



75
MORTON
MS 297 NYC

FAMILY HANDBOOK

2025-2026

Welcome to 75 Morton!

Dear Families,

We are honored to have you as a part of our 75 Morton family. We believe in the power of community and the need to work together to create the school all students deserve. We encourage families to work alongside the school to ensure that your child receives the best education and tools to succeed in life.

This handbook will provide policies and procedures to help support the middle school journey. This is an important tool for families to understand what is expected of students during their time here, as well as how the family and school can work together.

We understand the importance of working closely with families as their child navigates middle school. This time is precious and short. For this reason, we encourage all families to carefully read the Family Handbook. If you have any questions, please reach out to the school.

A special thank you to all of the Morton staff and parents, past and present, for assembling all of this information in one place.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me, or any of the staff below if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Claudia Rivera-WisdomCofie

Principal

Crivera42@schools.nyc.gov

212-295-7555

Contact List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Point Person For:</u>
General Information	n/a	info@75morton.org	Any questions you might have and don't know who to ask.
Hope Flamm	Parent Coordinator	hope@75morton.org	General questions, NYC School Accounts, School Events, Blue cards, HS Admissions, Students in Temporary Housing, Metrocards/IDcards/ Locks/Lockers
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PTA	Facilitate Family Participation	PTA@75morton.org	Fundraising, volunteering, events
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Theresa Soto	IA Assistant Principal	TSoto6@schools.nyc.gov	Academics, Student Discipline, Restorative Justice, Operations
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Danielle Eagan	Social Worker	DEagan2@schools.nyc.gov	Social Emotional Concerns, Transcripts
Melissa Polanco	Bilingual School Counselor	MPolanco15@schools.nyc.gov	Social Emotional Concerns, Transcripts, HS Admissions
Ashley Ruiz	Payroll & Principal Secretary	ARuiz31@schools.nyc.gov	Payroll, Substitutes, and Principal Secretary
Judy Young	Pupil Accounting & Procurement	JYoung53@schools.nyc.gov	Immunization records, New admits, Address or email Changes, and Principal Secretary

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75 MORTON MISSION

We recognize that every member of our diverse student body has a unique path to follow. At 75 Morton it is our mission to empower every student to inquire, question, create and evolve as a part of this community, and to achieve success in high school and beyond.

75 MORTON VISION

75 Morton is a vibrant community that embraces the incredible diversity of our city. Today's society demands that we create students and citizens capable of working together and charting their own paths to success in a world that is truly interconnected and provides almost infinite opportunity and possibilities. If our students are a light that will shine on the world, our teachers aspire to be the current that sparks their imagination, that inspires their curiosity and passion, that powers their ambition and success.

When you walk through our doors you will find students that are engaged, inquisitive and who are supported throughout their middle school years. You will find teachers who work tirelessly to find the path for success for each student, recognizing that each student is capable of thriving, and recognizing that the path for each child may be different. You will find an administration that is forward-thinking, seeking out the most effective pedagogy and supporting teachers through professional development and collaborative planning. And you will find parents and families who take an active part in the community and their children's learning, providing support to the school through time and resources.

Inside our walls you will find students asking questions, performing experiments, getting messy, making mistakes, and starting again. You will find inquisitive explorers that are supported on their journey and not afraid to go down their chosen path. You will find inquiry, thoughtfulness, and empathy. You will find teachers that engage with their students, guiding them in the direction of success and recognizing that many roads lead there.

When our students step out into the world they will not only be academically prepared to thrive in high school but they will be equipped with the skills they need to flourish in a world that is diverse and filled with many ideas, approaches, and methodologies. They will be able to envision their own future and be able to meet the challenge and possibility of that future head on. They will be people who shine with accomplishment and promise, with passion and inquiry, with preparedness and aspiration.

COMMUNICATION

75 Morton expects all families to be active and engaged partners in their child's education. You will receive weekly emails from our Parent Coordinator Hope and the PTA. You will receive a monthly newsletter from the Principal. Please read them. These communications will keep you abreast of everything happening at 75 Morton. We believe positive and respectful communication between parents, teachers and staff benefits the entire community.

