



Clinton Central School District Newsletter

2020-2021 Budget Edition

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Clinton School District Resident:

I write to you during an unprecedented time in our history that is challenging every aspect of our lives, the COVID-19 Pandemic. By the end of this school year, students and teachers will have spent nearly one-third of the school year online and away from each other, missing out on not only a robust academic experience, but all of the other things that make school special - mostly each other and what we do together. I will say that what we did together during the first portion of the school year was filled with wonderful experiences, outstanding accomplishments, and many bright spots to which we are normally familiar.

This year we again received national recognition as one of the Best Communities for Music Education 2020 for our outstanding commitment to music education, and our high school was recently recognized as a New York State Recognition School for the third consecutive year, the first having resulted in our National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award in 2017. We are again so proud of our students and staff for achieving this recognition and consider it a result of the collective effort and support of our community, staff, families, and students at all levels in our school system. In addition, our students continue to perform well in the Arts, academics and athletics both regionally and nationally in many areas, and we are proud of our schools and students being an integral part of our community through our many service projects and collaborations.

This is the time of year for the community's thoughtful consideration of our spending plan for the 2020-2021 school year, and I am proud of the work we have accomplished together during the development of this budget upon which you will vote: this year by absentee ballot through the US Mail. You will not be able to physically vote on the budget, but will need to vote on a paper ballot that will be sent to you in the mail. We will also be including a self-addressed postage paid envelope for you to mail your vote back to us. We will be mailing your voting letters to you at the end of May, and will be counting the votes on June 9, so make sure you mail your ballots so we have them in time.

Again, this year we have developed a plan that I believe is educationally responsible to our students and fiscally responsible to our community. We also engaged in an internal process that required us to analyze all areas of our expenditures in order to find efficiencies, which allowed us to decrease costs, and reclaim those funds to preserve our vital programs and improve in areas identified as district-level and building-level strategic priorities. This was especially challenging given the decrease in Foundation Aid from New York State this year and the now permanent tax cap formula that limits us to a maximum 2.74% increase in our tax levy. You will also notice the overall 0.69% decrease in our budget expenditures compared to last year. *(Continued on page 3)*

BUDGET INFORMATION

The **Budget Hearing** and "Meet the Candidates" forum will take place on **Tuesday, May 26 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom**. Please go to **www.ccs.edu** to obtain the link.

The **2020-2021 budget vote and election** will be held on **Tuesday, June 9 by absentee ballot only**. All eligible, registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail with a postage paid return envelope. The ballot **must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on June 9**.

Clinton Girls Varsity Ice Hockey made history this year at Herb Brooks Arena in Lake Placid. For the first time in the program's five-year tenure, the Lady Warriors won the New York State Championship. The score: 1-0.

The Clinton Fire Department escorted the Warriors into the Clinton Arena upon arrival home to be welcomed in by their family, friends and fans.

Congratulations, Warriors!

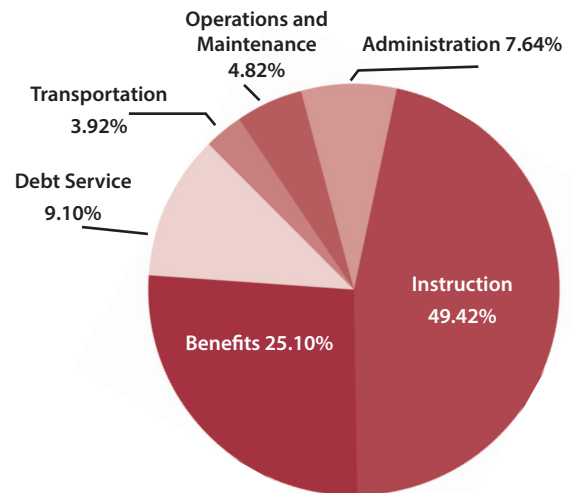
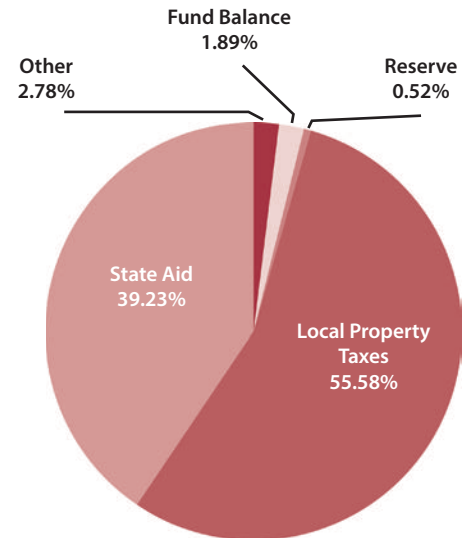


