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# July 2019 INSIDE CLAYTON

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## Summer Programming Supports Continued Academic Success

Learning never stops in the School District of Clayton. Shortly following the final bell of any school year, the District's summer programming begins. From K-12 summer academies to summer camps to staff workshops, the District utilizes the summer months to extend the learning that took place during the previous school year while preparing students and staff for greater success during the upcoming year.

Summer Academy at the elementary, middle and high school levels is focused on academics, which includes reinforcing key skills and concepts such as literacy and math. Wydown Summer Academy (WSA) also offers fee-based enrichment options such as Quiz Bowl and Sign Language for students who have not been recommended for academic support. At the high school level, students take courses both to recover credits and to get ahead in their credit count. Additionally, high school students may enroll in several non-credit courses including ACT Prep and the Great Start to CHS course for incoming freshmen.

"WSA is a program designed to reinforce skills that will prepare students to be stronger in the upcoming year," said WSA Director **Steve Meier**. "For both struggling learners and those looking to expand on particular interests outside of the regular-year curriculum, WSA provides a nurturing environment for all students."

The District's summer camp, SummerQuest, has grown into one of the region's premier summer day camps. SummerQuest provides students in kindergarten through eighth-grade with learning opportunities beyond what they might find in a traditional classroom. Utilizing Shaw Park, The Center of Clayton and the music, science, art and theater facilities at Clayton High School, campers enjoy three sessions of fun workshops that vary depending on their age. From ceramics to swimming to robotics, SummerQuest provides learning opportunities in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.

"We take fun seriously at SummerQuest!" said SummerQuest Director **Doug Verby**. "SummerQuest represents a perfect collaboration between the best that Clayton has to offer. The outstanding local facilities provide a safe space for our campers to enjoy fun, educational summer experiences!"

The District's youngest learners take part in their own camp experience through the Family Center's Summer Camp for three-, four- and five-year-olds. With special guests like the Clayton Fire Department and youth librarians from St. Louis County Library, this camp provides students with fun opportunities to help them grow as learners both at school and at home.



SummerQuest counselor **Kelly Slonim** works with camper **Sidney Corson** on a project in the SummerQuest art studio.

While the District's faculty and staff look forward to summer break nearly as much as their students do, they are purposeful about investing time in their own growth and development during the summer months. The District is offering staff members nearly 50 Summer Institutes on a wide range of topics in which they can attend this summer.

Led by their colleagues

and a few outside consultants, these workshops teach attendees new tools and strategies they can add to their toolboxes for the coming year. The Summer Institutes also include book studies, technology trainings and collaboration sessions to help staff members enhance their knowledge and skills both personally and professionally.

"As a learning organization, opportunities to grow and learn are important for students and staff alike," said Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning **Dr. Milena Garganigo**.

With the 2019-2020 school year quickly approaching, these summer learning opportunities will help Clayton students and staff be better prepared for success when the opening bell rings on Aug. 13. •



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*Inside Clayton* is published by the Office of Communications for School District of Clayton residents, businesses and families. Its purpose is to foster open communication, build understanding and promote accountability between the District and our stakeholders. Please submit comments, letters and questions to:

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Volume 15, No. 1  
Circulation: 9,000

DR. SEAN DOHERTY  
SUPERINTENDENT

From the District's  
Lead Learner...



Each year I have the privilege to speak at the Clayton High School graduation ceremony. When I see the faces of the students in the audience, I am overwhelmed by the possibilities in front of me. I reflect on what I could say that might motivate them or cause them to approach the next steps in their lives in different ways. I also wonder if they are truly comprehending anything being said that night because they are so excited. What I hope our graduates have learned through their experience in Clayton is:

- to build on their individual strengths and face mistakes directly, even when the outcomes are not clear. I hope they embrace those mistakes as opportunities.
- to embrace the present moment and slow down to appreciate it.
- to have integrity by doing what is right even when no one is watching.
- to be true to themselves and stand up for what they believe, even when it is difficult.
- to challenge the givens of life by setting their own path even if it is different from others or what they think others want for them. I also remind them they have the ability to change that path for themselves if needed.