75MORTON.ORG

The school website is updated regularly. There you will find the school lunch menu, see the school calendar and vacation schedule, find a link to this handbook, read Principal Cofie's monthly letter to families, find staff email addresses, and so much more. Questions? Please remember to check the website first.

EMAIL

The most effective way to communicate with your child's teachers and the administration is by their Department of Education and/or 75 Morton email. Staff emails can be found on the school website. We will respond to you in a timely manner, typically within 24 hours. Please note, teachers may not be able to email you after school hours or over the weekend.

STUDENT EMAIL

Students use their DOE email address. The purpose of student emails is to help students communicate with teachers and classmates about academics. Student email is only for use with school-related programs. Emails should only contain school appropriate content and language. Inappropriate emails are flagged. Teachers and families will be notified of any incidents involving their students. Keep in mind, students, families, and teachers have access to student email accounts. They are not private.

PARENT COORDINATOR

The Parent Coordinator, Hope Flamm, convenes monthly parent workshops on relevant and timely topics that families of middle schoolers find very helpful. Hope sends weekly emails to keep families current with DOE information, policy updates, school notices and reminders, school closings, and more. She is also available to meet with families and can be reached by email at hope@75morton.org.

EMERGENCIES

If you have a personal emergency regarding your child, please call 212-295-7555 and press zero. Your call will be answered by someone in the main office. Please do not email us if there is an emergency as it may take longer for a response.

PTA NEWSLETTER

Once a week you will receive a newsletter from the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). These weekly bulletins provide up-to-the-minute information on everything 75 Morton. From PTA meetings and information on school events, to parties and swag sales, upcoming fundraisers, volunteer sign-up links, and much, much more. Be sure to read the PTA newsletter.

PTA MEETINGS

Real communication is about face-to-face dialogue. All 75 Morton parents and guardians are members of the PTA and are encouraged to attend the monthly general PTA meetings. Hear directly from Principal Cofie and Hope, ask questions, meet new friends, and get involved! Meetings are usually scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am, but check the calendar on the website. If you have a specific issue that you would like to discuss at a general meeting, please contact the PTA presidents at PTA@75Morton.org.

ROUTINES AND PROCEDURES

SCHOOL HOURS

School hours are 8:40 am - 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday.

At 8:20 the Morton Street doors open for 75 Morton students who will be eating breakfast provided by the school or they may bring breakfast from outside if they prefer.

- All students will use the MORTON STREET entrance

At 8:35am all students will be directed to their lockers to store their belongings in preparation for the day. Homeroom begins at 8:40am and students must be in their seats at that time. If a student arrives at the building after 8:40 am they will be marked late for that day and it will go on their permanent record.

All students are dismissed from the Morton Street exit.

BELL SCHEDULE

Period	Times
Homeroom	8:40 - 8:52
1	8:54 - 9:38
2	9:40 - 10:24
3	10:26 - 11:10
4	11:12 - 11:56
5	11:58 - 12:42
6	12:44 - 1:28
7	1:30 - 2:14
8	2:16 - 3:00

CAASS ID SYSTEM

All students will be issued a 75 Morton ID card within the first couple of weeks of school. Students are expected to bring their ID card every day and swipe it when they arrive at school. If they go to out-lunch, they will swipe out to exit and then again to re-enter the building. ***If a student does not have or does not use their ID card when they arrive in the morning, they may not go out to lunch that day. NO EXCEPTIONS.***

Any misuse or misrepresentation of an ID card will result in forfeiting the out-lunch privilege.

If your child loses their school ID, they need to sign up for a new card in the CAASS binder in the Parent Coordinator Office. New ID cards are issued on Wednesdays and Fridays. No student is allowed to go out to lunch without their ID card. The first replacement card is free. Subsequent id cards can be replaced by doing 1 session of in-school community service.

TRANSPORTATION

The School Bus Service is available to eligible 6th graders and to students in all grades who have it mandated on their Individual Education Plan (IEP). To see if you are eligible, go to:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/transportation/bus-eligibility>. If you think you are eligible and would like more information, please contact Hope at Hope@75morton.org.

