting used to, and when (in a twist of fate) it's Wolfie who's threatened, can Dot save the day?

The One and Only Ivan

(Grades 3-6)



Ivan is a gorilla living at the Big Top Mall and Video Arcade. He has grown accustomed to humans watching him through the glass walls and does not miss life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan thinks about TV shows he has seen and about his friends Stella, an elderly elephant, and Bob, a stray dog. Mostly

Ivan thinks about art and how to capture the taste of a mango or the sound of leaves with color and a well-placed line. When he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from her family, she makes Ivan see things through new eyes. When Ruby arrives, change comes with her, and it's up to Ivan to make it a change for the better.

Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment

At the beginning of the year, teachers are busy getting to know their students and how to best support their needs. At Lincoln, we use various forms of assessment to inform our instruction. One of the main reading assessments we use is the *Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (F&P BAS)*.

The F&P BAS is a one-on-one assessment that helps teachers identify reading goals and inform literacy instruction. When your child participates in the assessment, he will read a book aloud to his teacher and talk with the teacher about each book. This allows the teachers to get to know each student as a reader and monitor their progress throughout the year. It's always exciting to see the growth that happens between each assessment!

You can help your child progress by doing the following at home:

1. Visit the local library together. Encourage your child to select books that interest and excite him.
2. Read books to or with your child and talk about them together.
3. Listen to your child read books and talk about them together.
4. Most importantly, enjoy your time together reading, writing, and talking!



Lincoln School PTO

News and Views

September 2021

Hello Lincoln Families!

August was a busy month as we kicked off our school year with pool parties and Unpack Your Backpack Night; had our first PTO meeting, took school pictures, attended Meet the Teacher and held our fundraising campaign. Phew! It's been a busy couple of weeks!! Thanks to all of you who sent emails and made donations to help support our school. A huge shoutout to Stacy Litersky for her leadership with the Step It Up Fundraiser and to all our volunteers this month.

Looking at September we have a few things coming up. ***Our next PTO meeting is September 20th at 7:00 pm.*** We meet in the south vestibule, by the gym and we offer free 6th grade babysitters. Masks will be required. Attending meetings is a great way to stay connected and to keep up with all that's going on with PTO. Also, at 6:00 pm on September 20th we have our New Family Dinner.

Our monthly teacher luncheons will be getting started in September. 6th grade families can expect to receive an email from Erin Jones, of the hospitality committee, with specific details. This is a great way to encourage our teachers and show them how much they are appreciated!

September also brings us our Day of Awesomeness. This is a day of celebration earned by the students during the Step It Up fundraiser. There will be inflatable obstacle courses, Laser Ops Mobile Gaming with game truck and laser tag, Kona Ice and more!

I'm so thankful for all of you who have filled out our volunteer form and look forward to getting you involved as opportunities arise throughout the year. You can join our volunteer list at any time by scanning the QR code below. We have a few specific roles we are hoping to fill for this school year. ***Please consider coordinating our Coats for Kids Campaign in October or our Canned Food Drive in November.*** These are great opportunities to teach our students about caring for others in our community. ***I would also love to see a few parents step forward to teach or run an after school class or club.*** See the attached flyer for more information.

One last note, another flyer included in this newsletter details 3 easy ways to support the Lincoln PTO-Amazon Smile, Kroger Community Rewards, and Box Tops. The flyer explains how to participate in each program. They are simple to do but they can make a big impact.

As I've said before PTO needs volunteers like you to provide awesome experiences for our students throughout the year. Thank you!

Natalie Friend, PTO President
lincolnlionspto709@gmail.com
309-360-3384





Lincoln School's SteptUp! FUNdraiser 2021-22

We have just wrapped up a very FUNdraiser, SteptUp and are excited to report that our Lincoln Students and their families raised **\$62,277!!** We had 433 students participate in our fundraising efforts this year and are just so grateful and appreciative of your support, participation and generosity! SteptUp allows Lincoln School PTO to continue to support our teachers and students in a variety of ways including teacher classroom needs, Artistic Adventures, our science and stem closet, 5th grade manners luncheon, family fun events, carnival and much, much more!

Our Day of Awesomeness is scheduled for Friday, September 24 – during that day, each Lincoln Student gets to participate in the obstacles and inflatables and those students who won prizes with their fundraising efforts will be presented their prizes!

We are excited to celebrate our successes as we plan for a fun filled Day of Awesomeness and year ahead! Again, thank you to everyone for their efforts and contributions to helping make Lincoln School the very best!



Students who had 10+ emails entered after the first evening were entered into the Golden Ticket drawing on Tuesday, August 24 for an Ipad. The lucky winner Amelia Poppins a 2nd grader in Miss Schwarting's class! Congrats Amelia!

Students with 20+ emails were entered into a drawing to win a mini fridge with \$25 cash in it for 4 consecutive days from August 17-20! Those winners were:

Finch Stanfield – 3rd grade
Kenley Mahr – 6th grade
Sam Graber – 1st grade
Kinlev Birch – 4th grade



WE
NEED
YOU



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PTO Positions to be Filled

- Coordinator for Coats for Kids in October
- Coordinator for Canned Food Drive in November
- Leaders/Teachers for After School Adventures
- Co-Chair with Erin Jones this year, to take over Hospitality Committee and teacher luncheons next school year

Visit boxtops4education.com to get signed up! Search for Lincoln Elementary School in Morton, IL

THE OLD BOX TOPS CLIPS



If you discover a traditional Box Tops clip on a product, you can still clip it and send it to school. Every valid Box Tops clip is still worth 10¢ for your school. Make sure each one you turn in has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

* All valid Box Tops clips submitted per the Program Rules to an eligible, enrolled school(s) will be honored.

