

April 30, 2021 | claytonschools.net

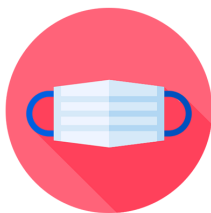
Top Three Things in this Issue:

Return to Learn Update: Face Coverings and Vaccinations

Focus On: Teacher Appreciation Week

Honoring Dr. Sean Doherty's Contributions to the School District of Clayton

Return to Learn Update: Face Coverings and Vaccinations



Face Coverings Still Required

Face coverings are still required at all Clayton schools (indoors and outdoors) regardless of whether you have been vaccinated. Many of our students are not vaccinated or even qualify to be vaccinated, therefore are susceptible to infection.

Vaccinations and Quarantine

Staff and students who are identified as close contact of an exposure to COVID-19 will not be required to quarantine if they are fully vaccinated and symptom-free. If an individual shows evidence of the vaccine (their vaccination card), they will not be required to quarantine. If they do not show evidence of vaccination or choose not to, they will still be required to quarantine for ten days. You are considered fully vaccinated after two weeks of receiving either your first Johnson & Johnson vaccine or two weeks after your second Moderna or Pfizer vaccine.



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 episode, Dr. Patel talks about

leadership and humility and how the best decisions are made by listening to all voices in the room.



Click on the image above to watch the full video.

NewsWeek Top High Schools

Clayton High School is once again listed as one of the top non-selective public high schools in the state of Missouri in U.S. News & World Report's "[Best Public High Schools](#)" rankings. CHS, which routinely trades places for the top spot in the list with its neighbor (and rival) high school in Ladue, finished two-tenths of a point behind Ladue High School this year. The rankings, which place a fair amount of weight on the number (not results) of AP tests taken by high school students, also assess schools based on a broad range of data including student performance on state required tests, performance of least-advantaged students, graduation rate and college-readiness performance.

Family Center Celebrates Earth Day



The Orange Room students of the Family Center got the opportunity to learn about the environment in a unique way on Earth Day. They planted a River Birch tree in Shaw Park with the help of The City of Clayton's Parks Department.

"We regularly go on field trips as a part of our curriculum and go on nature walks at Shaw Park," said Susan Goldwasser, an early childhood educator

at The Family Center. The students would regularly learn about the different plants and trees in Shaw Park on their nature walks. One of the books they read, "The Boy Who Grew

a Forest: The True Story of Jadav Payeng,” inspired them to take action. They decided to do something a little different and came up with the idea to plant a tree.

“Our kids have been learning all year long how to be agents of change...”, said Emily Andes, another early childhood educator at The Family Center. “In developing and understanding how to be an agent of change it is important to take action.”

[For more photos click here.](#)

MYAC Survey is Closing and MYAC Applications are Open



Each year, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council takes on a new project. This year, in cooperation with the Clayton Community Foundation, MYAC students will be helping to document how Clayton as a community handled the COVID-19 pandemic. To assist with this project, MYAC is interested in the community's feedback. [This survey was created by the Clayton High School MYAC.](#) Please consider participating. Participants may include their name and email address or may remain anonymous.

In addition, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) has opened applications for CHS students who will be juniors or seniors next year. MYAC was created by the City of Clayton and the Clayton School District to create an opportunity for students to participate in local government. Eleven students are chosen each year to participate in this council by attending city commission meetings, collaborating on a community project, and even meeting with the mayor. The application and more information can be found [here](#). Applications will be accepted through the end of May. For questions, contact Cheryl Redohl at claytonmyac@gmail.com.

CHS Awards Ceremony 2021

The 2021 Clayton High School Awards Ceremony is now available online. Check out this virtual celebration of our CHS students and their accomplishments. You can watch the ceremony and find more information below. Congratulations to all the students who were recognized at this year's Awards Ceremony



Click on the image above to watch the full video.

Honoring Dr. Sean Doherty's Contributions to the School District of Clayton



Since becoming superintendent in 2015, Dr. Sean Doherty worked tirelessly as our community's "lead learner." The Clayton Education Foundation has launched a campaign to honor and commemorate his contributions to the District.

Because he began his career as an elementary teacher and served as principal at Captain Elementary School, this campaign will fund a book collection for each of the District's three elementary school libraries. Books for the Dr. Sean Doherty Collection will be selected by each school's librarian and identified by a custom bookplate picturing Dr. Doherty and his rescue dog, Gryff.