OMNYCARDS

Many students are eligible for OMNYcards. To see if you are eligible go to:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/transportation/bus-eligibility>. OMNYcards are provided to us by the Office of Pupil Transportation and are distributed to eligible students as per NYC Department of Education Regulations, on the basis of the recorded home addresses. The school cannot make any decisions about who gets an OMNYcard or for what means of transportation (i.e. bus, subway). If your child loses their OMNYcard, they should speak with the Parent Coordinator Hope to get a replacement.

If you would like more information about OMNYcard distribution, please contact Hope at Hope@75morton.org.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS

Bicycles are NOT permitted in the building. Bicycle racks are located on Morton street outside the school. If your child is biking to school, they will need a secure bicycle lock. Skateboards and scooters can be stored in the designated room on the first floor by the security desk. Please make sure that your child's name is on their scooter/skateboard as many are very similar. Students should also bring a lock for their scooter. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen bicycles, skateboards or scooters. Please discuss this with your child.

STUDENT PLANNERS

All students will receive planners on the first day of school. Students are required to have their planners with them EVERYDAY and must use them to keep track of their assignments and projects. Advisors and teachers will help students improve their time management and organization skills using the planners. We strongly recommend that you check your child's planner so you are aware of their current and upcoming assignments.

DRESS CODE

The purpose of a dress code is to ensure that all students are dressed appropriately for a learning environment and school activities.

At 75 Morton, we adhere to the DOE guidelines which include some of the following student clothing:

- May not wear clothing with offensive, vulgar, or inappropriate messages or graphics.
- Must appropriately cover their body, for example: clothing must provide full coverage of private body parts.
- May not wear flip-flops or slide sandals. *

If a student is not following the dress code, we will speak with them and remind them of these expectations. If necessary and approved by families, we will provide other clothing for the remainder of the school day. If it continues to be a concern, we will contact home and discuss the importance of the dress code.

ABSENCES

If a student will be absent, please email hope@75morton.org You can also email the student's advisor and teachers for more information about missed school work.

APPOINTMENTS

Doctor, dentist, etc. should be scheduled outside of the school day whenever possible. Students are responsible for making

up all school work that they miss due to any type of absences. If your child does miss school or comes to school late due to a doctor's appointment, please be sure to bring a note to the office from the doctor stating the date and time of the appointment.

ILLNESS (General)

Families can help control the spread of illnesses and disease and MUST keep sick children at home. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. If your child will be absent, please contact Hope at 212-295-7555 x 1032 or at hope@75morton.org.

COVID

If a student's symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, do not send them to school, and please get them tested. **IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY!**

You can read more about these protocols from the DOE website [here](#).

CALENDAR

For the 75 Morton Calendar go to [75morton.org/calendar](https://www.schools.nyc.gov/calendar/2025-2026-school-year-calendar). For the 2025-2026 DOE calendar go to <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/calendar/2025-2026-school-year-calendar>

LUNCH

In our state-of-the-art cafeteria, students have the option of eating FREE lunch provided by the DOE or a packed lunch from home. Please note that it is not possible to heat lunches brought from home. Each lunch period is split between recess in the yard (weather dependent) and lunch in the cafeteria. Breakfast and lunch menus are available at www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/food/menus.

OUT-LUNCH

7th and 8th graders are eligible for Out-Lunch. Out-Lunch is a privilege. 8th graders will begin Out-Lunch privileges, starting in October. 7th graders will begin Out-Lunch privileges in the 2nd semester. Parents are required to give permission for their child to participate in out-lunch. The school will make the final determination as to whether a student may go out on a day-to-basis.

Out-lunch privileges can be revoked by the school or the parent/guardian at any time.

****Students who swipe in after 8:40am, will not be allowed to go to out-lunch that day****

All students must have and use their 75 Morton ID cards for out-lunch. They will swipe as they exit and again when they re-enter the building.

- If a student swipes out for lunch, they must remain out of the building for the entire period. They cannot re-enter before the end of the lunch period.
- A student must swipe out within the first 10 minutes of the lunch period, otherwise they will stay in.
- Any misuse or misrepresentation of an ID card will result in revocation of out-lunch privileges.

While outside for lunch, students are expected to:

- act responsibly and behave in a safe manner.
- be respectful to our neighbors on the street and in restaurants and stores.
- stay within the stated and printed boundaries. Please see the map [here](#).
- return to school on time.
- understand that out-lunch privileges will be revoked if these expectations are not adhered to.

