

April 16, 2021 | [claytonschools.net](http://claytonschools.net)

### **Top Three Things in this Issue:**

CHS Dance Marathon Results

All In Clayton Coalition Virtual Events

Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week

### **A Message from the Lead Learner**

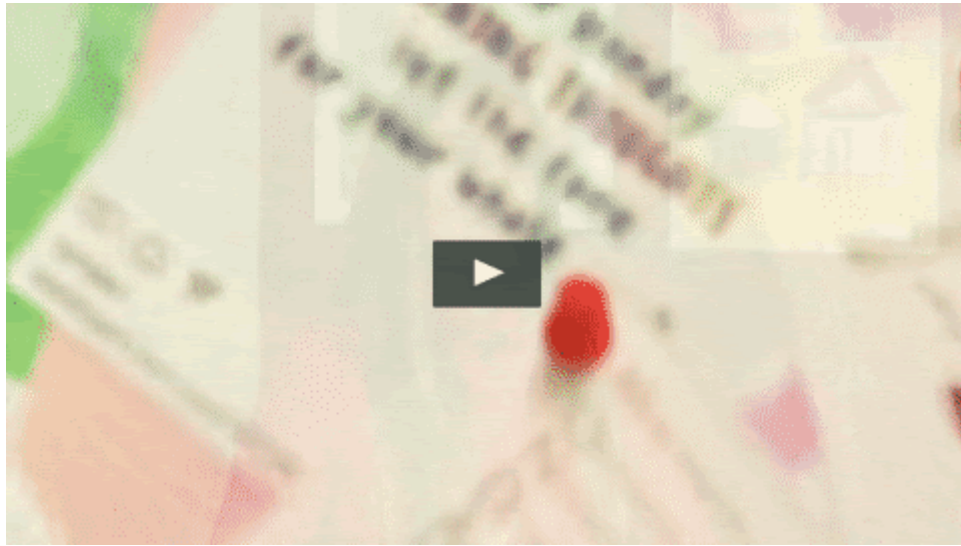
Dear Clayton Community,

There are many ways to measure success. Within the realm of school, people will often use standardized assessments to determine if our students are successful or to make comparisons between school districts. We have a reputation for excellence in Clayton, which is evident in our rankings, test scores and achievements, like our recent National Blue Ribbon School nominations. While we value these types of data, they cannot be the only ways we measure success.

[Read the rest of Dr. Doherty's message here.](#)

### **A Conversation with the Incoming Superintendent**

This week's edition of eNews includes the next installment of our video series featuring Clayton's incoming superintendent, Dr. Nisha Patel. In this second installment, Dr. Patel talks about how hard work is one of her core values and why Mondays are her favorite day of the week.



*\*Click on the image above to watch the full video.\**

### **CHS Dance Marathon Raises Over \$22,00 for Charity**



During the past few months, CHS seniors **Abigail Mann** and **James Marsden**, as well as their Executive Committee, worked to organize the third annual Dance Marathon. The goal of this organization is to have a series of small fundraising activities throughout the course of the year, which then culminate in a Dance Marathon.

Even COVID-19 couldn't stop CHS students from making this incredible event happen. For three hours students had a great time on Adzick Field with games, music, participating in choreographed dances, food, raffles, a photo booth and other activities. Everyone had fun while remaining safe and socially-distanced.

In the end, students raised over \$22,000 with all of the money going directly to local Children's Miracle Network Hospitals!

[Click here to read more and to view photos from the event.](#)

### **Caring for Head and Heart Series**

Join the [All In Clayton Coalition](#) and School District of Clayton's Office of Student Services for two upcoming online events.



This virtual two-part series, [Caring for Head and Heart](#), is aimed at supporting the social and emotional development of students by providing practical tools for caregivers and anyone who works with children.

### ***Supporting Transgender and Non-binary Youth***

Monday, April 26 from 7 - 8 p.m.

Dr. Katie Heiden-Rootes, Director of SLU Clinical Services, Center for Counseling and Family Therapy

### ***Supporting Students with Anxiety***

Wednesday, April 28 from 6 - 7 p.m.

Amy Maus, LCSW, from West County Psychological Associates

These events are free and open to parents, caregivers and educators. Register [here](#) to receive the link to these Zoom events.

## **Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week: April 19-23**



[Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week](#) starts on Monday and is a great

time to recognize, appreciate and advocate for those who work with young people during out-of-school hours. The week is marked by celebrations encouraging appreciation and support for all the afterschool professionals who make a profound difference in the lives of young

people.

We'd like to thank all of the afterschool professionals in the School District of Clayton for their dedication, hard work and commitment to the youth in the community and the surrounding areas.

