

Right before classes were dismissed Thursday Feb. 21 because of the impending ice storm, I picked up my sixth-grader at Morton Middle School for an orthodontic appointment. The staff was busy contacting parents and heading off the chaos surrounding pick-up and early dismissal. My daughter did not bring her instrument home, and she had a duet that Saturday at a band tournament with another student. Friday when school was called off, I began to panic: Not only would my daughter get a failing grade, but she also would cause another student to fail if we couldn't get into the school and retrieve the saxophone. So I decided to contact the principal (**Ronda Runyon**) at home to see if she might know someone who could gain access for us into the building. I left a message at her home, and she called me back within an hour saying she would meet me at the school very shortly and let me in. She opened the door for me (happily) and showed me to the band room and band director (**Debbie Shelton**, who helped me find the right saxophone), and I left with a huge sigh of relief. My daughter and her duet partner earned a perfect score and a distinguished medal at the tournament. I told my daughter how these two ladies didn't have to let us in -- they were going above and beyond. We were very appreciative and know that Morton's administration does whatever's necessary to help kids achieve. It was apparent on this day.

-- Submitted by Molly Harper, parent