



CLAYTON
HIGH SCHOOL

Principal's Newsletter

December 5, 2024 | claytonschools.net/chs

"For last year's words belong to last year's language And next year's words await another voice."
– T. S. Eliot



From the Principal



From The Principal

I hope everyone had a restful Thanksgiving. We spent the long weekend in Milwaukee visiting my sister and her family. It was really cold but that did not seem to dampen anyone's spirits at the annual Holiday parade when the wind chills were single digits. (Wisconsin folk are hearty stock...). We also watched my niece perform in a production of Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer on Saturday and saw a Milwaukee Bucks game. I always love seeing them, and it was a fun way to kick off the holiday season and enjoy some time with family before the final push of the semester.

As we approach the end of the academic term, I would ask that you pay special attention to your student's stress levels over the coming weeks. We have created structures and resources to help students manage their stress in healthy ways, but please know that we are here to help if your student seems overwhelmed. Please do not hesitate to reach out to a counselor or administrator if your student needs assistance.

Speaking of finals, we will begin our special finals schedule on Wednesday, December 18 and it will continue through Friday, December 20 (insert link). Here are a few reminders about finals expectations:

1. The finals schedule days count as regular attendance days for students.
2. Not all classes will give a cumulative assessment, but they will still have regular classes if not testing.
3. In order to maintain a proper testing environment and avoid distractions for all testers, students will be expected to remain in their respective classrooms for the duration of the

testing periods.

4. If a student has a schedule that causes them to have three assessments in one day, they may request to move one of their finals to a free period, the makeup period on December 20, or one of the makeup testing days during winter break. If a student would like to reschedule one of their exams, they should email their grade level administrator with their request.
5. We will be hosting finals makeup days on December 26, December 27 and January 2, 2025 at 9am in the CHS Commons for any student who misses an assessment during finals week. (Please note that any assessments taken after Jan 3rd will not be included in 1st semester grades.)

If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's grade level administrator or counselor. By working together we can help students maximize their performance while learning to manage their stress in effective ways.

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support of our work at CHS. We could not do it without you. I wish all of you a restful winter break and a happy holiday season. The Gutchewskys will be spending a lot of time visiting with family locally and relaxing at home. If you are traveling, I wish you safe travels and if you are staying local, I hope you are able to relax and enjoy the time with family and friends. On behalf of the faculty and staff of Clayton High School, we wish you a wonderful break and a happy, healthy 2025!

With Greyhound Pride,

Dr. Dan Gutchewsky

Upcoming Events



Important Dates

December 9-13 - Wellness Week

December 18-20 - First Semester Exams

December 23-Jan 3 - Winter Break

January 6 - Second Semester Begins



Upcoming Events

- **Parent Coffee** - December 6
- **NHS Induction** - November 19 at 6:00
- **Orchestra Winter Concert** - December 9 at 7:30
- **Clayton Night of Bands** - December 10 at 7:00
- **Symphonic Orchestra MMEA Preview Concert** - January 15

District Calendar

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

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](#)

The CHS Robohounds Chili Cook Off Fundraiser

December 6, 2024 from 6pm - 8:30 pm in the CHS Commons.

The fundraiser will support parts and supplies purchases for the 2024-25 FIRST Robotics build.

Come to enjoy:

Fun way for kids of all ages to engage in STEM and Robotics activities!!

A visit with last year's robot - Dumpling

Great food and community!!



Wellness Center Resources

As we enter the final stretch of the semester and prepare for exams, we understand that this time of year can be particularly stressful for students. Please click the link for [helpful resources](#) during winter break.

A Lone Soldier's Journey: Myles Rosenblum



Join St. Louis native Myles Rosenblum as he shares his powerful story of strength, sacrifice, and service in the IDF Paratroopers Unit 101 this past year. Audience Q and A to follow.

[Register Here:](#)



Sunday, January 5, 2025 10am
The J - Staenberg Family Complex
Creve Coeur
Free but registration is requested.

Contact: Naomi Elbaz nelbaz@jccstl.org



CHS News



Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)

The Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) is the State's standardized assessment program that provides information on a student's progress toward the Missouri Learning Standards. The State of Missouri requires all public school districts administer End-of-Course (EOC) exams in Algebra I, English II, Biology, and Government prior to high school graduation. Districts are required to administer these specific assessments at the time that credit is awarded for the course content. If your child will be taking one or more of the required exams this winter you will receive more detailed information from Drew Spiegel within the next few weeks.



Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Lechkova Recognized by the Foreign Language Association of Missouri

CHS Teacher Dortea Lechkova has recently been spotlighted in an article by the Foreign Language Association of Missouri (FLAM). This recognition highlights her exceptional contributions to the field of foreign language education and her dedication to fostering a love of languages among her students.