[Take a look at our very own District Afterschool Professionals hard at work.](#)

## **Alumni Hall of Fame/Distinguished Educator Nominations**

Have a friend, family member or classmate who has achieved great things after graduating from CHS? If so, it's time to brag about them. Help the Clayton Education Foundation find

CHS Greyhounds who graduated in or before the class of 2011, who represent the diversity of the CHS community and have accomplishments in one or more of the following areas:

- Excellence in service to a recognized profession such as law, education, medicine, engineering, science or journalism.
- Outstanding success in a trade, business or industry.
- Demonstrated high achievement in one or more recognized fields of cultural endeavor such as music, theater, dance or literature.
- Significant contributions to the community at large through volunteering or charitable contributions.

The Alumni Hall of Fame [criteria and nomination forms can be found here](#).

The CEF is also seeking [nominations for the Distinguished Educator Award](#). If you know of a favorite or outstanding teacher who made an impact on you and other students, nominate them now. **Don't delay, all nominations are due by April 20.**

## **The Equity Corner**

*Between the looming Coronavirus, political unrest, hate crimes, and death by the hands of those meant to protect, we want to acknowledge the hardship and uncertainty that has impacted every member of our Clayton Family. With all society has thrown our way, please don't neglect your mental and emotional health. It is important that we set a good example for our children as we deal with these tough times.*

Continue reading the latest edition of The Equity Corner, "[Ensuring All the Children are Well](#)" on the District's website and be sure to follow the District's equity work on [Twitter @CP\\_EdEquity](#).

Take Care!

[Cameron Poole](#)

## **Staff and Student Achievements**

CHS junior **Daena Talavera** finished seventh overall in the women's cadet division in the Junior-Cadet World Fencing Championships in Cairo, Egypt.

WMS student **Vivian Wang** won first place in the Saint Louis Symphony writing contest in the Junior Poetry Division for her poem, "A Pendulum Dressed as a Taboo."

District Director of Equity and Inclusion **Cameron Poole** was recently named the Saint Louis Area Secondary School Principals Educator of the Year and recognized for the incredible work he is doing for our students, teachers and families.

## **Board Brief**

Review the latest edition of [The Board Brief](#) from the April 14 electronic Board of Education meeting. The Board approved a new two-year salary agreement for Clayton's teachers. Amy Rubin and Jason Wilson were sworn in to new three-year terms on the Board and the Board elected officers for the upcoming year. The new officers are:

- President - Amy Rubin
- Vice President - Gary Pierson
- Secretary - Stacy Siwak
- Treasurer - Kim Hurst

Following each meeting of the Board of Education, The Board Brief is your source for details on Board discussions, actions and items of interest to Clayton students, staff and residents.

The Board's next regular meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 21, at 7 p.m.** The tentative agenda will include updates on the District's strategic plan and the development of the 2021-2022 budget.

## **Nutritional Notes**

*From Chartwells Director of Dining Services Michelle Fohey.*



Calcium plays a major role in many functions of the body. It is used to improve bone health, protect your gums and teeth from disease, decrease the risk of diabetes and cancer and can also help improve fertility in women.

As we age the importance of calcium only increases due to its ability to slow the rate of bone loss. Before age 30 our bones form faster than they break down, but once we're over the age of 30 our bones start to break down faster than they form. Along with getting enough calcium, to help maintain strong bones weight bearing exercises are recommended as well as making sure you're getting enough Vitamin D.

Great sources of calcium come from:

- Low fat dairy products
- Dark green vegetables
- Fish with bones
- Beans
- Food that have been enriched with calcium

## **Focus On: Volunteerism**

April is [National Volunteer Month](#). In the United States, volunteerism is instilled at a young age and in many parts of the country, it is the cornerstone of summer vacation or woven into after school programs. Most organizations in small towns, rural counties and even the largest cities would not function without volunteers.

There are a number of ways to observe National Volunteer Month. Start by simply saying "thank you" to someone who volunteers their time. Many volunteers will say it is a rewarding experience. [You can even step up to the plate and volunteer yourself](#). You don't need to have a ton of time to offer a special talent or skill of yours that may benefit a charity or organization.

Services such as these are great ways to volunteer:

- **Tutor children during or after school**
- **Spend time at animal shelters**
- **Clean up a local park or playground**
- **Make wellness calls to home-bound seniors**

## **Calendar**

**April 21 - Electronic BOE Meeting @ 7 p.m.**

April 20-21 - WMS Instrument Fitting for Incoming Sixth Graders @ 3:45 - 6 p.m.

April 23 - GLN Fifth Grade Fundraiser - Crazy Sock Day

April 25-May 1 - CPT [Family Fun Week](#)

April 30 - No School PK-12 / Professional Learning Day

**April 30 - Next issue of eNews**

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