



April 2, 2021 | [claytonschools.net](http://claytonschools.net)

## Top Three Things in this Issue:

A Conversation with the Incoming Superintendent  
"Teens During COVID" Town Hall  
Remaining Grab n' Go Meal Dates

## Superintendent Message - April 2, 2021

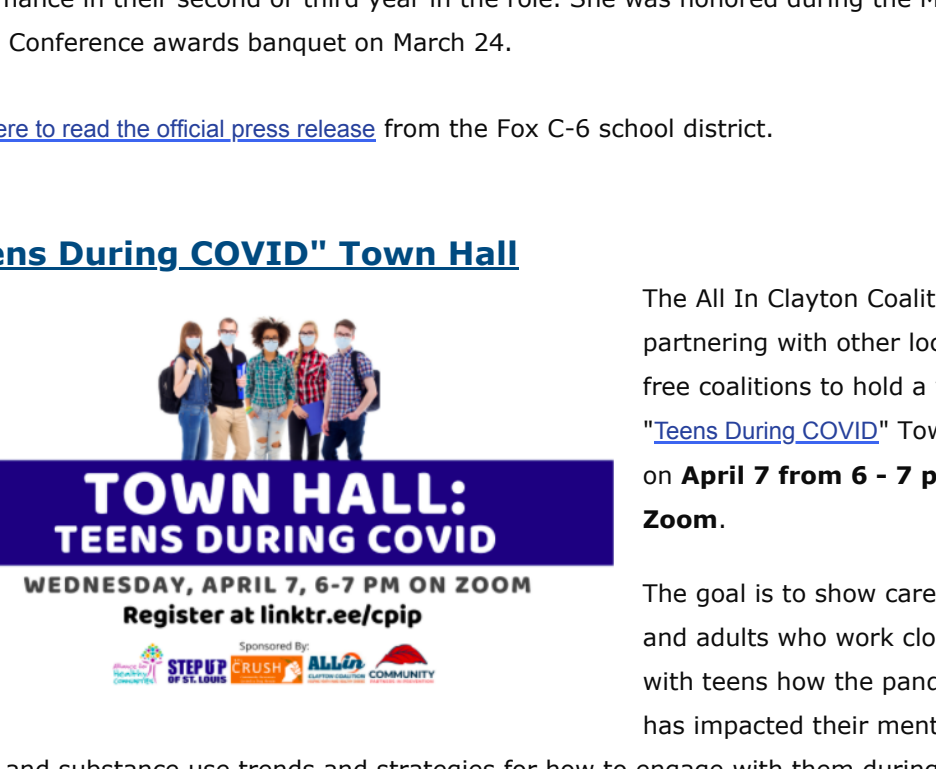
Dear Clayton Community,

I often hear people referring to the time we are living in as the "new normal." I know I have even said that in my own communications or conversations. I have become less inclined to use that term because I believe it has undertones of complacency and lack of control. It is almost as though we need to just accept the new normal without any opportunity to change it. I have challenged myself to think about it in a more active way: remaking tomorrow.

[Read Dr. Doherty's entire message here.](#)

## A Conversation with the Incoming Superintendent

In this week's edition of eNews, we kick off a six-part video series featuring Clayton's incoming superintendent, Dr. Nisha Patel. In this first installment, Dr. Patel talks about her family, growing up in east Africa, moving to the U.S. and her path to becoming an educator.

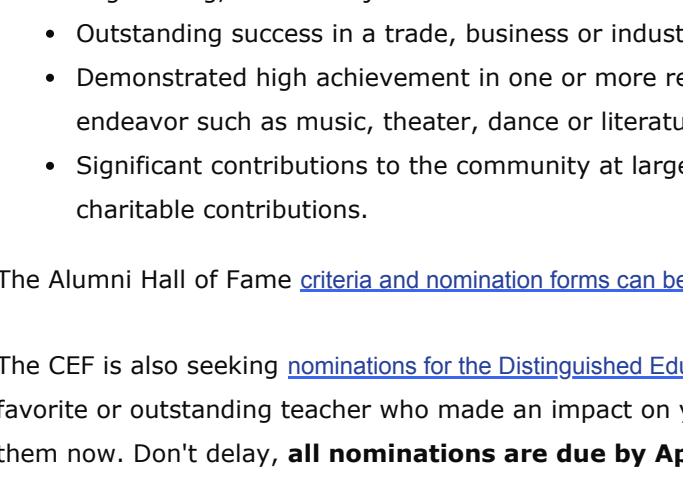


*\*Click on the image above to watch the full video.\**

Dr. Patel was also recently honored as the Emerging Superintendent for the St. Louis Region of the Missouri Association of School Administrators. The award, which was given for her work in the Fox C-6 school district, recognizes superintendents for outstanding performance in their second or third year in the role. She was honored during the MASA Spring Conference awards banquet on March 24.