DRINKS

There are many state-of-the-art water bottle filling stations throughout the building. Your child should bring a reusable water bottle with a lid to school everyday. No other beverages are allowed in classrooms.

SNACKS

Snacks are not permitted in school other than in the cafeteria during lunch.

LOCKERS

All students are assigned a locker and given a combination lock. Locks must be used every time students use their lockers. Students may not share lockers or lock combinations with other students. Lockers are for backpacks and outerwear and for keeping belongings neat, and organized. Decorating the inside of lockers is allowed with the following exceptions: no writing on or in lockers, no stickers on or in lockers. All decorations must be respectful of the entire 75 Morton community. Tape is allowed on the outside of lockers for birthday decorations only. No food or beverages are allowed to be kept in lockers past 3pm.

Students are allowed to go to their lockers before Homeroom, before and after lunch, and at the end of the day.

If your child loses their lock, they should see the Parent Coordinator Hope for a replacement.

LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found is located in the scooter room by the Security Guard desk. Remind your children to check it as they enter the building in the morning, or at the end of the school day. Items remaining in the lost and found will be periodically cleaned out and donated to charity. You will be notified in an email in advance of the clean out.

POLICIES

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

At 75 Morton we believe that in order for students to maintain high levels of learning, they need to be in school daily and on time. This ensures that the children are able to begin their day in a calm manner and are engaged in the routines of the school day. Students are considered truant if they are out of school without a valid reason (illness, religious holiday, family emergency). These absences will still be on report cards and their permanent record.

Unless your child is ill, they should not miss school. Extending vacations or taking your child away while school is in session can potentially impact and limit their academic progress.

CELL PHONE POLICY

To create an environment conducive to learning by minimizing distractions caused by cell phones and other personal internet-enabled electronic devices, ensure the safety and focus of all students during school the school day, and follow Education Law §2803, effective August 1, 2025, all New York State schools are required to adopt a policy that prohibits the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day on school grounds. An "internet-enabled electronic device" is defined as an electronic device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet. Examples of such devices include cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, laptops, tablets, iPads, and portable music and entertainment systems.

Students will not be permitted to use or access their personal internet-enabled electronic devices upon arrival at school until the end of the school day. The school day is defined as the period from the moment students enter the school building until the last class of the day ends, including during lunch. The school day starts at 8:40 am and ends at 3:00pm. Students will be able to use school/NYCPS-issued devices during the school day.

In order to do this, all students are required to put their phone, smartwatch and portable music devices in a Yondr bag. This is a cloth bag with a magnetic enclosure. Each student will be given a Yondr bag at the beginning of the school year and will be responsible for bringing that bag to school each day.

- Students will place their devices in the Yondr bag and secure it in front of school staff.
- Students will store their locked pouches in their locker for the day.
- At the end of the school day, students will unlock their pouch on their grade floor.
- They will remove their device(s) and lock their pouches before leaving the school.
- Students who are being signed out by a parent for early dismissal will be able to unlock their pouch in the main office.

Internet enabled electronic devices that are too big for the Yondr pouch, such as laptops, tablets, iPads and video game devices, are not allowed in the school.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I want to reach my child during the school day?

We want our students to be engaged in their learning. If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at 212-295-7555.

What if there is a school emergency?

In case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our school emergency preparedness protocol.

- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, parents or guardians can call the main office at 212-295-7555 to reach their child.
- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, students may bring their pouch to the main office to unlock and use their phone to reach their parents or guardians.
- In case of school emergency or exigent circumstances, the school will use Jupiter to communicate information to parents or guardians.

Are there exceptions to the policy?

Students are allowed to use their device if they have an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan that includes use of an internet-enabled device and do not have a DOE-issued device for such purpose.

- Parents/guardians must contact Pupil Accountant Secretary Judy Young at 212-295-7555 if a student requires an exception for reasons such as: medical monitoring/treatments (for example to monitor blood sugar or other similar circumstances), if student is a caregiver, for approved language purposes (such as translation or interpretation services if no other means are available), or where otherwise required by law.
- The principal/designee may authorize use for an educational purpose.
- Exceptions will be processed and approved within 48 hours.

