



CLAYTON
HIGH SCHOOL

Principal's Newsletter

August 6, 2024 | claytonschools.net/chs

"Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world."
— Malala Yousafzai



From the Principal



From The Principal

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful summer and you are returning rejuvenated for the new academic year. My wife and I spent the first half of the summer traveling around the East Coast for my son's various lacrosse events. At one point we had been on the road for 22 out of 30 days for various tournaments and showcases. It was really hot for most of the trips but it was still exciting to watch him play. It is hard for my wife and I to believe that we really only have one more summer of these lacrosse experiences and traveling with the other families we have known for years, as Michael is entering his junior year and will be in college before we realize it. We were able to sneak in a short fly fishing trip to Michigan for some non-sports related family time. Despite the grind of the lacrosse schedule, the dedicated time with family always recharges me and it was much appreciated, but the summer seemed to go by way too quickly.

Clayton High School has been a busy place this summer as we hosted summer school and a few minor maintenance and construction projects. We installed new tile and a new audio/visual system in the Commons. Social studies has a completely renovated office area. Stuber Gym has a resurfaced floor and new bleachers. The CHS maintenance team is in the final stages of prepping the building and preparing for the return of students and staff. Our new teachers reported this week and our returning teachers and staff will return next week. I know that they are excited to see all of you.

The CHS Administrative Team has also worked closely with the building leadership group and stakeholders to strengthen our guidelines, procedures and accountability measures for the use of electronic devices and student attendance. We are hopeful that we will be able to build on the progress we made last year in addressing the misuse of electronic devices. Please note that electronic devices should not be visible at any time during instructional time without the expressed permission of the teacher for an instructional purpose. If an electronic device is visible during instructional time, it will be confiscated and turned into an administrator. Repeated violations will result in additional disciplinary consequences. A detailed description of the expectations and consequences can be found [here](#).

Furthermore, we will be introducing some new measures this year to promote the positive attendance of our students in the college application process by adding daily attendance percentages to student transcripts beginning with the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year. A detailed explanation can be found [here](#). Finally, in order to help address excessive student absences and promote regular in-person attendance, we will institute new procedures that will result in the issuance of a NCA (No Credit-Attendance) grade for any class in which a student accumulates more than eight (8) absences (excused or unexcused) in a class during a semester. A detailed description of the new attendance procedures can be found [here](#). We are hopeful that by partnering with families and working together to implement these changes, we will continue to promote and reinforce the positive educational environment we enjoy at CHS. Thank you in advance for your support of these measures.

This spring and summer we added a few new members to our faculty and staff. I am excited about what each of them will bring to the CHS community, and I look forward to their contribution.

2024-2025 New CHS Staff:

Greyhound Alternative Program - Truman Solavard (Francis Howell Central))

Instructional Coach - Donna Archer (Hazelwood School District)

Band - Tommy Perry (Fox High School)

Performing Arts - Mallory Duncan (Hixson Middle School)

Science - Mary Russo (SLUH)

Physics - Greg Schade (Parkway West))

World Language (Latin) - Matthew Crutchfield (Chaminade College Prep)

Please enjoy your last days of summer break, and I look forward to seeing you soon!

With Greyhound Pride,

Dr. Dan Gutchewsky



Mark Your Calendar



Important Dates

August 11- Student schedules available in PowerSchool

August 12 - Fall Sports Begin

August 15 - Freshmen Orientation 8:00-12:30

August 15 - New Student Orientation 1:00-2:00

August 15 - 2nd Annual Back to School Bash, Shaw Park 5-8pm

August 19 - First day of school

September 2 - Labor Day - No School

September 30-Oct. 5 - Homecoming Week

October 14-17 - Parent Teacher conferences

October 17 - Early Release Day

October 18 - No School/ Teacher Conference Comp Day

Upcoming Events

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
CLAYTON

Fall Sports Begin - August 12

- The first day of Fall Sports tryouts is Monday, August 12, 2024. All Eligibility paperwork must be completed in PowerSchool prior to trying out. More information can be found at [Eligibility 101](#)



Freshman Orientation- August 15 (8:00 - 12:30 p.m.)

- Freshman Orientation will take place on Thursday, August 15th from 8:00 a.m - 12:30 p.m. Watch for a Welcome email from Ms. Brown with important information for freshman.

New (to CHS) Student Orientation 10th - 12th Grades- August 15 (1:00 - 2:00 p.m.)

- New Student Orientation will take place on Thursday, August from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Watch for an email with more information.

