



Clinton Central School District Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2023

Clinton Offers *Opportunities*

Dear Clinton Community,

I would like to begin by thanking our students, staff, parents and community members for the warm welcome I have received since I assumed the role of superintendent just a few short months ago. I am honored and privileged to be part of such a special school district and have enjoyed getting to know everyone at our events and meetings. We have much to celebrate, and I hope this newsletter gives you some insight into the great things that have been happening in each of our schools.

On December 13, District voters approved an \$18 million Capital Project that will provide exciting and necessary upgrades to our facilities and programs. Included in this project are infrastructure updates, such as the replacement of boilers and roofs; space renovations to school libraries and the elementary kitchen, and site work throughout the campus, including a new elementary playground and installation of a multi-purpose turf field. I would like to thank everyone who voted, and for the support of this project. This work will help us maintain our outstanding facilities and will provide new and exciting opportunities for our students. We are currently working on project design with our architects and engineers, and hope to submit plans to the State Education Department for approval in late summer. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2024. I look forward to updating you on the progress of this project in the coming months.

I am pleased to announce that our Board of Education has appointed Ms. Elizabeth (Liz) Dougherty as new director of pupil personnel services, effective February 27, 2023. Liz will replace Ms. Erin Eagan, who will soon be returning to the classroom as a special education teacher at our elementary school. I would like to thank Ms. Eagan for her leadership and service to the PPS department and welcome her back to the classroom.

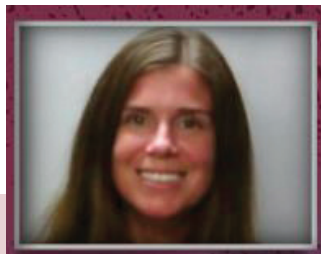
Ms. Dougherty is the current principal of the STRIVE Middle School Program through CiTi BOCES in Oswego County. She began her career in education as a special education teacher in the Westhill Central School District before moving into her current administrative position. In her role as director of PPS at Clinton, she will oversee our student support programming, including special education, school social work, school counseling, ENL and homeschooling. If you have an opportunity to meet Ms. Dougherty, please be sure to welcome her to our school community.

For now, please enjoy the winter edition of our District newsletter. Our outstanding staff have created countless academic, athletic, artistic and philanthropic experiences for our students. Looking ahead, I am excited to continue to build partnerships with all of you that will enhance opportunities for our students. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school.

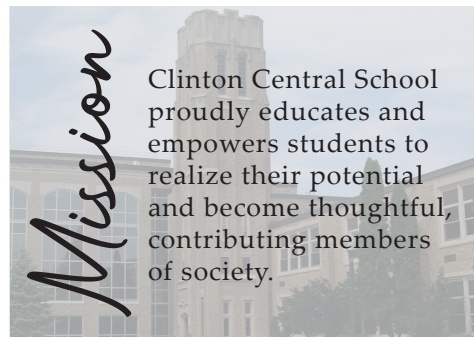
Sincerely,

Christopher M. Clancy

Superintendent of Schools



Ms. Elizabeth Dougherty, Director of Pupil Personnel Services



Clinton Central School proudly educates and empowers students to realize their potential and become thoughtful, contributing members of society.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 20

Presidents' Day, School Closed

FEBRUARY 21-24

Mid-Winter Recess, No Classes

FEBRUARY 24

Blood Drive, High School Gym

FEBRUARY 28

Harlem Wizards Basketball Event

MARCH 3

Elementary School Science Fair

MARCH 9-11

HS Musical, 7:30 p.m., Theater

MARCH 12

Spring Athletic Orientation, 6:00 p.m., Theater

MARCH 14 & 28

Board of Education Meetings, Secondary Media Center, 5:30 p.m.

MARCH 17

Superintendent's Conference Day

MARCH 17-18

All-county Music Festival at CCS

MARCH 20-24

PTA Book Fair, Secondary Media Center

MARCH 31 & APRIL 1

Elementary All-county Music Festival in Rome

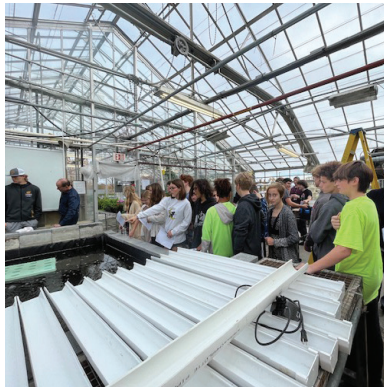
APRIL 7-14

Spring Recess, No Classes

To Learn

Eighth Grade Visits OHM BOCES

Eighth graders visited the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES where they were introduced to a variety of educational programs available to them through the Career and Technical Education Center and P-TECH programs. Students learned that there is something for everyone, as well as a great demand for new professionals!



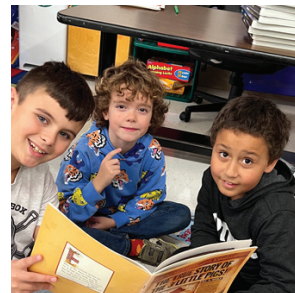
STEM DAY

Fourth graders put down their pencils and enjoyed a STEM themed day! After reading "Iggy Peck, Architect," students built earthquake-proof structures out of marshmallows and toothpicks, which were then tested for durability in a Jell-O earthquake. They also learned about volcanoes by creating their own, using apples.



ADK AT THE ELEMENTARY

The ADK Experience, Blue Mountain Museum's student outreach program, visited fourth graders to teach them about the Native American and European fur trade in New York State. Thank you to the museum for providing our students with this experience.

