



#2 Mark Twain Circle
Clayton, MO 63105

T: 314.854.6720
F: 314.854.6870

claytonschools.net

Performing Arts Department

Clayton High School

David Blake
THEATER MANAGER

Daniel Henderson
DIRECTOR OF ORCHESTRAS
DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Alyssa Overmann
DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Sophie Browning
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Noah Petti
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Kelley Weber
THEATER DIRECTOR

Wydown Middle School

Brian Engelmeyer
THEATER DIRECTOR

Carolyn Day
MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS

Tricia Holm
MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS

Carla Miller
THEATER DIRECTOR
DISTRICT ARTS COORDINATOR

Jennifer Shenberger
MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS

Nicholas Urvan
MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIRS

Captain Elementary

Mariana Wood
ELEMENTARY ORCHESTRAS

Monica Holy
ELEMENTARY ORCHESTRAS

Adam VanPelt
MUSIC INSTRUCTOR

Glenridge Elementary

Angela Kelton
MUSIC INSTRUCTOR

Meramec Elementary

Randi Shanker
MUSIC INSTRUCTOR

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Dear 8th Grade Parents,

Entering high school is a giant step forward in every child’s educational journey. Your child is facing some important decisions that will have a long-term impact on their life. Often young people fear the added workload of the high school curriculum and assume they will not have time to participate in the arts program. That is simply not true. Ironically, it is often the continuation of arts studies that serves as the transitional key to success. Being a member of a performing ensemble ensures instant acceptance in a respected organization at the onset of the freshman year. A group of supporting friends is already established with a firm sense of “belonging.”

There is more to it! As a parent, you need to know that:

- Research shows that when arts are included in a student’s daily learning that reading, writing and math scores improve.
- There is a high correlation between positive self-perception, high cognitive competence scores, healthy self-esteem, total interest in school activities and the study of the performing arts.
- College admission officers give special consideration to students who are part of their high schools arts programs.
- The longer an individual studies and participates in the arts, the higher his/her scores tend to be on both the verbal and math portions of the SAT examination.
- Employers often seek out students who are part of their high school music programs because of the child’s ability to solve problems and work well with all kinds of people.

Your child deserves the best upon entering the high school culture. Please contact our office if you any questions concerning this vitally important decision. We join you in your commitment to the best education possible for your child.

Respectfully,

Daniel Henderson
Director of Orchestras
Department Chair

Alyssa Overmann
Director of Bands

Kelley Weber
Director of Theater



Educate. Inspire. Empower.