

CHS Link Crew

Link Crew is a leadership, mentoring, and developmental program introduced at Clayton High School in the fall of 2015. Developed by the Boomerang Project, Link Crew connects upperclassmen to mentor and guide incoming freshman.

Each incoming freshman student is assigned to a group of 10-12 other freshmen and two Link Leaders. The program starts with a freshman only orientation a few days before the first day of school. The upperclassmen Link Leaders lead their assigned freshmen group through ice-breakers and other bonding activities during freshman orientation.

Link Leaders continue to support their student Crew by meeting with them formally and informally throughout the school year to invite them to school functions, give them advice, and guidance, and assisting them academically. The leaders are a positive role model for the freshman students during the important transition from middle school to high school.

The intention of the program is to increase freshmen success by increasing the positive and personal connections freshmen experience as they enter high school. This freshmen success can be measured by school attendance, academic success and discipline.

The qualities we look for in a Link Leaders are:

- Strong communication skills
- Willingness to lead others
- Responsible enough to manage a group
- Accountable to show up throughout all phases of the program during the year
- Willing to take risks
- Interest in helping others
- Positive role model
- Dedicated
- Self-confident and self-directed
- Respect for diverse ideas and personalities
- Enthusiastic

During the 2014-2015 school year, Link Leaders at Clayton High School:

- Participated in our May Development Day: Wed. May 28th, 11am-1pm
- Participated in our intensive two day Link Leader Training in August:
- Led small group activities for the Class of 2018 Freshman Orientation.
- Wore their Link Leader t-shirts and helped freshmen with directions and questions on the first day of school.
- Had their lockers assigned in the freshman hallway next to their Link Crew
- Assisted with Open House
- Assisted with 9th grade Curriculum night
- Educated freshman about Homecoming events
- Attended monthly meetings

- Assisted teachers and shared study strategies at the Freshman Finals Fiesta (Freshman final prep night).
- Taught lessons entitled "Using Resources", "Perspective", "Goal Setting", "Achieving Excellence", and "Building Relationships That Last" during Learning Center periods.
- Served as a leader and mentor to their freshman crew for the entire 2014-2015 school year