During the 2018-2019 school year, we have been working on the development of a Graduate Profile – what we want for our students when they leave Clayton High School. Our guiding question for this work has been, “What are the most important attributes we need to develop in our graduates in order for them to be successful?” This Profile

will influence our strategic planning work, which will begin this fall, and will cause us to keep the end in mind – our students. We are still in the process of synthesizing this work, yet believe we are moving in the right direction with our draft:

*The School District of Clayton inspires each student to love learning and embrace challenge within a rich and rigorous academic culture.*

*The Clayton Graduate is...*

- *self-actualized*
- *intellectually curious*
- *culturally competent*
- *empathetic*
- *a creative thinker*
- *a collaborator*

If these are priorities we want for all of our students, our strategic plan will cause us to examine our instructional practices, programs, learning spaces and curricula. The School District of Clayton is a leader in academic achievement, and we should also be the leader in developing good people who are able to navigate an ever-changing world.

*Sean J. Doherty*

The School District of Clayton's strategic plan, approved in 2013, guides the work of the District's teachers, administrators and staff members every day. Throughout this newsletter, the icons below indicate the strategic themes highlighted in each article.



Academic Excellence



Growth and Development of the Whole Child



Teacher and Administrator Excellence



Resource Management

# Voters Approve Proposition E, Elect BOE Members on April 2

During the April 2, 2019, election, School District of Clayton voters approved Proposition E, an operating levy increase of 56 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation and an eight-cent waiver of Proposition C sales tax revenues. This additional revenue will be used to maintain and strengthen the District's academic excellence and fiscal stability by eliminating the gap between revenues and expenses, addressing facility and maintenance needs and rebuilding reserves. While Proposition E required a simple majority vote (50 percent plus 1) to pass, it received 64.2 percent of the votes cast.

"We are incredibly appreciative of the community's support of Proposition E," said Superintendent **Dr. Sean Doherty**. "The funding from Proposition E will allow us to continue

providing our students with the high-quality educational experience they deserve, while upholding our commitment to the community to be good stewards of our taxpayer dollars."

Voters also elected incumbent **Joe Miller** and **Stacy Siwak** to the Board of Education on April 2. The pair was sworn in to the Board at its meeting on April 10; Miller is serving his second term on the Board, while Siwak has begun her first. Following the swearing-in, the Board elected its new officers to one-year terms: Miller as president, **Amy Rubin** as vice president, **Gary Pierson** as secretary and **Jason Wilson** as treasurer. •



Voters elected incumbent **Joe Miller** and **Stacy Siwak** (right) to the Board of Education in the April 2 election. The pair is pictured with outgoing Board President **Kristin Redington** following the swearing-in ceremony on April 10.

## Back-to-School Resources Available

It's never too early to start preparing for the upcoming school year! Check out your school's website for school supply lists and other helpful information about the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Download the District's mobile app by searching School District of Clayton in the App Store or Google Play to have the latest school and District news and information at your fingertips. •

### Important Back-to-School Dates

#### Aug. 8

##### Wydown Middle School

Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Walk-Through, 3:30 p.m.

#### Aug. 9

##### Wydown Middle School

- Sixth-Grade Orientation, 7:45 a.m.
- Sixth-Grade Family Luncheon & Walk-Through, 11:45 a.m.

##### Clayton High School

- Freshman Orientation, 8:30 a.m.
- New Student Orientation, 1:30 p.m.

#### Aug. 12

##### Captain Elementary School

- New Family Orientation, 8:15 a.m.
- Captain Kickoff, 9 a.m.

#### Aug. 12 (cont.)

##### Glenridge Elementary School

- New Family Orientation, 2:45 p.m.
- Meet Your Teacher, 3:30 p.m.
- Glenridge Children's Center Parent Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

##### Meramec Elementary School

- Meet Your Teacher
  - New Families in K-5, 2:30 p.m.
  - Returning Families in 1-5, 3:30 p.m.
- Popsicles on the Playground for K-5, 4:15 p.m.

#### Aug. 13

First Day of School

#### Aug. 20

##### Clayton High School

- Freshman Parent Night, 6 p.m.
- Open House, 7 p.m.



Captain Elementary Second-Grade Teacher **Laura Franzen** (right) poses with then second-grader **Ryan Deaver** (bottom left), her mother, **Kasey**, and her sister, **Quinn**, during the 2018-2019 Captain Kickoff.

#### Aug. 22

Wydown Middle School Open House, 7 p.m.

#### Aug. 29

- Meramec Curriculum Night, 6:30 p.m.
- Captain Curriculum Night, 7 p.m.
- Glenridge Curriculum Night, 7 p.m.

#### Sept. 5

Family Center Open House, 7 p.m.



