



Clayton High School PTO

From The CHS PTO.

POSTCARD TO PARENTS



September Postcard

August 28, 2024 | claytonschools.net/chspto

Message from the PTO Presidents



Funds for Excellence PTO Fundraising Campaign

Dear CHS families,

All parents/guardians of CHS students and all administrative and teaching staff are PTO members. The goal of the PTO is to support and enhance the education of students at CHS through volunteer service, fundraising, and fostering relationships among members of the school community, as well as by promoting excellence, trust, inclusiveness, innovation, and accountability. One way we accomplish this each year is by providing funds not available through conventional District channels to teachers for special projects, innovative initiatives that enhance student learning and well-being.

Last year, these PTO-funded special projects included:

- purchase of a high-quality video camera and a new still camera for photojournalism students
- the Global Stem Squad's project to improve health and sanitation in a small community in the Honduras through the design and implementation of Eco-Stoves and a hygiene station
- access for students in the English Department to publish digital essays on emerging platforms, as well as hosting visiting poets who shared their poetry with CHS students
- the launch of a pilot language program giving Spanish students the opportunity to connect and converse with Spanish teachers in Spanish-speaking countries, so students can build confidence in their speaking skills as well as collaborate with a native speaker, cultivate empathy, and learn cultural awareness
- and more!

In addition, the PTO plans and funds meals and other tokens of appreciation for our amazing teachers and staff, hosts grade-level social and informational meetings for parents/guardians as well as community events, and, via our Care Fund, assists community members in need.

The PTO can't do all this without you! Our proposed budget for this school year is \$27,500. The PTO is funded solely by your contributions, and this year we're aiming for broader engagement from the high school community. [Please give what you can](#) – it's not the amount that matters, but the act of giving.

With thanks,
Jena Schaumburg and [Joanna Dinsmore](#)



Monthly Meeting Invitation

First CHS PTO Meeting of the Year!

Please join us on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 12-1 pm**, in the Center of Clayton, conference room C (to the left of the building as you enter).

[Agenda](#) items include the following:

- **Superintendent Nisha Patel** is our guest speaker and will share her vision for the District for the year ahead.
- **Dr. Gutchewsky and Ms. T'Shon Young** will give updates on what's happening around Clayton High School as we begin a new school year.
- We will highlight upcoming events, including the **parent-teacher book club and Parent Connections gatherings**, so you can find a place to meet others, make an impact, and get connected.
- You'll have an opportunity to ask questions or bring up topics you'd like to discuss; we will do our best to provide answers or guide you to the appropriate resources for issues outside of the PTO's purview.

We hope to see you in person (feel free to bring your lunch!), but please join us via Zoom if that works better for your schedule; the link is below. We look forward to seeing you!

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting URL:

<https://wustl.zoom.us/j/97843311488?pwd=ICnNuKV8BqRULKYbbMhhLmMvQaV1XV.1>

Meeting ID: 978 4331 1488

Passcode: 044535

Reminders



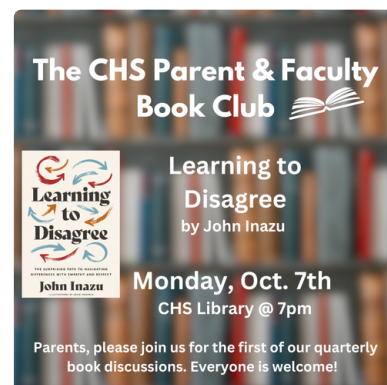
"Just in time" reminders and helpful info for CHS parents

- Homecoming Week is September 30 through October 5; stay tuned for the PTO's Parents' Guide to Homecoming
- Find the [District Buzz Books](#), the online school directories, here.
- See the [District calendar](#) to view all upcoming events at CHS and around the District.
- [Clayton 101](#) is the District's handbook, with a wealth of information about District policies, services, guidelines, and more.
- Check out the District's [Share Your Feedback](#) page, which summarizes steps for effective communication between parents and staff.

Mark Your Calendar

CHS Parent & Faculty Book Club

Our first book of the year is [*Learning to Disagree: The Surprising Path to Navigating Differences with Empathy and Respect*](#) by local author John Inazu. This insightful book offers a roadmap for engaging respectfully with differing viewpoints in today's polarized society, providing practical strategies for navigating contentious issues and encouraging honest, empathetic conversations that build bridges and foster understanding. The discussion will be **Monday, October 7, at 7 pm** in the CHS library. Everyone is welcome!



The Parent and Faculty Book Club at Clayton High School brings teachers and parents together to discuss important topics and provides an opportunity to share ideas and build partnerships. Thank you to Dr. Paul Hoelscher in the CHS Social Studies Department for leading the book discussions. If you have suggestions for future books or would like to get more involved, [let us know!](#)

Other Important Dates

9/20: No school – Staff Professional Learning
 9/27, 9:00–10:30 am: Parent coffee with Dr. Gutchewsky in the CHS library
 9/30, 6–7 pm: Junior parent Q&A session with CHS college counselors, CHS library (**for parents/guardians of 11th graders only**)
 10/4–10/5: Homecoming Weekend
 10/11: No school – Teacher work day

The CHS PTO

www.claytonschools.net/chspto



For real time communications, please follow ClaytonHighPTO on Instagram