Will my student's phone be safe?

Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. We will advise students to store the pouch in their lockers where it is completely safe.

Can my child still use their phone at out lunch?

Yes. They can unlock their pouch on the way out of the building and secure their phone again upon re-entry.

What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged or a student is caught on their phone?

Students who use electronic devices in violation of the NYCPS Discipline Code, the school's policy, Chancellor's Regulation A-413, and/or the NYCPS Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy ("IAUSP") will be subject to progressive discipline. This means that the disciplinary responses will escalate based on the nature and frequency of the violation.

Note: As provided in the State law, a student may not be suspended solely on the grounds that the student accessed a personal internet-enabled device in violation of school policy. Repeated incidents of insubordination (i.e. refusal to surrender or store devices) **may** result in a suspension **if approved** by the Office of Safety and Youth Development.

Please do not text or call your child on their cell phone during the school day! If you need to get a message to them, call the school and we will help you.

If any changes to the Yondr policy are made, families will be notified.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

We believe that all students should be held to high expectations, both academically and behaviorally. 75 Morton provides a safe, structured learning environment for all students by utilizing both restorative justice practices as well as more traditional consequences.

SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to follow these school-wide expectations in all of their classes.

CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY -Food and drinks other than water stay in the cafeteria so that classrooms and hallways remain clean -Use trash/recycling the bins so the hallways and staircase remain clean -No gum - Lockers are kept clean	SAFETY -WALK -Hands to yourself -Always sign out/have a pass when leaving the classroom - Use the up and down directions on the staircase
RESPECT -Be respectful to others (treat others the way you want to be treated) -Use kind words - Hands to yourself	LEARNING -Be on time -Phones/airpods/smart watches in your Yondr pouch - Keep bags and coats in your lockers

Locker Protocols

Students should keep bags and coats in their lockers. Small purses/handbags are acceptable for small items needed throughout the day. This protocol is in place in an effort to help students strengthen their executive functioning skills.

Students can visit their lockers at these times:

Before homeroom.

Before lunch.

After lunch.

Between 7th and 8th periods.

Using your lockers helps you:

- Plan ahead
- Build organizational skills
- Stay focused on class, not your belongings

Restorative Practices

Restorative practices is the belief that there is power in communities and that people want to belong to communities where they feel accepted and heard. At 75 Morton, we apply Restorative practices to support students with understanding their role in the experiences they have as middle school students.

We provide students with opportunities to learn from their mistakes and grow by developing a sense of accountability and belonging to the 75 Morton community. When students' behavior is not aligned with the behavior expectations, the staff follow a series of Restorative interventions to best support students.

Step 1 Interventions:

Verbal redirection

Teacher/student meeting

Calm Corner in the Classroom

Dean support

Restorative Project/Activity such as a community building activity

Restorative Circle/Peer Mediation

Step 2 Interventions (If behavior persists or for slightly more serious infractions):

Restorative Circle/Peer Mediation

Counseling Referral

Conduct sheet for student

Contact home

Family meeting with advisor and/or teacher

Step 3 Interventions (If behavior still continues):

Family Meeting with Administrator

Loss of Events (Out-Lunch Privileges, Field Trips, Dances, Etc.)

Suspension according to the Chancellor's Regulations ([link](#))

Restorative Re-Entry Circle

If you have any questions about our Restorative Justice Program, please reach out to our RJ Coordinator, Theresa Soto at tsoto6@schools.nyc.gov.

If there are any changes to the behavioral and detention policy, families will be notified.

COMPUTER POLICY

75 Morton provides computers for in-class work. Students are expected to use the computers appropriately and according to teacher instructions. Any deviation from these guidelines will result in revocation of computer privileges on a case by case basis.

Cyber-bullying is never allowed. and For further information, please visit the Department of Education's "[Respect for All](#)" webpage.

Please refer to the Chancellor's Regulations for other helpful information including:

Discipline Code

Social Media Guidelines

Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Student Guidelines

Truancy Regulations

and much more

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/policies-for-all>.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Students may not self dismiss before the official end of the school day. You, or an adult who is listed on the Blue Emergency Contact Cards may sign them out before the end of the school day. If something comes up and you need to have your child dismissed to someone who is not on the Blue Card, please call the main office at 212-295-7555 and press 0.