# Class of 2019 Prepares for the Next Chapter

Clayton High School's Class of 2019 celebrated its accomplishments over the past 13 years and prepared for new challenges and successes during its commencement ceremony on Thursday, May 30, at Chaifetz Arena. With their parents and teachers in attendance, the students reminisced about their achievements as a class and as individuals. And while they are ready to move on to the next chapter in their lives, none of these seniors are likely to forget how Clayton's schools laid the foundation for their future success.

This year's ceremony also included a special honor for a 93-year-old World War II veteran. **Carlo Joseph Bruno** was on track to graduate from CHS in 1946 when he chose, instead, to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Army Air Corps in April 1944, less than two months before the D-Day invasion at Normandy during World War II. Seventy-three years after he would have graduated from CHS, Bruno received his diploma alongside the Class of 2019 during the May 30 commencement ceremony.

Visit [claytonschools.net/chs](http://claytonschools.net/chs) to view commencement photos. •



Above: Members of the Class of 2019 pose for a photo prior to the start of their commencement ceremony.



Left: **Carlo Joseph Bruno** (center) poses with Superintendent **Dr. Sean Doherty** (left) and Board of Education President **Joe Miller** before receiving his honorary diploma.

## Moving On to Higher Education

Members of the Class of 2019 have chosen to attend the colleges and universities listed below. The number of graduates attending each institution is included in parentheses.

Arizona State University (3)	Lindenwood University - Belleville (1)	Southeast Missouri State University (1)	Champaign (2)
Boston University (2)	Loyola University - Chicago (2)	Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville (2)	University of Iowa (3)
Brandeis University (1)	Macalester College (1)	Southern Methodist University (1)	University of Kansas (1)
California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo (1)	Maryville University (2)	Southwestern College (1)	University of Louisville (1)
Clemson University (1)	Miami University - Oxford (2)	Southwestern Illinois College (1)	University of Miami (2)
College of Wooster (1)	Michigan State University (1)	St. Charles Community College (1)	University of Michigan (1)
Colorado State University (4)	Middlebury College (1)	St. Louis Community College (22)	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities (1)
Columbia College - Chicago (1)	Missouri Baptist University (2)	St. Olaf College (1)	University of Missouri - Columbia (18)
Columbia University (1)	Missouri State University (1)	Tennessee State University (1)	University of Missouri - Kansas City (1)
Cornell College (1)	Missouri University of Science and Technology (3)	The University of Texas - Austin (2)	University of Missouri - St. Louis (3)
DePaul University (2)	Morehouse College (2)	Truman State University (1)	University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill (1)
Eastern Kentucky University (1)	Northwest Missouri State University (1)	Tulane University (2)	University of Pennsylvania (2)
Elmhurst College (1)	Northwestern University (1)	United States Naval Academy (1)	University of Redlands (1)
Elon University (1)	Prairie View A&M University (1)	Universal Technical Institute (1)	University of Vermont (1)
Emory University (1)	Princeton University (2)	University of Alabama (2)	University of Virginia (1)
Erasmus University College (1)	Purdue University (6)	University of Arizona (1)	University of Washington (1)
Florida State University (1)	Rice University (1)	University of California - Berkeley (2)	University of Wisconsin - Madison (2)
Fontbonne University (1)	Saint Louis University (7)	University of California - Los Angeles (1)	Wake Forest University (1)
Fordham University (2)	San Diego State University (1)	University of Chicago (1)	Washington University in St. Louis (10)
Indiana University - Bloomington (3)	Santa Clara University (1)	University of Colorado - Boulder (3)	Yale University (1)
James Madison University (1)	Savannah College of Art and Design (1)	University of Denver (2)	
Johns Hopkins University (1)	Skidmore College (1)	University of Georgia (1)	
Kalamazoo College (1)		University of Illinois - Urbana-	
Knox College (1)			
Lincoln University (1)			

# District Welcomes New Administrators

The School District of Clayton is pleased to welcome four new administrators for the 2019-2020 school year. These new administrators began their tenure in the District on July 1.



**Dr. Robyn Viloria Wiens** has been named the District’s assistant superintendent of student services. Wiens previously served as the founding principal for the Hawthorn Leadership School for Girls in St. Louis. She has held leadership positions in other schools that include dean of curriculum and culture and assistant principal. Wiens also has carried out leadership work in assessment and technology and has served as an instructional technology specialist at several schools. She holds a Doctorate of Education, a Master of Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communications.