Dr. Doherty advocates unapologetically for students, always working to make decisions to empower them in their learning. This library collection lets him continue making a positive impact on student learning long after he retires from the District.

The campaign will run from April 30 - May 31. Donate [online](#) or by mailing a check (made payable to the Clayton Education Foundation with "Doherty" written on the memo line) to the Clayton Education Foundation, #2 [Mark Twain Circle, Clayton, Missouri, 63105](#).

Help us honor Dr. Doherty, and enhance our elementary libraries, by donating today.

The Equity Corner

I've been reading a book by an educator that I have the utmost respect for, Dr. Howard Fields. The title of his book is "How to Achieve Educational Equity." I recommend this book to all educational institutions pursuing a culture change inspired by equity.

On page 36, he poses a simple, but complex, question that all members of the school community - staff, teachers, administrators, parents, Board of Education - must ask themselves: How am I being complicit in educational inequities? Most educators don't have an answer to this question right off the bat. It takes a lot of self-reflection, objectiveness, and awareness to be able to answer that question. We are asking ourselves that question before building the skills of being able to self-reflect on our practices. So how do we create avenues to self-reflect? On page 41, Dr. Fields says, "If you are benefitting from the system or have not had any major issues, you may not be able to identify inequities."

Continue reading the latest edition of The Equity Corner, "[How am I being complicit in educational inequities? / Self-Reflection](#)" on the District website and be sure to follow the District's equity work on Twitter [@CP_EdEquity](#).

Take Care!

[Cameron Poole](#)

Remaining Grab n' Go Meal Dates



The School District of Clayton's Grab n' Go Meal Service remains available to all families of students who are Learning@Home. Meals are distributed from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. on Mondays at the front entrance of Clayton High School. Please note the remaining 2020-2021 meal service dates below:

- Monday, May 3
- Monday, May 10
- Monday, May 17
- Monday, May 24

Staff and Student Achievements

Congratulations to the CHS Academic Challenge in Engineering and Science (ACES) Team who won first place as a team in the 2021 ACES Interstate Competition finals. Team members included **Koray Akduman, Luka Bassnett, Tudor Belean, Pablo Buitrago, Jiabei Han, Stasia Kroeger, Rachel Liang, Ethan Nussinov, Matteo Sanderson,**

Tanner Sharon, Joey Sparks, Sarah Taylor, Suchir Tumuluru, and Lana Xu. Check out the [story](#) on our website to see individuals with the top scores.

The Wydown Middle School Science Olympiad Team had a strong season this year. At the state level, they finished fourth out of 37 schools and won ribbons and medals in 14 out of 19 events. At the regional level, they won six first place awards. For more information on the competition results please click [here](#).

Board Brief

Review the latest edition of [The Board Brief](#) from the April 21 electronic Board of Education meeting. The Board received an update on the District's strategic plan with a focus on the work that is creating "a place for everyone."

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, May 12, at 7 p.m.** The tentative agenda will include the second of three updates on the District's strategic plan, focusing on the work that is helping students and staff "grow as learners."

Nutritional Notes

From Chartwells Director of Dining Services Michelle Fohey.



Metabolism is the term used to describe the chemical reactions in the body. These reactions are what keep the body alive and functioning. It can also reference how many calories we burn each day, a higher metabolism burns more calories and helps keep extra pounds off. It can also provide energy to help us feel better. Here are some tips to increase metabolism:

- Eat plenty of protein at every meal.
- Drink cold water, this helps eliminate sugary beverages that lead to extra calories and also cold water is harder to digest in turn increasing metabolism.
- Perform high intensity workouts, which involves quick, intense bursts of energy.
- Lift weights or bodyweight exercises to help maintain muscle mass.
- Keep active with daily walks.
- Get plenty of sleep.

Focus On: Teacher Appreciation Week

This upcoming week marks two important celebrations. Teacher Appreciation Week is Sunday, May 2 through Saturday, May 8, and National Teacher's Day is Tuesday, May 4. This week is a wonderful reminder of all of the numerous contributions our educators provide and how they enrich the lives of their students. They are preparing each generation to take on the world with the tools they need to succeed.

Send a thank you note to your favorite Clayton teacher and let them know how much they are appreciated.

Calendar

April 26 - May 1 - Captain Family Fun Week - Virtual auction and Raffle

May 12 - Electronic BOE Meeting @ 7 p.m.

May 14 - Next issue of eNews

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