

# Morris School



Home of the Mavericks!

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**Achieving Success  
Together**

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**March 05, 2008**

RE: Late Policy

Dear Parents,

As you know, since December of 2007, Morris School has been tracking instances of student lates and recording the data: Name of student, date, time, reason for being late, and class for which they are late. During this time, we have been discussing how to employ the data in guiding a policy proposal regarding lates. This letter is to inform you of our assessment of the data and the policy change.

We estimate that of the students in grades 9-12, we have a record of at least one late on 71% of the student population. We recognize that in many cases the lates have excusable reasons. However, recurring lateness appears in enough cases to warrant the employing of punitive measures to address the problem of unexcused lates. We have determined that, effective **Monday, March 10, 2008, students who are late three (3) times in a class for reasons that are unexcusable will be issued an absence.** Once an absence is issued, the provisions in the Attendance Policy (see attached) will take effect. Note: Teachers have the right to mark a student as absent for arriving to class well past a reasonable time (ie. 20 minutes late) and if there is no excusable reason for being late.

Also, if your child has a record of being late, it is attached for your information. Please review it with your child.

This change will be inserted into the Policy Handbook as part of our ongoing Policy Review; first on the website and then in hard copy form for the 2008/2009 school year.

We welcome any questions and suggestions you may have. Please contact us at a time that is convenient for you.

Sincerely,

Darren Skog

Cc: Morris School Staff, PAC