[Click here to read the official press release](#) from the Fox C-6 school district.

## "Teens During COVID" Town Hall



The All In Clayton Coalition is partnering with other local drug-free coalitions to hold a virtual "Teens During COVID" Town Hall on **April 7 from 6 - 7 p.m. via Zoom.**

The goal is to show caregivers and adults who work closely with teens how the pandemic has impacted their mental

health and substance use trends and strategies for how to engage with them during this time.

Student representatives from the Coalition, Zoey Hall and Nicholas Sheppard, will be participating on the teen panel and Wydown/Clayton High School Social Worker Dr. Sheila Powell-Walker will be presenting.

This virtual event is free and open to the public, [please register here](#).

Please also note: **All In Clayton Coalition's next meeting is Tuesday, April 6 at 4 p.m.** Jodi Harvey with the St. Louis DEA will be presenting on local and national drug trends. All are welcome to attend. [Please email Kim Sherony for the Zoom link.](#)

## Seeking Nominations: Alumni Hall of Fame/Distinguished Educator

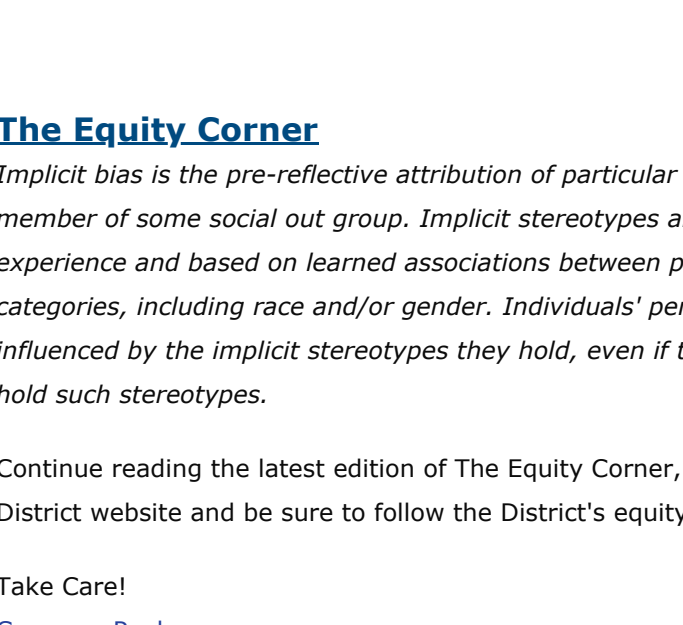
Have a friend, family member or classmate who has achieved great things after graduating from CHS? If so, it's time to brag about them. Help the Clayton Education Foundation find CHS Greyhounds who graduated in or before the class of 2011, who represent the diversity of the CHS community and have accomplishments in one or more of the following areas:

- Excellence in service to a recognized profession such as law, education, medicine, engineering, science or journalism.
- Outstanding success in a trade, business or industry.
- Demonstrated high achievement in one or more recognized fields of cultural endeavor such as music, theater, dance or literature.
- Significant contributions to the community at large through volunteering or charitable contributions.

The Alumni Hall of Fame [criteria and nomination forms can be found here](#).

The CEF is also seeking [nominations for the Distinguished Educator Award](#). If you know of a favorite or outstanding teacher who made an impact on you and other students, nominate them now. Don't delay, **all nominations are due by April 20**.

## Wydown Virtual Musical Production Starts Next Week



Tickets are now on sale for this year's Wydown musical, Disney's Moana Jr. This 60-minute musical adaptation of the 2016 Disney animated film brings the adventures of Moana and her village of Motunui to life onstage.

WMS drama students have been extremely dedicated to this

making this production a success and they're ready to premier their hard work. The show will air online via a scheduled stream on the following dates and central standard times:

- **Thursday, April 8 at 7 p.m.**
- **Friday, April 9 at 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 10 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.**
- **Sunday, April 11 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.**

[Tickets can be purchased by clicking here](#). Once the purchase is made, ticket holders will receive an email with their ticket, livestream link and unique access code to view the virtual performance. It is recommended that all viewers log on about ten minutes early to ensure they can connect in time.

Payment can be made by using a credit or debit card. Cash and/or check orders are not accepted. All ticket sales are final and refunds/exchanges are not possible with this event.

[Click here to read more about the show and view the production program](#).