Freshman Parent Night - August 27 (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.)

- Freshman Parent Night will occur on Tuesday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the CHS Auditorium immediately preceding Open House.

Open House - August 27 (7:00 p.m)

- Open House for all grades will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27. Parents will walk their child's schedule, meet teachers and hear an overview for each class. There will be a bell schedule, after each class presentation, you will have a 3 minute passing period to get to the next class. Have your child's schedule in hand.

Homecoming Week - September 30-October 5

- Homecoming Week begins Sunday, Sept. 30th, and continues through Saturday, Oct. 5th. Watch for an email from Ms. Young with more information.

Parent Conference Week - October 14-17th

- Parent-teacher conferences will be held the week of October 14-17th. Our in-person conference night will take place on October 15th. Look for an email regarding sign-up and more information in September.

District Calendar

Check out the [District Calendar](#) to view all upcoming events at Clayton High School and around the District!



CHS Back-to-School Information

Daily Start and End Times

School hours will begin at 8:15 a.m. and will end at 3:05 p.m. View the bell schedules below.

- [24-25 Bell Schedules](#)

2024-2025 Student Planner

Check out the [2024-25 Student Planner](#) for more detailed information on a variety of topics!

What is Greyhound Time?

Clayton High School provides a common time each day to support the academic and personal growth of students. This time may be used in a variety of ways such as academic support (tutoring, reassessment, conferences), club meetings, exercise and mental wellness activities. While students are encouraged to be proactive in meeting their academic needs, teachers may require students to come to office hours for additional assistance. The expectation is that students will prioritize their academic needs during this time. Failure to comply with teacher requests may result in a loss of privileges until their academic obligations are met.

Locker Information

Freshmen will receive locker assignments at the Freshmen Orientation on August 15th. Sophomores will keep the same locker as last year. Juniors and seniors interested in a locker should go to room 75 (ISS room) to get a locker assignment.

Locker information can be found in the PowerSchool portal but not on the PowerSchool App.

First Week of School Schedule:

All Science L sections are 30 minute Labs	Monday Aug 19 C	Tuesday Aug 20 A	Wednesday Aug 21 B	Thursday Aug 22 A	Friday Aug 23 B
	40 min periods NO LABS	80 min periods	80 min periods	80 min periods	80 min periods
8:15 - 9:35 80 minutes	1 8:15-8:55	Science L5	Science L1	Science L5	Science L1
	2 9:00-9:40	1	5	1	5
9:40 - 11:00 80 minutes	3 9:45-10:25	Science L6	Science L2	Science L6	Science L2
	4 10:30-11:10	2	6	2	6
A/B Days 11:00 - 12:15 Greyhound Time & Lunch	1st LUNCH: Lunch & GT 11:15-12:00 5th Hr Class 12:05-12:45	Lunch & Greyhound Time 11:00-12:15	Lunch & Greyhound Time 11:00-12:15	Lunch & Greyhound Time 11:00-12:15	Lunch & Greyhound Time 11:00-12:15
C Days 11:15 - 12:45 5th Period & Lunches	2nd LUNCH: 5th Hr Class 11:15-11:55 Lunch & GT 12:00-12:45				
12:15 - 1:40 85 minute due to Announcements 3rd & 7th	6 12:50-1:30	Science L7	Science L3	Science L7	Science L3
	7 1:35-2:20 Announcements	3 Announcements	7 Announcements	3 Announcements	7 Announcements
1:45 - 3:05 80 minutes	8 2:25-3:05	Science L8	Science L4	Science L8	Science L4
		4	8	4	8



Parent Corner

Stay Tuned for upcoming PTO Meeting Dates

Check out more that our PTO is doing [here!](#)



Parent Coffee

9 AM - 10:30 AM
at CHS Library

- 27th September
- 13th December
- 21st February
- 25th April



Parent Coffee

Please save the dates and join Dr. Gutchewsky for casual conversations at our Parent Coffee Gatherings at 9:00 a.m. on September 27, December 13, February 21 and April 25.

Please [RSVP here](#) if you would like to attend.



PAC.ED

PAC.ED advocates for awareness, understanding, equity and inclusion of and for all students with disabilities in the School District of Clayton. PAC.ED is a volunteer organization made up of families, Clayton, and Special School District (SSD) staff and administrators, as well as community members. To learn more about Clayton PAC.ED and its mission [Click HERE](#).



CHS Principal's Newsletter



The Principal's Newsletter is sent to CHS families and staff who have subscribed or have provided an email address on the student information form or via Powerschool.