



Clayton High School PTO

From The CHS PTO.

POSTCARD TO PARENTS



March Postcard

February 28, 2024 | claytonschools.net/chspto

Message from the PTO Presidents



Marching into Spring

We were so excited by the large turnout to February's PTO meeting. Below you'll find the link to the minutes that outline what Carolyn Blair covered in our discussion about college preparedness and how to improve the experience for parents. **Be on the lookout for focus group sign-ups for parents of seniors**, as Ms. Blair leads the charge to better serve our community.



For our March 6th meeting, we will briefly hear from candidates running for the Board of Education; Leo Human, Jason Wilson, and Pamela Lyss-Lerman will attend our PTO meeting to introduce themselves. Additionally, the PTO Council will moderate a "*Meet The Candidates*" Forum on Tuesday, March 26th at the Clayton High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. The PTO Council will also host a meet-and-greet reception in the CHS upper commons immediately following the forum. (If you have any questions regarding the Board of Education candidates or the upcoming election, please email the Executive Assistant to the Board of Education, Heike Janis, at heikejanis@claytonschools.net or [visit their website.](#))

We still have a way to go to fully fund Funds for Excellence. If you have not already contributed, please do so as soon as possible. [Here's the link to donate online.](#) We are working hard to increase the level of parent participation, so please give even if you are unable to give the full suggested amount. We typically fund this budget by the end of the first semester, and we are anxious to get this settled soon. Your contribution of any amount is greatly appreciated!

In case you missed it: [watch this video](#) to see how funds from the PTO Funds for Excellence are making a difference! These funds were awarded last spring and the projects are already making an impact! A big thank you to students Adam Halloul and Izzy Proctor for creating this video to showcase the Funds for Excellence awards in action!

We can't wait to tell you about the projects we've approved this year; we will highlight them in April!

Thank you,
Suzy Ogé and Jena Schaumburg



Monthly Meeting Invitation

Board of Education Candidate Introductions

Wednesday, March 6th, 12-1 pm, Meeting room C at the Center of Clayton

As we mentioned above, our March 6th meeting will begin with introductions from the three candidates running for the Board of Education: Leo Human, Jason Wilson and Pamela Lyss-Lerman.

Additional Agenda items:

- **Jennifer McKeown, CHS's Wellness Coordinator** will share about the upcoming Wellness Center Open House Events for parents and caregivers during the week of Parent Teacher Conferences.
- **Dr. Gutchewsky and T'Shon Young** will give updates on what's happening around Clayton High School as we approach midterm, Parent Teacher Conferences, and spring sports and activities.
- We will highlight upcoming events so you can find a place to meet others, make an impact, and get connected.
- As always, you'll have an opportunity to **ask questions or bring up topics** you'd like to discuss.
- **We hope to see you in person**, but feel free to join us via Zoom if that works better for your schedule. See below for the link!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88132824346?pwd=LLv6EV5UbDi60aUG8nZELzcW8DwVMA.1>

Meeting ID: 881 3282 4346

Passcode: 200708

Reminders



wellness center open house

The Wellness Center is a new space on CHS's campus dedicated to creating a supportive, safe environment for students. Join the conversation during Parent Teacher Conferences, either virtually or in-person.

IN-PERSON EVENT

March 13, 2024 3:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Located in Room 19, across from Art Department

VIRTUAL EVENTS

March 12, 2024 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

March 14, 2024 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

tinyurl.com/chswellnessopenhouse

Use the link above to join the Zoom Meeting

Password: wellness



"Just in time" reminders for CHS parents

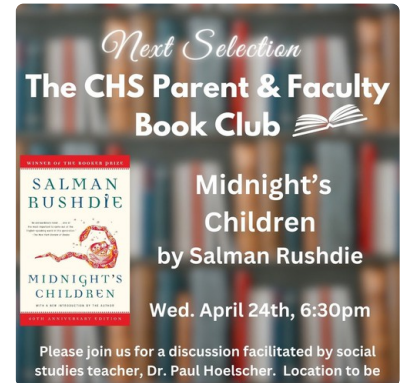
- March 8th there is no school for students
- The student Wellness Center is now open! **On March 13th you will have an opportunity to tour the space in-person. Virtual options are on March 12th and 14th.** We can't wait to see how it will benefit the students. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Parent-Teacher Conference sign-ups are now live! [Click this link to begin registration.](#) Then click on "make a booking" and enter code: **a7ysz**. See Dr. Gutchewsky's recent email for more details. (Conferences will be held March 11-16; **March 13th is the in-person option** with all other days being virtual only.)
- March 15th is an early release day for students.
- SPRING BREAK is March 18-22.
- March 29th there is no school for students.
- **Freshmen Parent Connection** on Thursday, April 25th 6-8 pm at the Center of Clayton Meeting room A & B
 - 6-7 pm there will be a Q&A session with Carolyn Blair to get an overview of what's ahead in the College Preparation Process
 - 7-8 pm there will be a parent social gathering directly following the meeting. Drinks and light refreshments will be provided.



Mark Your Calendar

Midnight's Children is the next CHS Parent & Faculty Book Club Selection

The next international book selection continuing in the genre of magical realism, is *Midnight's Children* by Indian born British-American Author, Salman Rushdie. The discussion will be **Wednesday, April 24**. We're moving the discussion to a later, after work time by parent request to accommodate schedules. *Midnight's Children* was a Booker Prize winner as well as a two time Best of the Booker Prize winner. This is a long book, so don't delay in starting this one!



The Parent and Faculty Book Club at Clayton High School brings teachers and parents together to discuss important topics. The book discussions are an opportunity to build partnerships and talk about important ideas. Thank you to Dr. Paul Hoelscher in the CHS Social Studies Department for initiating the revival of these book discussions. Three books by international authors will be selected this school year. Thanks to all who participated in the recent discussion of *The Whale*. We had a diverse group of parents and teachers and an interesting, friendly, non-intimidating conversation. Everyone is welcome!

Recap of Last Month's Meeting

February Meeting Minutes

February's meeting was a full one! We heard from Carolyn Blair, Counseling Department Chair for CHS, who fielded questions and comments about the ways the counseling department can improve and responsively shift their process so more parents are informed and confident as they navigate the college process at CHS. She will be forming focus groups in the next couple of months to help further guide that process. **Thank you** to Ms. Blair for her thoughtful contributions to our meeting, and **thank you** to the many of you who asked questions and provided meaningful insight to the discussion.

Here's a link to the full [February meeting minutes](#).

The CHS PTO

www.claytonschools.net/chspto



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