ELEVATORS

Students move around the building using the stairs. With all of their core classes on one floor, they are rarely more than a couple of flights from their next destination. **Students may use the elevators ONLY when they are physically impaired and have brought in a doctor's note with the diagnosis that includes a start and end date for use of the elevator.**

They will then be issued a pass in the main office and will need to show it to an adult at the elevator. All students must be accompanied by an adult in the elevator. Students who use an elevator without a pass receive a strike.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

NOTIFICATIONS

In the event of emergency situations or school closings there are many options for getting information:

- Register for Notify NYC [here](#) to receive email and text notifications - or get the App (for iOS and Android): Notify NYC
- Go to the DOE website www.schools.nyc.gov
- Call 311 for updates
- Tune into NY1 on cable TV (Spectrum Customers Only)
- Tune into WINS radio (1010 AM)
- Visit our website: 75Morton.org

EMERGENCY CONTACT CARDS (BLUE CARDS)

In the event of an emergency, the information you provide is crucial. The contacts provided should be people who can easily pick up your child in your stead. If someone is NOT listed on the blue card and/or not at least 18 years old, we will not release your child.

Please note: Students cannot self-dismiss from school for any reason at any time before the end of the school day, per the DOE rules and regulations. If you need to sign out a child early, you must come to the main office or have someone listed on the blue cards do so.

MEDICAL ISSUES

School staff and teachers are not permitted to administer or assist with the administration of medication to any student. The school nurse is on the second floor in room 223. If your child needs to take medication regularly during the day or has severe allergies, please contact the nurse at 212-295-7555, ext. 2231. The nurse will provide the proper forms for you to fill out.

Though they do not happen often, if there is a serious medical emergency involving your child 75 Morton staff will do the following:

- Call 911
- Call you, and continue calling down the list of numbers on the blue card until contact is made.
- Wait for the ambulance and EMTs.
- Call you to let you know what hospital your child will be taken to; you should then travel to that hospital. We have to wait for the EMTs to tell us which hospital, and sometimes that is not determined until they are ready to leave the building.
- Escort your child to the hospital and wait until you arrive before leaving

VISITORS

According to DOE protocols, our doors will be locked from 9:00-3:00pm. Entry can be obtained by pressing the call button on the wall outside the front door. All visitors 18+ are required to show a photo ID at the safety desk upon entering the building. Once you have signed in, please report directly to the main office (lobby floor) to check in for your appointment.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

THE GOALS

The 75 Morton PTA is a vital part of the 75 Morton family. Its goal is to create a welcoming and supportive community and at the same time raise money to fund both the necessities not provided by the DOE, and enrichment programs that our children need.

MEMBERSHIP

Every parent, guardian and teacher at 75 Morton is a member of the PTA. The Executive Board, a group of parent volunteers elected yearly in the spring, works with the membership to support the vision of the school through fundraising and the implementation of programs and initiatives. Two slots on the Executive Board are reserved for incoming parents/guardians to be elected at a special election each fall.

FUNDRAISING

The funds provided by the Department of Education are used primarily for classroom teacher salaries. The 75 Morton PTA not only funds the enrichment programs at 75 Morton, but pays for many of the most basic services and supplies. Asking families to donate directly to 75 Morton is the most efficient way to raise these funds. To donate to the Direct Appeal go to: www.75morton.org.

COMMUNITY

There are many ways to become involved including but not limited to: joining committees, attending PTA meetings,

volunteering, attending and supporting school events, and contributing to fundraisers. To see a list of PTA committees that need your help go to 75Morton.org. Email the PTA at PTA@75Morton.org

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT)

The SLT is a group made up of the school principal and an equal number of elected parents and staff members. The SLT helps develop educational policies for the school and cooperates with the PTA and the administration to ensure that there are resources to support those policies. One slot on the SLT is reserved for an incoming parent/guardian to be elected at a special election each fall, held during a PTA meeting. For more information about the SLT please email info@75Morton.org

ACADEMICS & ADVISORY

CLASSES

The student body at 75 Morton is organized by class numbers (610, 711, 812 etc.). Students in each class will travel together throughout the school day. The numbers are not room numbers but rather function as a way to identify a class as a cohort. All 6th grade class numbers begin with 6. All 7th grade class numbers begin with 7, and all 8th grade class numbers begin with 8.