**Dr. Regina Moore** has been named assistant principal at Clayton High School (CHS). Moore has served as an assistant principal in the Hazelwood School District for the past two years after working for two years as an assistant principal/counselor in the Normandy School Collaborative. Prior to moving to St. Louis, Moore served as a principal, assistant principal and counselor for 10 years in two school districts in California. She holds a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership and a Master of Science in Counseling and Student Services with a Pupil Personnel Specialist Credential.



**Dr. Tony Arnold** joins the District as assistant superintendent of human resources. Arnold has served as principal at Avery Elementary in the Webster Groves School District for the past seven years, where he helped lead recruiting and professional learning efforts at both the building and district levels. Prior to that, he served as a principal in the Maplewood-Richmond Heights School District and as an assistant principal in the Ladue School District. Arnold spent the first nine years of his career in education as an elementary school teacher. He holds a Doctorate of Education Administration, a Master of Arts in Educational Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education.



**Steve Hutson** has been appointed the athletic director at CHS. During the 2018-2019 school year, Hutson served as the CHS physical education (P.E.) and health department chair. He previously taught P.E. at Glenridge Elementary from 2004-2018. Hutson also was the assistant coach for the CHS Varsity Baseball Team from 2007-2019 and the head coach of the CHS Junior Varsity Baseball Team from 2004-2006. Hutson holds a Master’s Degree in Special Education and a Bachelor of Science in Education. •



## Save the Date for the Clayton Alumni Hall of Fame Celebratory Weekend

The Clayton Education Foundation (CEF) is excited to announce changes to the format of its biennial Alumni Hall of Fame celebration. The Alumni Hall of Fame was established in conjunction with the celebration of the 100th graduating class from Clayton High School in 2010. The Hall of Fame continues to recognize and honor the accomplishments of Clayton graduates who continue to bring pride and inspiration to the School District of Clayton, the community and society, as well as District educators who made a difference in the lives of their students.

Clayton’s 2020 Alumni Hall of Fame celebratory weekend will include a ceremony honoring the Hall of Fame inductees and a gala celebrating these individuals and the CEF. On Friday, April 24, the CEF will welcome



### CLAYTON ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

its newest alumni and distinguished educator inductees into the Hall of Fame. The festivities will include recipient speeches in the Clayton High School auditorium followed by the plaque unveiling and reception in the foyer. This event will be free and open to the public.

The gala on Saturday, April 25, at the Saint Louis Club will celebrate the Hall of Fame inductees and the CEF.

Tickets to the Saturday night event will cost \$150 per person. Watch for additional details and ticket sales late this fall!

To nominate an alum or distinguished educator to the Hall of Fame, please visit [claytoneducationfoundation.org/hof](http://claytoneducationfoundation.org/hof). •





Important Dates

More information is available at claytonschools.net.

August	
6-9	Teacher Preparation
8	WMS Seventh- & Eighth-Grade Walk-Through, 3:30 p.m.
9	WMS Sixth-Grade Orientation, 7:45 a.m.
9	WMS Sixth-Grade Family Lunch, 11:45 a.m.
9	CHS Freshman Orientation, 8:30 a.m.
9	New to CHS Student Orientation, 1:30 p.m.
12	Teacher Preparation
12	CPT New Family Orientation, 8:15 a.m.
12	CPT Kickoff, 9 a.m.
12	GLN New Family Orientation, 2:45 p.m.
12	GLN Meet Your Teacher, 3:30 p.m.
12	MER Meet Your Teacher, 2:30 p.m. (new K-5), 3:30 p.m. (returning 1-5)
12	MER Popsicles on the Playground, 4:15 p.m.
13	First Day of School
20	CHS Freshman Parent Night, 6 p.m.
20	CHS Open House, 7 p.m.
22	WMS Open House, 7 p.m.
29	MER Curriculum Night, 6:30 p.m.
29	CPT & GLN Curriculum Night, 7 p.m.
28	BOE Meeting, 7 p.m.
30	PK-12 No School: Professional Development
Sept. 5	FC Open House, 7 p.m.

KEY
BOE – Board of Education
CHS – Clayton High School
CPT – Captain Elementary
FC – Family Center
GLN – Glenridge Elementary
MER – Meramec Elementary
WMS – Wydown Middle School

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Stay up-to-date on the latest District and school news and events by downloading the School District of Clayton's mobile app. The app allows you to customize the news and notifications you want to receive, add events directly to the calendar on your mobile device and readily access school websites, staff directories, lunch menus and much more!