Revenues ... where the money will come from

Revenues	Actual 2019-2020	Proposed 2020-2021
Local Property Tax	\$15,706,206	\$ 16,137,242
State Aid	\$12,054,715	\$11,390,382
Other	\$776,297	\$807,769
Fund Balance	\$550,000	\$550,000
Reserve	\$150,000	\$150,000
Total Revenue	\$29,237,218	\$29,035,393

and what it will be spent on ... Expenditures

Expenditure	Actual 2019-2020	Proposed 2020-2021
Instruction	\$13,810,571	\$14,349,376
Benefits	\$7,420,499	\$7,288,898
Debt Service/Transfers	\$3,489,704	\$2,642,919
Transportation	\$1,004,146	\$1,138,069
Operations & Maintenance	\$1,398,398	\$1,399,413
Administration	\$2,113,900	\$2,216,718
Total Expenditure	\$29,237,218	\$29,035,393



What happens if this budget proposal is defeated?

The Board of Education has three options under the law.

- Submit the same budget to the voters for a second vote on a date to be determined.
- Revise and submit the budget for a second vote on a date to be determined.
- Reduce the budget by eliminating the purchase of equipment and any amounts tied to the community's use of the school facilities, and declare a contingency budget without a second vote.

If the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, equipment expenditures of \$ 431,036 will be removed and other items as required by New York State Education Department regulations.

Working Together



Custodians continue to keep buildings clean and in repair, move classrooms, and assist construction crews throughout the time of closure and through the summer months.

Turn to page 10 to learn more about how our District is working together during this uncertain time.

Three-Part Budget Summary

New York State requires districts to present their proposed budgets in three categories: program, capital and administrative. The chart below shows the dollar amount and percentage of spending in each of those three categories in the 2019 – 2020 budget and the proposed 2020 – 2021 budget.

Program:

2019-20	\$20,821,525	71.22%
2020-21	\$21,363,654	73.58%

Capital:

2019-20	\$5,436,498	18.59%
2020-21	\$4,583,517	15.79%

Administrative:

2019-20	\$2,979,195	10.19%
2020-21	\$3,088,222	10.64%

Total:

2019-20	\$29,237,218	100.00%
2020-21	\$29,035,393	100.00%

Program includes:

- All instructional programs, transportation, athletics, co-curricular and associated employee benefits.

Capital includes:

- Operation of buildings, maintenance of buildings, refunded taxes, debt service, and associated employee benefits.

Administrative includes:

- Board of Education, central administration, finance, legal services, personnel, public information, central services, special items, supervision of instruction and associated employee benefits.

Board of Education Candidates

Three candidates will be running for three vacant at-large Board of Education seats.

Candidates include:

Ms. Megan Burdick, Incumbent
Mr. Kevin Magdon
Dr. Luke Perry, Incumbent

The community will have the opportunity to meet the candidates on May 26 at 5:30 p.m. online via Zoom. The Budget Hearing will follow. Go to www.ccs.edu to participate.

Notice

Questions regarding absentee ballots can be directed to jscranton@ccs.edu. Please use this email to inform the District Clerk if you have not received a ballot by June 2.

