

"One Heart, One Hand, People &  
Children of many different lands."



## **MORSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**40 GRANITE STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139  
617-349-6575**

# **STUDENT & PARENT HANDBOOK**

Dear Morse School Parents, Caregivers, Family Members and Students,

Welcome to the Morse School! We are very happy to have you as part of our community!

At the Morse School, we have a proud tradition of providing a caring and supportive learning environment for each and every student we serve. This atmosphere is built through mutual respect and clear expectations, which are detailed in this handbook. Please take the time to carefully review the policies and procedures described on the following pages. It is our shared responsibility to help children understand the significance of following guidelines, so we highly recommend that parents/caregivers and children review the contents of this handbook together.

Please note that in addition to this handbook, the Cambridge Public Schools provides a *Guide to Policies for Students & Families* (distributed to all students at the beginning of the year and linked to the Morse School website). Should you have questions regarding the policies described in either of these two documents, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the school office.

Strong and positive relationships among parents/caregivers, students and staff are critical to building a caring community in which all children feel a sense of accomplishment and belonging. We are grateful for the partnership we enjoy with our families and are excited to work together to make this an exciting and successful year of teaching and learning at the Morse School!

Sincerely,

Principal Chad Leith, Assistant Principal Samantha Headley, and the Morse School Staff

# MORSE SCHOOL STUDENT & PARENT HANDBOOK

*This handbook is not intended to be a complete directory of all policies and laws relating to students, parents/guardians, and caregivers. Please note that federal and state laws and Cambridge Public Schools policies, regulations, and procedures are subject to change. For a complete copy of any policy or handbook referenced in this document, please contact the Principal of the Morse School or the Office of the Superintendent.*

## **I. GENERAL**

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

7:55 am	Doors open for students.
8:00 am	Free breakfast is served in the cafeteria.
8:10 am	First bell, students arrive and enter their classrooms and prepare for the day.
8:20 am	Breakfast is over.
8:25 am	Second bell, announcements and instruction begins.
2:20 pm	Bus students dismissed.
2:25 pm	General dismissal.

### **DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP**

In order to maintain a safe and secure learning environment for our students, **we ask that all parents and children enter the building through our school's Main Entrance.** Children in grades JK-5 may be dropped off as early as 7:55. We offer free breakfast in our cafeteria and supervised play in our Granite St. playground (weather permitting). At 8:10, students (and parents dropping off young children) may proceed from our main lobby to their classrooms. During afternoon pick-up, we ask that all parents wait outside until our 2:25 dismissal bell.

### **EARLY DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL**

Students may only be **dismissed early** from school for reasons that constitute an excused absence:

- Students must bring a note signed by the parent or caregiver stating the reason and time for dismissal, and indicating who will pick up the student. Students may not be dismissed without being accompanied by the designated adult.
- Only the Principal or Assistant Principal may authorize an early dismissal.

### **CHANGING DISMISSAL ROUTINE**

If a student's normal dismissal routine is to be altered on a particular day, parents/guardians should send a note to the classroom teacher describing the change and indicating who will meet the child at school. If a child does not have a note and the school cannot immediately locate the parent, the child will be dismissed following the normal routine.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

The Cambridge Public School District provides bus transportation to and from school for Grades K-5 families who reside more than one (1) mile from the Morse School. Transportation provided by the Cambridge Public Schools may be denied for violations of the *Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook* and/or school-based rules that occur on school transportation. Transportation may be denied when a student's actions endanger or will continue to endanger his/her own safety and/or the safety of others.

Any student who wishes to ride a school bus that is not their assigned bus must provide a written request from their parent. Permission will be granted if there is room available on the bus and if the request is provided in a timely fashion.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

As detailed in the *Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook*, children learn better and achieve higher degrees of success when they consistently attend school. Regular and punctual attendance contributes to the general welfare of the entire student body by reducing disruption to the learning environment. Daily attendance and punctuality are essential to children's future school and job success. It is important for all to understand that patterns for successful school attendance and academic success are started in kindergarten and first grade. Early patterns of non-attendance tend to continue throughout a child's school life and leave a child at risk for school failure and dropping out. We respectfully request your cooperation and assistance in making sure that your child is in school every day and on time. Massachusetts' law mandates that all children ages 6 through 16 attend school. The school will keep a record of absences tardies, and dismissals.