## 2021-22 Vaccine Requirements for K-12 Students

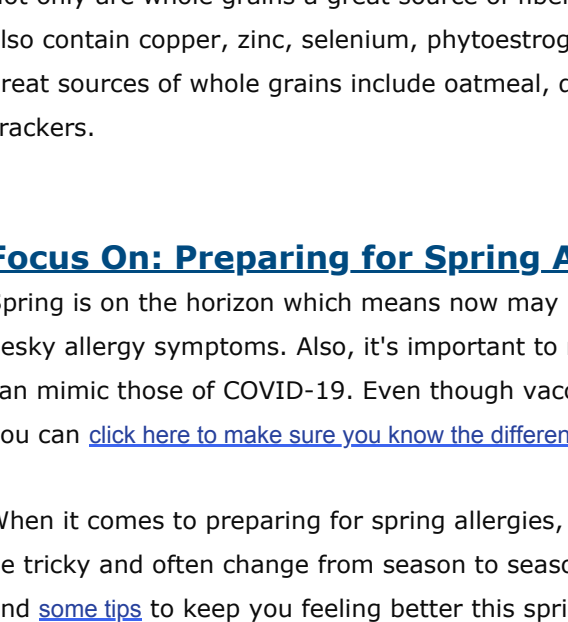
State law and health regulations are requiring proper immunizations for students. They are also required to provide vaccine verification to attend school, unless they have an appropriate exemption card on file.

Children attending school must be immunized against **diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, meningococcal, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B and varicella**. All students must provide documentation that includes the month, day and year the vaccines were administered. [An informational flyer can be found here](#).

Parents and/or student caretakers: if you have any questions or concerns about your students immunization record please email your school nurse.

- **Glenridge:** [Corliss Christopher](#)
- **Captain:** [Gail Filarski](#)
- **Meramec:** [Susan Mason](#)
- **Wydown:** [Mary Frances McCarty](#)
- **Clayton High School:** [Lisa McDade](#)

## Revised Quarantine Guidelines



The St. Louis County Department of Public Health has revised its isolation and quarantine order to be consistent with the latest CDC guidance. As of March 15, those who have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 will need to be quarantined for 10 days, as opposed to 14, after exposure. After 10 days, assuming the individual has no symptoms, they are free to end

quarantine. Here are some important details:

- The final day of exposure to an infectious case is considered Day 0 (for household contacts, this is their release-from-isolation date), with the following day considered Day 1.
- Close contacts must now quarantine through 11:59 p.m. on Day 10, and are released as of 12:00 a.m. on Day 11.
- Close contacts should continue to self-monitor for symptoms through Day 14. If any symptoms develop, the person should return home immediately and seek testing.

The St. Louis County Department of Public Health has updated their quarantine guidance for individuals who have received the COVID-19 vaccine. A vaccinated person who knows they have been exposed to COVID-19 and may be a close contact, does not have to quarantine if they meet ALL of the following criteria:

- The vaccinated person is fully vaccinated - it has been 14 days since the person received their second dose of a two-dose series or 14 days following receipt of a one dose of a single dose vaccine;
- The vaccinated person received the last dose of the vaccine within three months of the exposure; and
- The vaccinated person has remained asymptomatic since exposure.

## The Equity Corner

*Implicit bias is the pre-reflective attribution of particular qualities by an individual to a member of some social out group. Implicit stereotypes are thought to be shaped by experience and based on learned associations between particular qualities and social categories, including race and/or gender. Individuals' perceptions and behaviors can be influenced by the implicit stereotypes they hold, even if they are sometimes unaware they hold such stereotypes.*

Continue reading the latest edition of The Equity Corner, "[Implicit Bias = Soul Murder](#)" 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, April 5
- Monday, April 12
- Monday, April 19
- Monday, April 26
- Monday, May 3
- Monday, May 10
- Monday, May 17
- Monday, May 24

## Staff and Student Achievements

CHS Senior **Koray Akduman** was selected for the 2021 Missouri Scholars 100, a statewide program that honors 100 of Missouri's top academic students in the graduating class of 2021.

WMS/CHS Instrumental and Band teacher **Mike Kanaan** was nominated for and is the recipient of SLSMEA's Outstanding Music Educator Award for 2020-2021.

CHS students **Jonah Feinstein, Asher Gunn, Reed Gunn, Thomas Gustafson, Bek Handzic-Smith, Enoch Lai, Scott McCary** and **Anand Mysorekar** successfully auditioned into the 2021 Missouri All-State Bands.