Prepare for the upcoming school year by downloading the app today. Just search for School District of Clayton in the App Store or on Google Play. •

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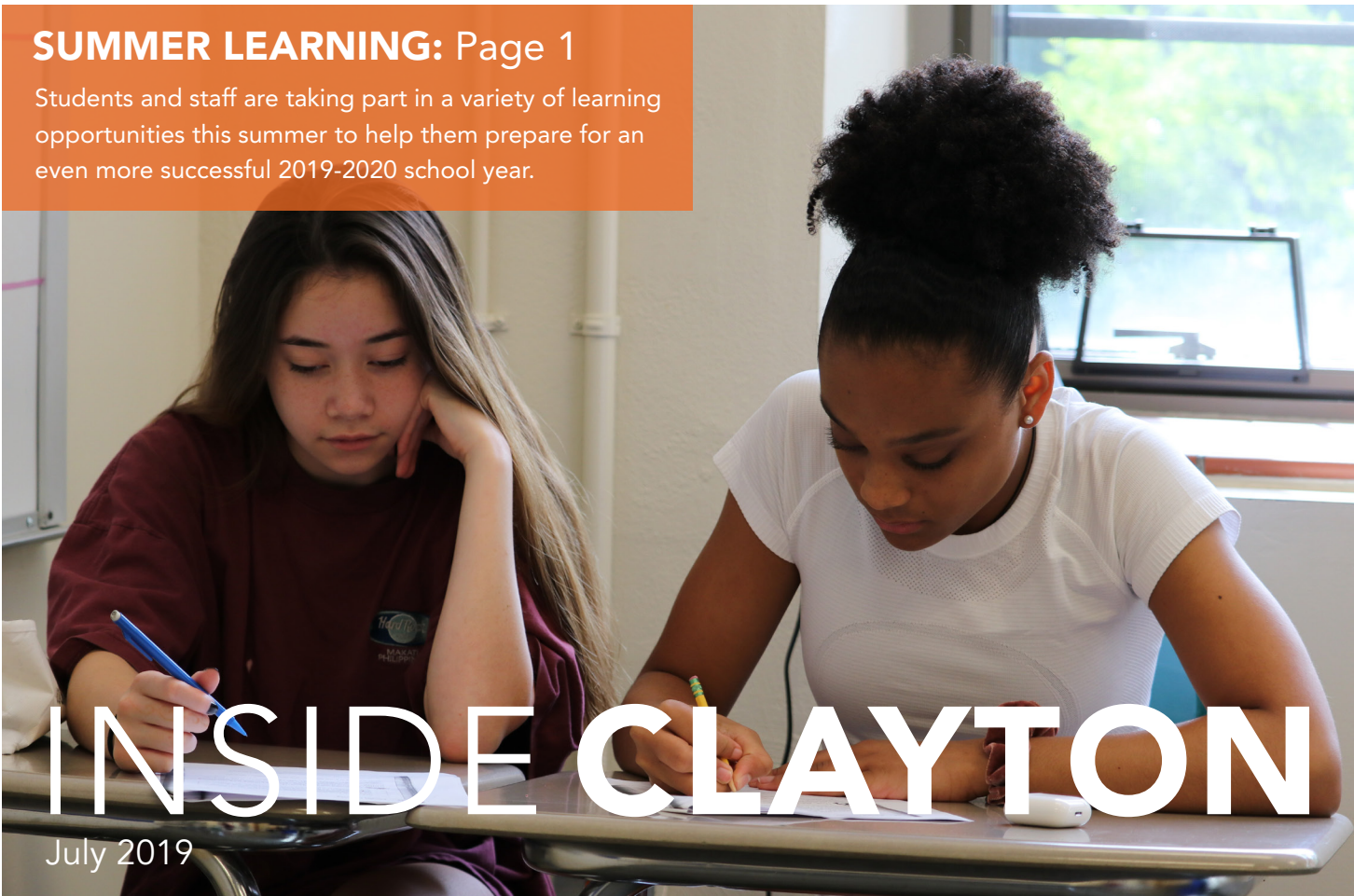
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SUMMER LEARNING: Page 1

Students and staff are taking part in a variety of learning opportunities this summer to help them prepare for an even more successful 2019-2020 school year.



INSIDE CLAYTON

July 2019



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