## **TARDINESS**

Tardiness refers to a student who is not punctual, who arrives to school **after the second bell at 8:25 am**. Tardiness affects student's academic performance. Students who arrive late miss important organizational and instructional time, and a late student requires a teacher to interrupt instruction

to other students in order to assimilate the late student into class. Early morning routines help students orient themselves for the day. It is particularly critical for students who need extra time making transitions or getting organized. Students, who **arrive after 10:45 AM** with or without a note from home, are considered absent from school.

### REPORTING AN ABSENCE OR TARDY

Parents and caregivers are kindly asked to call the school office at 617-349-6575 **by 8:25am** on the day a child is absent or tardy from school without pre-arrangement. Make-up work will be provided for excused absences (please see below). To request homework, the parent/guardian should call or send a note to the school office.

### EXCUSED ABSENCES

The following qualify as **excused absences**:

- Student illness (illness or injury for four or more consecutive days requires written medical verification from a doctor)
- Absence for family bereavement
- Observance of religious holiday
- Extenuating family emergency
- Medical or dental appointment for student where scheduling before or after school was impossible
- Legal matters requiring a personal appearance

It should be noted that under section 1 of Chapter 76 of the Massachusetts General Laws that students are required to attend school and that excused absences may not exceed “seven day sessions or fourteen half-day sessions in any period of six months.” Further details on the Cambridge Public Schools Attendance Policy may be found in the *Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook*.

### UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Massachusetts’ law requires that all children ages 6 through 16 attend school. Any absences that are not excused are considered unexcused absences.

The following are examples of **unexcused absences**:

- Missed the bus/off bus for disciplinary reasons
- Overslept
- Baby sitting for sibling or others
- Finishing homework
- Non-school sponsored functions
- Doctor/Dentist appointments for sibling
- Truancy
- Child’s refusal to attend school
- If the school does not receive notification of any type, the absence is unexcused.

Students who are absent are not allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities or events on the day of an unexcused absence.

### FAMILY VACATIONS AND SABBATICAL LEAVES

Parents are strongly advised **not** to plan family vacations during school time. Allowing students to miss school sends a strong message to children about the importance and priority of their education. Days missed for family vacations will be considered unexcused absences. However, we understand that changes in life circumstances may pull a family away from Cambridge for an extended period of time. For a leave of absence that exceeds 10 school days due to a family leaving Cambridge, a sabbatical leave can be requested. This leave of absence may result from a family crisis or emergency, a family’s need to spend a year abroad, a short-term work assignment, and educational opportunities elsewhere.

### TRUANCY

Truancy refers to situations where a student is somewhere without authorization. The truant student does not attend class, or leaves the school without authorization, or willfully fails to attend school without parent or guardian’s knowledge. Truancy will be considered a disciplinary issue, and the steps taken to address the truancy of a student may be found in the *Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook*.

### EMERGENCY CARDS

Parents/guardians are required to fill out a white emergency card for each student in their family that attends the Morse School. If there are any changes to this information, parents/guardians must notify the school in order that the school keep accurate up-to-date information for contacting families in cases of emergency and the like.

### IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Massachusetts State Law requires that all students attending Cambridge Public Schools be immunized against certain diseases. A current immunization record that show the month, day, and year of all immunizations is required. The School Health Office notifies all families whose health records are incomplete and of the specific immunizations that are required.

### RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

All students who attend Cambridge Public Schools must be residents of Cambridge. Students found not to be living in Cambridge will not be allowed to enter or will be asked to leave the school system. It is the responsibility of the student’s family to notify the school of any change of address and/or telephone number. For a complete copy of the Cambridge Public Schools Residency Policy, please contact the Principal or the Office of the Superintendent.