PROPOSITION 1

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, is hereby authorized to expend and therefore is hereby appropriated, the sum of \$29,035,393 estimated by it to be necessary for school purposes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020 and to raise so much thereof as may be necessary by tax on the taxable property in said School District.



Dr. Seuss Day in the Elementary School.

A Message from the Superintendent *(continued from cover)*

I encourage you to read this budget newsletter and related articles in *The Waterville Times* and *Clinton Record* newspapers to learn more, and you can also visit the school district website at www.ccs.edu access additional resources that will help you make an informed decision. In addition, you can attend our board candidate and budget hearing presentation on Zoom and broadcasted on YouTube, Tuesday, May 26 at 5:30 p.m. You can also meet with me and others online at a virtual "Coffee with the Superintendent" on Friday, May 29 at 9 a.m., or a virtual "Soup with the 'Soup'erintendent" on Tuesday, June 2 at noon. Our website will have the virtual links on the Upcoming Events and the News sections: www.ccs.edu

Thank you for your time and interest in learning about the school budget and our educational programs!

Stephen L. Grimm, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

Clinton Central School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2019-2020 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-2021 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-2021 School Year*
Total budgeted amount, not including separate propositions	\$29,237,218	\$29,035,393	\$28,604,357
Increase / decrease for the 2020-2021 school year		- \$201,825	- \$632,861
Percentage increase (decrease) in each proposed budget		-.69%	-2.16%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve	\$15,706,206	\$16,137,242	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$324,784	\$324,784	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$16,030,990	\$16,462,026	\$16,030,990
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$657,254	\$711,214	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$15,093,571	\$15,426,028	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$15,048,952	\$15,426,028	
I. Difference: (G - H): (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$44,619	\$0	
Administrative component	\$2,979,195	\$3,088,222	\$3,036,441
Program component	\$20,821,525	\$21,363,654	\$21,077,899
Capital component	\$5,436,498	\$4,583,517	\$4,490,017

If the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, equipment expenditures of \$431,036 will be removed and other items as required by New York State Education Department regulations.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount

Basic STAR Exemption Savings

	Under the Budget Proposal for the 2020 - 2021 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$726

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-21 by the qualified voters of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2020, and will be held by absentee ballot only.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Proposed 2020-2021 Breakdown of Expenditures

District Support		
<i>7.63% of budget</i>	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
Board of Education	36,316	26,038
Central Administration	242,795	251,299
Business Administration	381,357	400,030
Auditing	26,565	26,565
Treasurer	20,857	21,552
Tax Collection	7,700	8,000
Fiscal Agent Fees	10,000	10,000
Legal Services	50,000	50,000
Personnel	22,707	48,022
Central Printing	123,100	116,200
Data Processing	13,000	13,000
Liability/Property Insurance	105,000	119,000
Refund Taxes	5,000	5,000
BOCES Administration	295,035	315,283
Curriculum Development	11,200	122,713
Supervision of Schools	763,267	684,016
SUBTOTAL	2,113,900	2,216,718
Instruction		
<i>49.42% of budget</i>	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
Teaching/Regular School	8,287,846	8,510,491
Special Education	3,157,852	3,403,511
Library/Media	229,892	247,729
Computer Instruction	588,447	604,673
Guidance	337,453	291,726
Health Services	209,146	212,662
Psychological Services	74,939	77,419
Social Work Services	235,123	297,593
Co-Curricular Activities	252,685	250,934
Athletics	437,187	452,638
SUBTOTAL	13,810,571	14,349,376
Student Transportation		
<i>3.92% of budget</i>	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
Transportation	834,146	968,069
BOCES Bus Maintenance	170,000	170,000
SUBTOTAL	1,004,146	1,138,069

Debt Service

8.97% of budget

	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
School Construction Bonds	790,224	2,263,919
School Bus Bonds	123,400	51,000
School Construction BAN	2,255,080	-
Energy Performance Contract	281,000	288,000
SUBTOTAL	3,449,704	2,602,919