We invite everyone to [read the article](#) and join us in celebrating Dorteia's achievements. Her passion for teaching and commitment to her students truly embody the spirit of our school. Congratulations, Dorteia, on this well-deserved recognition!

The Globe

Stay informed with *The Globe*! This 100% student-run publication is crafted by the dedicated journalism students at Clayton High School. Whether you're interested in school events, community stories, or in-depth articles, The Globe has it all. Learn more about their impressive work today at chsglobe.com and support student journalism!



CHS GIVES

Holiday Gift Card Drive

TO HELP MAKE THE SEASON BRIGHTER FOR OUR FAMILIES, WE ARE COLLECTING GIFT CARDS FOR DISTRICT FAMILIES. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH.

HOW TO DONATE:

1. PURCHASE A GIFT CARD TO TARGET OR WALMART. PLEASE INDICATE THE AMOUNT AND DROP OFF IN THE FRONT OFFICE.
2. USE THE QR CODE TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION. DONATED FUNDS WILL BE USED TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL GIFT CARDS.



HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF BRINGING HOLIDAY CHEER TO 25 CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND 60 FAMILIES ACROSS THE DISTRICT.

Questions? Contact Lauren Stoelting at
laurenstoelting@claytonschoools.net



JOIN US!

**PROSPECTIVE CATALYST (CAPS)
STUDENT AND PARENT NIGHT**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM AND HEAR
FROM CURRENT CATALYST ASSOCIATES!**

**JANUARY 15TH
6:00-7:00PM**

**543 HANLEY IND. CT.
BRENTWOOD, MO. 63144**

RSVP BY 1/10:

bit.ly/CatalystProspectiveMemberNight



**THANK YOU TO OUR
PLATINUM SPONSORS!**



Celebrating Our Students

CHS Student Participates in Outstanding Student Leader Conference

Charlie Meyers recently participated in the Outstanding Student Leaders Conference, hosted by Washington University in St. Louis and the St. Louis County Department of Human Services. This event is part of the Outstanding Student Leadership Program, which trains and recognizes youth leaders across St. Louis County.

Each year, principals nominate one senior from their high school to attend the conference. At this year's event, Charlie had the opportunity to connect with community leaders and pitch a mock grant proposal to a panel of WashU professors, gaining valuable feedback and experience.



Parent Corner



PTO Meeting Dates

CHS PTO will hold monthly meetings at the **Center of Clayton - Meeting Room C** on the first Wednesday of the month from **12-1 pm**. Below are the planned meeting dates



- January 8
- February 5
- March 5
- April 2
- May 7

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



Parent Coffee

Please save the dates and join Dr. Gutchewsky for casual conversations at our Parent Coffee Gatherings at 9:00 a.m. on December 6 (date change), February 21 and April 25.

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

Funds for Excellence Fundraising

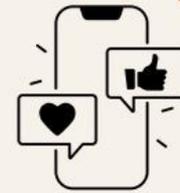
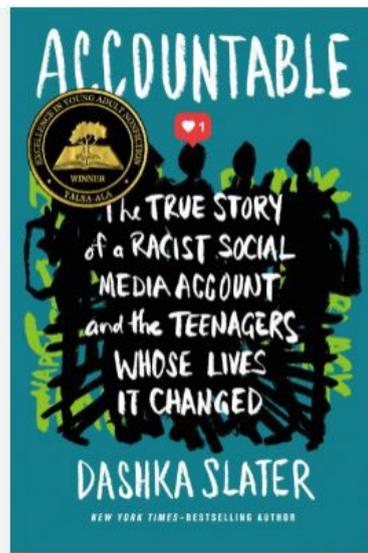
Our annual Funds for Excellence fundraising campaign is under way! Your donation will help provide faculty/staff appreciation meals and snacks, fund innovative faculty/staff special projects, and support Parent Connections social and informational gatherings.

[CLICK HERE](#) to donate today!

PTO Book Club

Join CHS PTO and staff this month in reading "Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed." The next book club meeting will take place Jan 28th at 3:30 in the CHS Library.

CHS PTO AND STAFF BOOK CLUB



Jan 28 | 3:30 PM

CHS LIBRARY

District News



Buzz Books

School Buzz Books have been updated for this school year and are now available online. The District has once again partnered with Membership Toolkit to create online directories for each of our schools that are secure, easy to use and free to District families. [Find instructions and a link to your school's buzz book on the website.](#) If you are having trouble accessing the Buzz Book, please drop us a line at communications@claytonschools.net.



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.