## SCHOOL SAFETY

While we encourage parent visitors and volunteers at our school, **all visitors must come to the office, sign in and obtain a visitor's pass.** This includes parents who need to see a teacher. We do not allow visitors into the classrooms without specific permission from the Assistant Principal or Principal. **There cannot be any exceptions to this policy.** The reasons for this are to avoid continual disruptions of students' academic time and to protect students who are in our care. Please make prior arrangements with your child's teacher before visiting the classroom. Before leaving, visitors are asked to stop in the office to sign out. Parents who wish to volunteer in the classroom or chaperone field trips must complete a CORI (forms are available in the Main Office).

**Our doors are securely locked by 8:25 AM and remain locked during the school day.** You can gain access to the school only through the main entrance after being "buzzed in" by the office.

By Massachusetts State Law, schools must have periodic **FIRE DRILLS**. Evacuation procedures are posted in each room in the building, and students are to follow the directions of their teachers during these drills. Any student who pulls a false alarm will be suspended from school for ten (10) days and will be punished to the full extent of the law, which includes being taken to court and facing fines of up to \$500.

## FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are planned at each grade level and are intended to enrich the curriculum. Parents will be told when their children will be participating in a field trip, and a permission slip will be sent home. The permission slip must be signed and returned by the deadline date. We cannot transport students without a written permission form.

## LOCAL WALKING FIELD TRIPS

The Cambridgeport ("Coast") neighborhood includes many parks, open spaces, cultural institutions and civic buildings. These include (but are not limited to) Old Morse Park, Dana Park, Magazine Beach, Pacific Field and Fort Washington, Gallery 263, MIT, and Cambridge Fire Department Companies 3 and 6. During the course of the school year, our teachers regularly take advantage of these local resources for purposeful and age-appropriate exploration, discovery and play. Such walking field trips are always supervised by a minimum of two adult staff members, who follow the same protocols for student health and safety as they would in the classroom. Since such walking field trips may take place more than once over the course of the school year, we provide our parents/guardians with an opportunity to

sign a single yearly permission form for local walking field trips.

## CAFETERIA

Breakfast is provided free of charge to all students from 8:00 – 8:25am. Lunch is provided daily to any student who wishes to purchase a meal. Students may opt to bring their own lunch from home or purchase a school lunch in the cafeteria. Lunches are priced at \$2.85 for full pay, \$.40 reduced, and milk is priced at \$.50 (prices subject to change). Morning breakfast begins at 8:00 am until 8:20 am.

For safety purposes, **glass containers** are not to be brought to school. Food and beverages are not allowed out of the cafeteria, and it is the responsibility of each and every student to clean up their tables and area after eating and use the proper trash and recycling containers.

## RECESS & OUTSIDE PLAY

Students enjoy outside play at least once a day, weather permitting. Parents are requested to be sure their child is dressed warmly in winter weather as recess is held outdoors unless it is severely cold (20 degrees or below) or raining heavily. Children will stay inside any time the temperature is severely cold. If boots are to be worn, please provide your child with shoes or sneakers to be worn within the building. It is recommended that your child's clothing be labeled. If you are experiencing financial hardship and are unable to provide your child with clothing that is appropriate for the weather, please contact our Family Liaison.

## PERSONAL ITEMS, TOYS & VALUABLES

Toys, collectables (stuffed animals, Beanie Boos, action figures), trading cards, Pokémon cards, fidget spinners, slime, etc. are not allowed in school unless they have been brought with teacher permission for a school project. Students are asked to be extremely careful about leaving valuables unattended in desks, cubbyholes, classrooms, etc. All valuables brought to school are at the owner's risk. The Morse School cannot assume responsibility for toys or other personal items that are lost, misplaced, damaged or stolen. Please check with Lost & Found (office/cafeteria) for any items missing.

## TELEPHONES

School and public telephones are not to be used by students without permission from a staff member.

## PERSONAL CELL PHONES

Cell phones belonging to students must be **kept in backpacks and turned OFF** during regular school hours. Morse School staff members reserve the right

to take cell phones from students who do not turn them off and/or store them in backpacks during the school day. The first time a phone is taken, it will be returned to the student at the end the day. The second time a phone is taken, a parent or guardian will be expected to come into school to retrieve it. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, damaged or misplaced cell phones.

### **OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Electronic devices are **not allowed in school or on school buses**. These types of devices include but are not limited to tablets, personal audio equipment, video games, etc. Electronic devices **will be confiscated and return to parents with the understanding that they not be brought to school again**. The Morse School is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen electronic equipment.