Twenty-six CHS DECA students claimed awards in the State Career Development Conference: **Taayan Khurana, Jeremy Cohn, Alexander Slen, Camilla Meyers, Aashna Doshi, Grace Homann, Tommy Karandjef, Koray Akduman, Jake Schneider, Annie Xiao, Emily Tai, Max Hagemeister, Alexandra Hagemeister, Regan Wade, Owen Gelzer, Hannah Do, Elaine Yoo, Angela Xiao, Ruthie Pierson, Anna Walsh, Abby Mann, Sarah Centeno, Adam Jaffe, Cece Cohen, Willa Melander and Sarah Taylor.**

## Board Brief

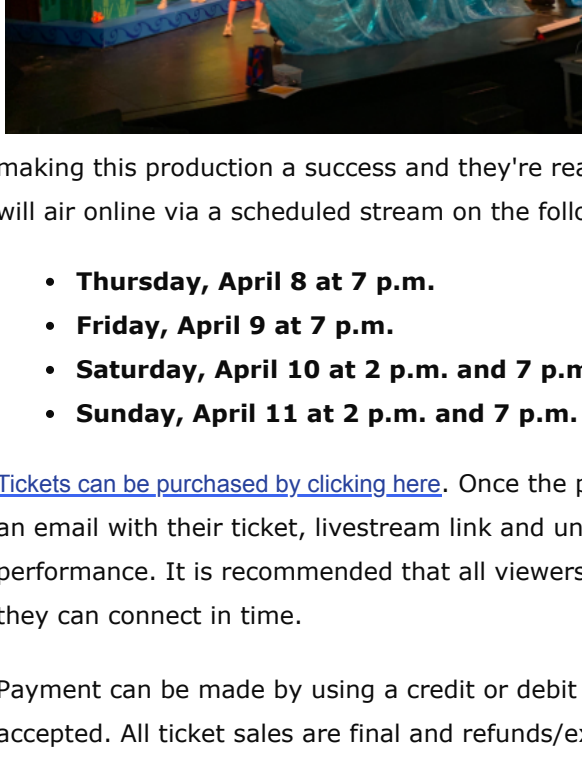
Review the latest edition of [The Board Brief](#) from the March 31 electronic Board of Education meeting. The Board of Education recognized District students from The Globe, reviewed the 2020-2021 Annual Assessment Report and approved bids for improving District infrastructure and facilities.

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, April 14, at 7 p.m.** The tentative agenda will include the oath of office for new Board of Education members, the election of each officer and onboarding procedures.

## Nutritional Notes

*From Chartwells Director of Dining Services Michelle Fohey.*



If you like eating whole grain foods, you're in luck because they can help reduce the risk of cancer.

Whole grains contain vitamins, phytochemicals (chemical compounds produced by plants) and other cancer-protective compounds that do the following:

- **Reduce chronic inflammation**
- **Prevent insulin resistance**
- **Lower the amount of time carcinogens spend in your gut**

Eating 90 grams (or three servings) of whole grains per day, has shown to decrease the risk of colorectal cancer.

Not only are whole grains a great source of fiber which acts to improve gut health, but they also contain copper, zinc, selenium, phytoestrogens, vitamin E and antioxidants. Some great sources of whole grains include oatmeal, quinoa, whole grain rice, breads and crackers.

## Focus On: Preparing for Spring Allergies

Spring is on the horizon which means now may be a good time to start preparing for those pesky allergy symptoms. Also, it's important to note that some spring allergy symptoms can mimic those of COVID-19. Even though vaccines are becoming more readily available, you can [click here to make sure you know the differences between the two](#).

When it comes to preparing for spring allergies, seasonal sufferers know all too well, it can be tricky and often change from season to season. But there are ways to [get ready in advance](#) and [some tips](#) to keep you feeling better this spring:

- **Stay indoors** on dry, windy days
- Save **outside activities for after rainfall** when pollen will be cleared from the air
- Wash your **bed sheets in hot water** to get rid of dust mites
- **Don't dry laundry outside** as pollen can stick to sheets and towels

## Calendar

April 8 - CPT Virtual PTO Forum @ 6 p.m. / Virtual Meeting @ 7 p.m.

April 9 - GLN Fifth Grade Fundraiser - Mix Match Day

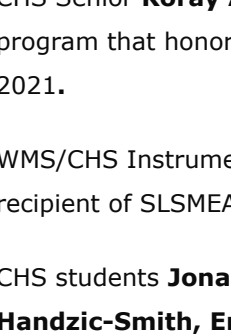
April 12 - WMS Virtual PTO Meeting @ 6 p.m.

April 13-14 - WMS Instrument Fitting for Incoming Sixth Graders @ 3:45 - 6 p.m.

**April 14 - Electronic BOE Meeting @ 7 p.m.**

**April 16 - Next issue of eNews**

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