THE CURRENT BOX TOPS LABELS



If you see this label on a product, you can use the Box Tops app to scan your receipt. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online. Please note that some Box Tops products are not labeled; check our product list for a complete list of participating products.



Upcoming PTO
Important Dates:

- September 17 Early Out Day-Kona Ice at 11:55
- September 20 New Family Dinner
- September 20 PTO Meeting
- September 24 Day of Awesomeness
- October 18-22 Book Fair
- October 18-22 Coats for Kid
- *Spirit Wear Information coming in October



We are happy to announce that teacher and staff luncheons will be back this school year! As in the past, we will be hosting monthly luncheons by grade level, starting with the 6th grade class in September. The luncheons will once again be served potluck style. An email will be sent out with more information on how you can sign up to help set up, clean up or donate food when it is your classes turn. Thank you for helping us show the Lincoln school staff how much we appreciate all that they do. Please contact Erin Jones with any questions Robertanderinjones@yahoo.com

The Kona Ice truck will be at Lincoln once a month on early out days! A percentage of the purchases will go back to Lincoln School. **Look for it this month on Friday, September 17th.**



we need leaders for **After School Adventures**

Most activities are one hour in length and can be a standalone activity or a multi-week event.



You could teach a class based on a special skill you have, or you could just be interested in providing fun experiences for our students. Your class could be instructional or it could be play based. The sky's the limit and all the words you see above are just ideas.

If you have a great idea for a class or club....contact me!
If you'd be interested, but not sure what to do...contact me!
If you'd like to assist someone else...contact me!
If you have any questions...contact me!

Natalie Friend @ lincolnliionspto709@gmail.com

3 Ways to Support Lincoln PTO



Simply log in to your Kroger account, view your account and select Community Rewards. Then you can add Lincoln as your organization. We have raised an average of \$2,000 a year through this program!

This program requires you to re-enroll every year!!

Lincoln School's Code is: 75629



You shop. Amazon gives.

Two easy ways to earn:

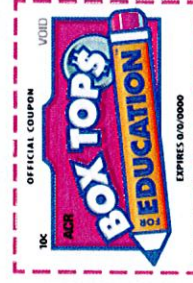
1. Shop from smile.amazon.com

On your first visit to smile.amazon.com, you must select your charity, Lincoln School PTO of Morton. AmazonSmile will remember your selection and then every eligible purchase you make will result in a donation to our school!

2. Set up AmazonSmile on your device app.

- a. Open your Amazon app.
- b. Click on the menu icon.
- c. Scroll down to Settings and expand.
- d. Select AmazonSmile.
- e. Turn on. It will use the same charity you set on your desktop.

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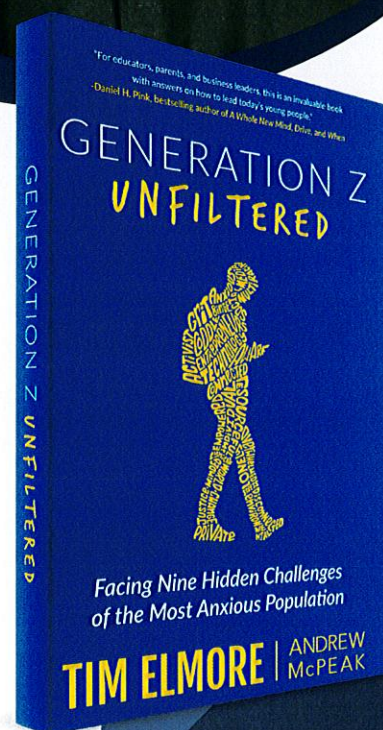
Visit boxtops4education.com to get signed up! Search for Lincoln Elementary School in Morton, IL.

THE PARENT'S GUIDE TO GENERATION Z: SMART PHONES, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND STRESS

Presentation by:
Andrew McPeak



GROWING LEADERS



WHERE & WHEN

**Morton Junior
High School**

**September 23rd
6:00 - 7:30 PM**

All District 709 parents are welcome!

ABOUT THIS SEMINAR

Today's kids have never known a world without the internet or walked through adolescence without a smart phone. Products of the world they've grown up in, they also possess rising stress levels and a "Google Reflex." In this timely session, we will uncover the impact today's world is having on Generation Z and provide practical insights and proven techniques for helping them beat stress, rethink their tech addiction, and take ownership of their life.



**Thursday
September 23rd, 2021
7-9 pm
Joal Stanfield Memorial
Tennis Complex**

Join Us as we remember Joal Stanfield's passion for God, people & tennis by gathering friends & family for night games under the lights. We are hosting a "Night Under the Lights" tennis event for the whole family on Thursday night, September 23rd from 7-9 pm. The girls tennis team will be leading drills and games. Donations may be made that night or in advance online at www.mortoncommunityfoundation.org (search for Joal Stanfield Tennis) Come on out, enjoy some tennis, and help celebrate Joal's memory!

- No tennis experience required
- All ages welcome focusing on FUN
- Tennis mini-games

Order your shirts by September 12th. To order shirts:

Scan the QR code
email information to karaknepp@live.com
or online at

<https://forms.gle/S5NKSTtamtW9sYPC8>

OR Scan here to order your
t-shirt online



Pickup and pay for shirts at the event.