### **COMPUTER ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

The Cambridge Public School District offers Internet access through the School Computer Network. This network is established for limited educational purpose, and the Cambridge Public Schools has the right to place restrictions on the use of the network and to require users to abide by system rules. Students may use the network for educational purposes (not personal) only under the direction and supervision of their teachers. Students and parents receive a copy of the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) each year.

### **BICYCLE/SCOOTERS**

Students who wish to ride their bicycles or scooters to school may do so provided that they wear the proper protective equipment and obey all traffic rules of safety. Bicycles and scooters are to be parked upon arrival at the school and are not to be used until the end of the day. Bicycles, scooters, rollerblades, and skateboards are NOT allowed in the school building at any time and must be secured to any of the bicycle racks located throughout the perimeter of the building with a lock or cable. Scooters are not allowed on any school buses. The Morse School is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen bicycles, scooters, roller blades, skateboards, protective equipment, or other such items.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

The staff at the Morse requests that birthday party invitations be **mailed directly** to the homes of those children being invited. This saves hurt feelings of those children that do not get invited. **Teachers will not hand out party invitations.**

### **LOST BOOK POLICY**

Students are responsible for books/school materials that are issued to them. If a student either damages or loses a textbook, instructional materials, and/or library book, and the school is not reimbursed for the replacement value of the book or instructional materials, the student will have restrictions imposed on any replacement book that is made available for classroom or library use (e.g., the student may use the text only during class but is not to take the text out of the classroom).

### **SCHOOL NOTICES**

Many notices will be distributed throughout the school year. The office must approve all school-related correspondence.

## **II. ACADEMIC POLICIES**

### **HOMEWORK**

Homework is an integral part of the educational process. Educators in grades 1-5 at the Morse School design homework activities that apply what they have learned and stretch student thinking. At times, homework will be differentiated for students based on individual needs.

Parents can assist students with homework, but parents should not complete the assignment for their child. If your child struggling with completion of the homework, please contact your child's teacher. Parents can provide support in many ways:

- Establish a regular homework time and help make sure work is turned in on time.
- Check agendas for homework and teacher notes in grades 3-5.
- Ask your child about what he/she is learning at school.
- Encourage the joy of reading by either reading to your child or by providing a time every day for pleasure reading. We encourage families to set aside a minimum of 20 minutes per day for reading.

### **REPORT CARDS & PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Report cards for students in Grades 1-5 are issued at the end of each trimester. These academic reports are very important and should be reviewed carefully by parents. Parent/Teacher Conferences will also be scheduled periodically throughout the year to provide a formal opportunity for parents/caregivers and teachers to discuss each child's progress and to share strategies for supporting each student's success. More information will be shared at the September open house/curriculum night.

## **PROMOTION & RETENTION**

Students who have successfully completed their academic grade level will be promoted to the next grade. There are times when it benefits a student to repeat a grade for academic and/or social reasons. When retention is a possibility, teachers and families will spend time meeting to consider the benefits for that particular child. For a copy of the Cambridge Public Schools Promotion Policy, contact the Principal or the Office of the Superintendent.

## **STUDENT RECOGNITION**

### **Fruit of the Week**

On a weekly basis, homeroom teachers will recognize a student in their class who has performed well academically and exhibited the Core Virtues of the Morse School. Each week on Friday the recipient will receive a piece of fruit from the Principal or Assistant Principal.

### **James Coady Award**

The James Coady Award for Academic Effort & Achievement is given twice a year to one student from each class in Grades 3-5. This award is given to students who, as determined by their teachers, have served as a model for our school's core values. It may be a student who has made considerable progress in academics, or a student who has overcome a particular challenge in either school or in their personal lives. This award is named after retired Principal, Mr. James Coady.

### **Additional Honors for Students in Grades 3-5:**

At the end of each trimester, students are honored at an awards assembly in the Morse Auditorium.