Operations and Maintenance

4.82% of budget

	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
Custodial Services	1,202,686	1,219,267
Maintenance Expenses	195,712	180,146
SUBTOTAL	1,398,398	1,399,413

Interfund Transfers

.14% of budget

	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
School Food Service	5,000	5,000
Special Education/Summer School	35,000	35,000
SUBTOTAL	40,000	40,000

Benefits

25.10% of budget

	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Proposed
Health, Dental & Vision Insurance	5,094,931	4,816,401
Teachers' Retirement	881,004	990,694
Employees' Retirement	267,597	290,347
Social Security (FICA)	923,467	937,956
Workers Compensation	50,000	50,000
Life Insurance	8,855	8,855
Disability Insurance	3,000	3,000
Benefits Administration	16,645	16,645
Employee 403B Deferral	175,000	175,000
SUBTOTAL	7,420,499	7,288,898

TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET

2019-2020 Budget: \$29,237,218
2020-2021 Proposed: \$29,035,393

Working Together:

The Scope and Style of Learning at the Elementary School

Black History Month and the Underground Railroad

Elementary students deepened their knowledge of U.S. history during Black History Month with activities that included a presentation about the Underground Railroad.



Elementary Snowman Night



Students and their families enjoyed creative camaraderie at the annual Elementary Snowman Night.

Fourth Grader Chosen for Luge Slider Camp



Fourth grader Fionn Hardiman participated in a USA Luge Slider Search that was conducted nationwide. Fionn was one of 27 chosen to participate, out of 700, in the USA Luge Slider camp held in Lake Placid, NY.

Fifth Grade Band

Fifth Grade Band students played during a service at the Clinton Methodist Church.



Second Grade Art

The Elementary Media Center and art departments collaborated on an art show featuring buildings created by second graders. The project was based on the study of urban, suburban, and rural communities and the literature of Mo Willems. Thank you Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Hall, and thank you to the Kirkland Town Library for hosting this event!

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Keyboarding Without Tears

Elementary students sharpen their keyboarding skills painlessly.

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Camp Read-A-Lot

Mrs. Roy's and Mrs. Mickle's classes participated in "Read Across America" and celebrated with a camping theme!

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Creative Writing Workshop



Third graders in Mrs. Mickle's and Mrs. Dunn's classes collaborate in a creative writing workshop.

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Captive Audience



Clinton Boys Varsity Hockey players read to a receptive Elementary School audience.

Seeking and Investing in Opportunities

DAR Essay Contest Winners

Several ninth grade students submitted essays to the Daughters of the American Revolution Christopher Columbus Essay Contest. Student Jack Matteo was awarded second place, Sophie Boucek was awarded third place, and Sabina Rodriguez-Plate and Holly Landrey were both awarded Honorable Mention. Also pictured is ninth grade Social Studies Teacher Mr. Brian McIntosh.



Science Olympiad

For the second year in a row, Clinton High School's Science Olympiad team has earned the honor of a place at the NY State Science Olympiad Competition. Clinton took 2nd place in all of the following events: Chemistry Lab, Codebusters (decoding ciphers), Dynamic Planet (oceanography), Experimental Design, and Geologic Mapping. Medals were earned by 23 of the 28 students that attended.



Ski Club

Nineteen students participated in the newly resurrected Ski Club under the advisement of PE teacher Reanna Zappavigna.



MS ART CLUB

Middle School Art Club members brightened the halls of the Lutheran Home by painting windows with colorful spring scenes.