SUBJECTS

All students take English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education and Advisory. In addition, they'll have Electives, Strategic Reading, and Spanish.

ELECTIVES

All students will take one of our electives: STEAM, Library Skills or Visual Arts throughout the school year. Students will change electives each semester.

ADVISORY

Advisory groups are a mix of students from the same grade with each advisory having approximately 15 students and their Advisor (a teacher). Advisory is a time for students to develop skills that will help them throughout middle school and beyond. These include: social-emotional skills, organizational skills, and communication skills. Advisories meet three times weekly for a full period.

Advisors:

- work closely with the guidance counselor to help each student fine tune their strengths and develop areas of growth.
- advocate for each student to help them to be the best they can be.
- are knowledgeable about each student's entire academic and behavioral record.
- assist and oversee each student in preparing for Parent/Teacher/Student conferences
- are the main connection between students, families, and the school. They can help families coordinate meetings with other school staff.

Students, contact your Advisor if:

- you've made a mistake, and need help making it right.
- you have concerns or need advice.
- you need access to your email or Jupiter.
- you are having trouble with another student or teacher and need help with positive, peaceful solutions.

Families, contact your Advisor if:

- you have any questions.
- you have concerns about your child's progress.
- you think your child might need extra support to be successful.
- you need access to your child's email or google account.

SUPPORT SERVICES

For information about academic support services provided by the DOE, email our IEP Coordinator Brooke Barnard at bgoldfeder@schools.nyc.gov. For information about social and emotional support services and provided by the DOE, please email our Social Worker Danielle Eagan at deagan2@schools.nyc.gov, our School Counselor Elaine Liu at eliu-lorenzo@schools.nyc.gov or our Bi-Lingual School Counselor Melissa Polanco at mpolanco15@schools.nyc.gov. Please contact Elaine if your child needs a 504 plan.

[Notice of Non-Discrimination under Section 504](#)

REPORTING GRADES

JUPITER

We use Jupiter as our online grading portal which is accessible to parents, guardians and students at all times. You and your child will receive instructions on how to login for Jupiter shortly after school starts. If you have any questions, please contact our Parent Coordinator Hope at hope@75morton.org.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued four times a year, with the final grade given on the last report card issued on the last day of the school year. You can check your child's report card grades at <https://www.schoolsaccount.nyc>

GRADING POLICY

Students are graded in each subject with Standard Based Grading. Grades are determined by an accumulation of the following:

- Assessment/Projects: 50%
- Class Work: 30%

- Homework: 10%
- Participation: 10%

If you have any questions regarding your child's grades, please feel free to contact their advisor at any point in the school year.

THUNDERBOLT THINKING

Thunderbolt Thinking represents a work ethic and work habits that we want our students to embody for success in middle school and looking forward.

Thunderbolt Thinking learning targets are intended to help students, and are a positive part of a student's academic progress. We expect all students at 75 Morton to:

- I participate and collaborate in a positive and meaningful way.
 - I attempt all tasks given, try my best and ask for help if I need it.
 - I complete my homework on time with my best effort.
 - I am prepared with all the materials I need for class
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ATHLETICS & MANHATTAN YOUTH AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Manhattan Youth (MY) provides 75 Morton with an outstanding and FREE afterschool program every school day, Monday-Friday from 3pm-5:50pm.. At school-day dismissal, students participating in Manhattan Youth proceed directly to the cafeteria for a FREE snack and then are directed to their after-school programs.

Offerings throughout the school year are varied and include many options: study lab, table tennis, gardening, coding, school newspaper, cooking, chess, and hip hop/salsa, to name just a few. All of the sports at 75 Morton are administered by Manhattan Youth, including Middle School Athletic League (competitive) boys teams and girls teams. The teams include: soccer, volleyball, flag football, basketball, cheerleading, track and field, baseball, softball and others.

MY sends out information about program offerings, surveys, and registration instructions at the beginning of each of their trimester sessions.

Please reach out to the MY staff with all of your afterschool questions!

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Cynthia De Leon

cdeleon@manhattanyouth.org

917-836-3644