Trimester awards include the following:

- Pat Beggy Kindness Award (Named for retired Principal Pat Beggy)
- Respectful Student Award
- Responsible Citizen Award
- Active Learner Award
- Growth Mindset Award
- Overall Excellence Awards in Math, Reading, Writing, Science, Social Studies and Spanish (Grades 4 & 5 only)
- Excellent Attendance Award (for students who have arrived on time and been present for at least 95% of school days)

## **III. DISCIPLINE POLICY**

### **MORSE CODE**

Students learn best in a safe and orderly environment and we have high expectations for proper student conduct. The "Morse Code" represents the guidelines for success in all areas of the school.

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Kind
- Be an Active Learner

Each part of the Morse Code is taught, modeled, recognized and reinforced from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5. Specific expectations are outlined for each area of our school building, including hallways/corridors, classrooms, the cafeteria, the gymnasium, the playground the auditorium and on the school bus. Failure to demonstrate expected behaviors in any of these areas may result in disciplinary measures.

### **CORE VIRTUES**

The Core Virtues program is a non-sectarian approach to character education. Each month a specific core virtue is highlighted throughout the school in the form of a literature-based program.

### **GUM CHEWING**

The chewing of gum is not allowed in school.

### **SCHOOL DRESS**

As detailed in the *Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook*, students have the right to express themselves by the dress and hair style of their own choosing provided students meet their responsibility to dress in a manner that conforms to the reasonable standards of health, safety, and cleanliness, and which will not cause a disruption to the educational process. Clothing will be deemed inappropriate if it is disturbing to other students or staff or in any way interferes with the educational process. This includes but is not limited to belly shirts and bare midriffs, short shorts, low slung trousers, "spaghetti" strap/tank top shirts, and other clothing which is offensive and/or violates acceptable standards of dress. Students are prohibited from wearing clothing and accessories that:

- have slogans, comments, or designs that are obscene, lewd, or vulgar;
- are directed towards or intended to harm, harass, threaten, intimidate, or demean individual groups or individuals;
- advertise alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illegal drugs.

Students will be required to change their clothing if it is not suitable for school. Coats or outside apparel

shall not be worn in the school building during the school day. Hats and head coverings are not to be worn in the building, with the exception of religious-based head coverings.

### **HARASSMENT POLICY**

The Cambridge Public Schools and the Morse School is committed to maintaining an educational environment that is free from harassment, bigotry, and intolerance of all types. The Morse School resolves to accomplish this goal requiring students and staff to practice and display at all times respect for self and others. The school follows the Cambridge Public School's Anti-Harassment Policy to ensure a safe environment for all.

### **ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

The Cambridge Public Schools and the Morse School is committed to creating a safe, caring, respectful learning environment for all students and strictly enforces a prohibition against bullying of any of its students. School-based initiatives will seek to help students of all ages and abilities stay safe, act wisely, and believe in themselves, and help adults respond effectively to students' reports and their own observations.

Our school takes allegations of bullying seriously and will respond promptly to complaints and allegations of bullying. Where it is determined that inappropriate conduct has occurred, we will act promptly to eliminate the conduct and will impose corrective action as necessary, which may range from requiring the offender to work with school personnel on better behavior, the recommendation for the provision of counseling or other therapeutic services and/or disciplinary action where appropriate, up to and including suspension, expulsion and/or court involvement.

### **REPORTING A CLAIM OF BULLYING**

Forms are available on the CPS Website as well as here at the Morse School for any individual who wishes to report a claim of bullying. The school administration will then take the appropriate action.

### **VANDALISM**

All students and visitors are urged to treat the building with care and respect. No one is to injure, destroy, deface, or trespass on school property. These types of actions infringe on the right of the Morse School community to have a clean environment. Any student or individual who is found to have committed an act of vandalism will be disciplined to the fullest extent, and parents will be responsible for paying for any damage done to the building by their child. Individuals with any

information about damage done to the building are responsible for reporting it to the school office.

### **WEAPONS POLICY**

All students and parents receive a copy of the Cambridge Public School District's Weapons Policy each year. Both students and parents/guardians must sign and return to school the statement acknowledging that they have read the Weapons Policy and that they understand the serious consequences of violating the policy.