Carnival of the Animals

CCS music teachers recently worked with students on a project in collaboration with the Hamilton College Orchestra. Students were asked to write introductory texts to parts of Carnival of the Animals, composed by Camille Saint-Saëns. The papers were collected and judged, and the most creative were selected to be read during the Hamilton College Orchestra's performance of the piece. Many of the students bravely read their text on stage. The selected texts were written by students Ben Wileczka, Caiden Tritten, Morgan Rudwall, Veronica Giannone, Aliyah Bentley, Brindalin Filippo, Josey Bauer, Avery Stoddard, Kiersten Majka, Connor Cook, Wynnin Davignon, Anh-Minh Verity, Mac Spadea, Anastasia Leahy, Jackson Bean, Lucas Crissey, Noelle Otto, Anna Kerman, Brooke Painter, and Greg Hartman-Sounder.



Santoli Award for Kindness Fall Winners Chosen

The Frank Santoli Award for Kindness was initiated by Mr. Santoli's wife, Genevieve Santoli during the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Frank A. Santoli was a beloved and inspirational science teacher at Clinton Middle School from 1968 -1986 who believed in celebrating his students' passions and changing his community and world through small, genuine acts of kindness. This award validates Mr. Santoli's legacy and is evidence of the Positivity Project's mission of character development among all Clinton students.



Due to strength of character, good citizenship, and kindness exhibited on a daily basis, the following students were chosen based on faculty nominations. In the Elementary School, Emily Roy was selected. Arianna Febus was the recipient in the Middle School and Megan Gromo was chosen in the High School. Each student will receive a \$50 award to use towards a service project of their choice. Honorable mentions include Joseph Bonomo, Scarlett-Skye Stanton, Madison Steates, Sabina Rodriguez-Plate, Cassandra Whitfield, Hannah Miller, Montell Scott Jr., Claire Barone, Ben Joseph and Peyton DeAngelo.

MathCounts

The middle school MathCounts team, under the advisement of teacher Susan King, won the regional competition on February 1. Pictured are Eden Knight, Mia Le, Eli Davis, Mrs. King, Ian Chang, Georgia Deep and Abel Widiss.



Girls Indoor Track & Field Team



Girls Indoor Track and Field Team won Sectionals for the 4th consecutive year!



The artwork of student Morgan Pflanz has been chosen to be published on the cover of the Dick Blick Planner, an art and paper supply company. Her work, "Birthday Dinner with Family," represents personal family traditions.



Scholastic Art Writing Award

Eight CCS students submitted their work to the Scholastic Art Writing Contest for consideration. The Awards feature a distinguished list of alumni including Andy Warhol, Stephen King, Sylvia Plath, and Tschabalala Self. Out of nearly 340,000 works submitted nationwide, student Jillian Graziadei was awarded a Silver Key for her photograph "The Gang". Her work was on display at Onondaga Community College during the month of February.

Working Apart

"Just in Case..."

Well in advance of the looming shutdown, teachers were charged with the task of preparing two weeks worth of instruction to be delivered either on paper or online to students. A tremendous amount of communication and coordination on the part of staff members was required to make this happen including teachers, administrators, IT staff, BOCES support staff, bus drivers, food service, secretaries, and the list goes on and on. Detailed assignment schedules have been provided to households regularly by teachers, as well as positive and encouraging messages and videos. Teachers, administrators, guidance counselors, and social workers continually communicate with each other and with students to help families navigate these uncharted waters. Faculty, Board of Education, and Cabinet meetings continue to happen regularly online. We are all working hard with your help and will continue to do so because we care about our students and our families. **We miss you!**



CCS bus drivers were at the ready to deliver instructional materials, food, Chromebooks and smiles to District families.



With the possibility of school closing looming, High School Principal Dr. Matt Lee, teachers, and office staff pitched in to assemble instructional packets for delivery to ensure continuity of learning.



Country Pantry Food Bank Director Mary Zimble is pictured with Clinton Teachers Association President John King. The CTA donated \$1,200 to the pantry toward the care of local families.



High School Principal Dr. Matt Lee is pictured riding a school bus to deliver instructional materials to students.



CCS staff members prepare to distribute food to families in the parking lot of Annunciation Church. The bus marks the spot!



CCS groundskeeper Jim Longo continues to keep the campus beautiful and ready for the return of students and staff.