### **STUDENT SEARCH OF PERSON/PROPERTY**

While students have a legitimate expectation of privacy while in school, a search will be considered valid if there is a reasonable suspicion at its inception that the search will discover evidence of a violation of a school rule or the laws, and the search was conducted reasonably. Parents will be notified of any student search. Further details on the Cambridge Public Schools Search Policy may be found in the Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

### **ADDRESSING UNEXPECTED BEHAVIOR**

We are committed to ensuring a safe environment for teaching and learning at the Morse School. We serve a community of children who represent a wide range of needs and it is important for us to remember that just like literacy development, our children's positive social and emotional development requires continual guidance and feedback. It is the policy of the Cambridge Public Schools to help students resolve conduct problems without resorting to extreme disciplinary measures. Examples of the types of interventions that we use at the Morse School to address unexpected student behavior include: Being asked to take a break within the classroom or in a neighboring "buddy room," apology restitution, office discipline referral and contact with parents, guardians or caregivers, loss of privileges, lunch detention, student behavior agreement, behavior support plan, and referral for counseling. As noted in the Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, this list of interventions is not exhaustive and not every intervention listed is used in every situation. Rather, our interventions are utilized to appropriately and logically respond to incidents of unexpected student behavior while aiming to prevent similar future incidents.

### **SUSPENSION**

The Morse School prefers not to suspend students. Suspension from school is considered when there is a serious violation of school policy and safety, and/or as a result of chronic behavior violations that have not been effectively addressed through other interventions. Students may be suspended for

violations of the provisions set forth in the Cambridge School Department's Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, or for violation of any school-based rules. As detailed in the Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, a student may be disciplined for violations of school rules that occur while in school buildings, school grounds, in transit to and from school, or during any authorized school activity whether on or off school grounds. Additionally, a school-related disciplinary offense may include circumstances in which serious misconduct outside the school (such as a student being charged with or convicted of a felony) will have an adverse effect on the maintenance of discipline in the school.

#### **IV. STUDENT SERVICES**

##### **LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**

The Library Media Center is open to all students and staff throughout the school day for the purpose of assisting students with research, book selection and borrowing, and for independent study.

##### **STUDENT COUNSELOR & SOCIAL WORKER**

The Morse School has a full-time School Adjustment Counselor and a part-time Social Worker on staff to facilitate mediation and conflict resolution, as well as provide counseling and support to students who have the need. If you believe your child would benefit from counseling, please contact the Principal, Assistant Principal, School Nurse or our School Counselor directly (updated contact information can be found on our school website).

##### **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

The Cambridge Department of Human Service Programs Childcare Division provides after school childcare programs at the Morse School for students in K-5.

#### **V. FAMILY INVOLVEMENT**

The Morse School strongly encourages parent and family involvement in many different ways. Our Parent Liaison provides a list each September of multiple ways for parents and families to become involved. We also encourage parents and caregivers to consider participating in the following groups, that meet regularly to discuss important aspects of our school functioning:

##### **MORSE SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The Education Reform Act of 1993 requires that each school have a school-based management group comprised equally of staff and parents. This group serves in an advisory capacity to the Principal. Nominations and elections are held for representatives on the Council, and elected members serve a two-year term. The meeting schedule will be posted to the Morse School website in September. Council meetings are open to the public, and all Morse School families are strongly encouraged to attend and participate.

##### **FRIENDS OF MORSE**

The Friends of Morse is a parent-led organization that helps to strengthen the Morse School community by supplementing classroom activities, planning community events, complementing the School Council and its activities, facilitating family communications, and fostering relationships with neighbors and businesses. The group meets monthly and is open to all parents, caregivers and family members.

##### **WORKING GROUP ON RACE & EQUITY**

During the 2018-2019 school year, a group of teachers and parents began meeting to discuss the ways that race and culture impact the daily experiences of children and adults at school and in our community, and how we can work together to address the lingering effects of systemic racism in our school. All interested parents are invited and encouraged to join in on this important conversation. If you would like to be added to the group's mailing list, please contact Principal Chad Leith directly.

*The Cambridge Public School District (CPSD) is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. CPSD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran or marital status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.*



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*Additional information about Morse School policies, events, and activities can be found our website: [morse.cpsd.us](http://morse.cpsd.us)*