Food Service Workers

Food Service workers have been on duty every day to prepare and distribute Grab'n'Go bags that each include a lunch and a breakfast. Between March 17 and April 14, 8,400 meals had been served to local children for which the District will be reimbursed. Food is distributed daily from the high school cafeteria garage door, and from a school bus parked in the lot of Annunciation Church in Clark Mills, where the Country Pantry is located from 10 a.m. to noon. Thank you to Diane McNamara, Pat Wampfler, Debbie Roberts, Bob Maxam, Candy Doyle and Mary Schick for their hard work and dedication.



Left: Food Service workers with prepared lunches for students. Right: Food Service workers load a truck driven by Mr. Scoones with food for daily distribution to Clinton families.



TO OUR TEACHERS FOR CARING SO MUCH,
AND TO OUR PARENTS FOR WORKING WITH THEM !



Dr. Carney, Middle School Principal, conducts an online meeting with middle school faculty.



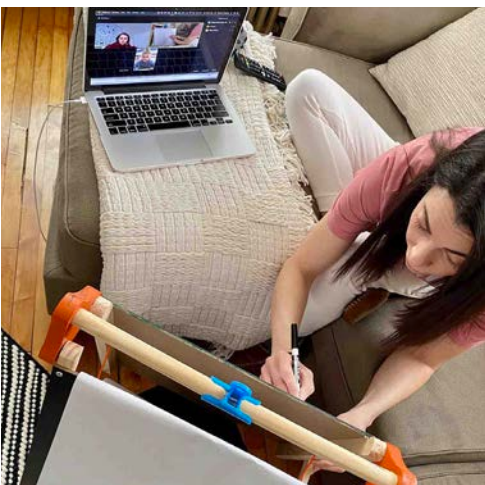
Ms. Lopata, Elementary Music Teacher, delivers an online percussion lesson to an eager student.



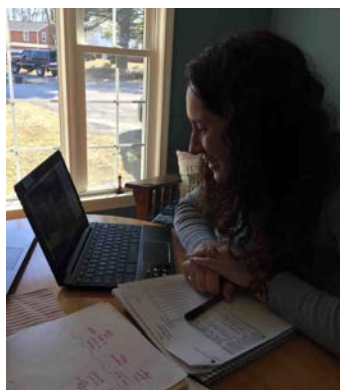
High school science teacher Frank Aurigema prepares to record a video of an experiment regarding the concept of porosity to share with his class.



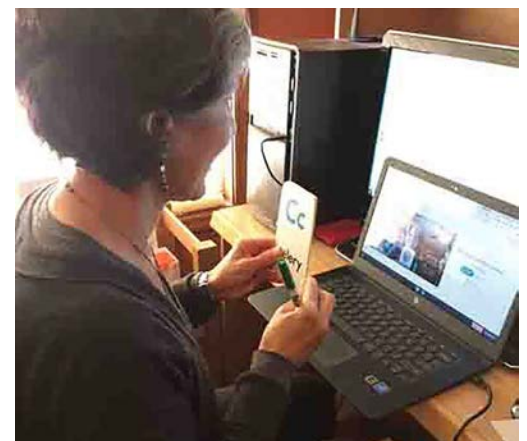
Health teacher Mallory Faffley reviews submitted student work with the help of her assistant, Goose.



High School art teacher Mindy Pavone engages students in a lesson from home.



Ms. Kathleen Washburn, High School Science Teacher, enjoys interacting with students in her virtual classroom.



Mrs. Toia-Kramer, ESL Teacher, engages a student in an online lesson.

CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

75 Chenango Avenue
Clinton, New York 13323

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Stephen L. Grimm

Clinton Board of Education

Ms. Mary Lou Lauchert, President

Ms. Erica Shaw, Vice President

Board Members

Ms. Megan Burdick

Mr. Sam Catterson

Ms. Melinda Leising

Dr. Luke Perry

Mr. Timothy Thomas

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"High School Musical"