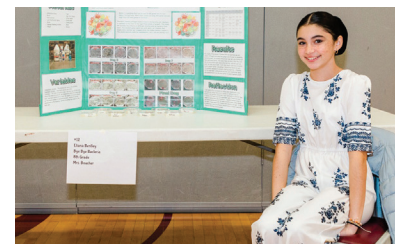


BOOK BUDDIES

Fourth graders and kindergarten students enjoy spending time as book buddies every Friday.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR

The 44th Annual Clinton Middle School Science Fair took place in October. Thank you to all who supported our Fair, including our Hamilton College student judges. Congratulations to all of the Science Fair participants and to advisor, Mrs. Trish Boucher, middle school science teacher, on a job well done!

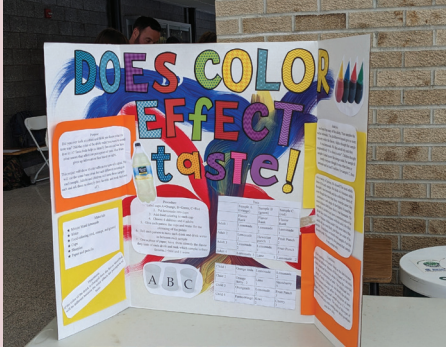


Students in grades 9-12 recently gathered in the theater for a presentation by Wolfspeed in Marcy. Students learned about the semiconductor industry, including the fabrication and implementation of silicon carbide, which is integral in much of our daily technology usage, including phones, computer systems and electric vehicles.

Our Vision

Our students are prepared for the future through engaging, meaningful and challenging learning opportunities delivered by motivated and inspired professionals and supported through collaborative partnerships with our community, businesses and organizations and institutions of higher education.

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR



Participants in the High School Science Fair posed and answered some interesting questions! Thank you to our judges, who volunteer their time for the benefit of our students. Throughout the day, our students were also given the opportunity to be inspired and vote for their favorite Science Fair project. To view the list of winners, visit the "News" section of the [District website homepage](#). The Science Fair is advised by high school science teacher, Mr. Aurigema.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTIONS

Thirty-three Clinton High School students were inducted into the National Honor Society (NHS), elevating the school's commitment to the values of scholarship, service, leadership and character. Inductees: *Ian Chang, Georgia Deep, Lydia DeTraglia, Dakota Deveans, Chloe Freund, Darcy Head, Abigail Hemstrought, Lydia Hepler, Tega Igho, Derrick Ingerham-Jewell, Tyler Jarvis, Matthew King, Avery Knaperek, Adriana LaBuz, Isla Langsdorf, Ava Lopata, Margaret Lutz, Delia Memmer, Victoria Panasyuk, Michael Pascucci, Brielle Pearl, Olivia Peto, Colin Sanderson, Amalia Schillinger, Kelsey Smith, Aiden Soika, Matthew Squires, Fiona Vogel, Abel Widiss, Alena Wratten and Gary Zalewski*. Congratulations!



MIDDLE SCHOOL CAREER FAIR

The Career Fair is offered to middle school students in order to expose them to a variety of career paths and professional opportunities. Students were allowed to choose from over 25 information sessions presented by area professionals. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders also assembled in the Theater to listen to keynote speakers Adam Milton, vice president; Emily Dean, integration engineer and Davis Lowry, process flow technician of the Mohawk Valley Fab at Wolfspeed. Thank you to all of our presenters for helping our students with future decision making and to all of our volunteers and staff members who contributed to the Fair's success.

Fun with Chemistry

Ms. Della Smith's everyday science class learned about the process used to produce artificial snow!



To Shine



Allegro Band

Nominated Clinton Elementary School band students participated in the Allegro Fifth & Sixth Grade Honor Band in Liverpool. The Honor Band practiced each Sunday in November and concluded with a concert on November 28 at Liverpool High School.

CCS Chamber Singers

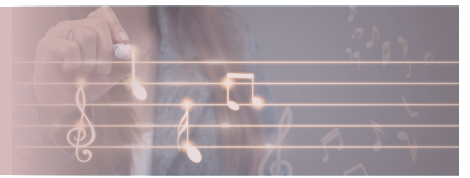
CCS Chamber Singers, under the direction of vocal music teacher Jenna Wratten, helped to usher in the holiday season by sharing their talents at both the Clinton Shoppers Stroll and the Root Farm Tree Lighting Ceremony.



Congratulations to our middle school students, both on stage and behind the scenes, for a wonderfully successful production of "Annie, Jr." Thank you to all staff members who provided this opportunity for our students to showcase their talent!



To Shine



Winter Concerts



Music groups from all three of our buildings entertained audiences, both in-person and virtually, with wonderful performances, setting the tone for the holiday season. **Congratulations to our talented students and dedicated music staff, Ms. Lopata, Ms. Jones, Mr. Lavender, Ms. Wratten and Ms. Conklin. Thank you!**



AREA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

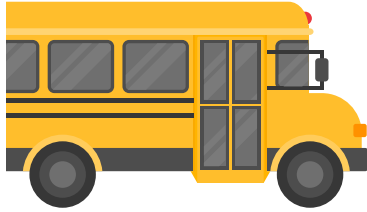


Congratulations to the talented students who represented CCS at Area All-State and to the teachers who helped them!



To Connect

STUFF THE BUS



Student members of the middle school Leo's Club, advised by school counselor Danielle Tesak, spearheaded the Stuff the Bus toy collection sponsored by KISS-FM radio station.



Hope House

The CCS high school Positivity Project Ambassadors visited the Hope House with club advisors, Mrs. Pavone and Mrs. Washburn. During their visit, the students prepared a meal for the needy.



THANK YOU CCSD FOUNDATION & TOWN GOWN FUND



CCSD Foundation officer Mr. Frank Perretta presented a check to Interim Superintendent Mr. Dave Langone to be used toward the funding of the Rise and Shine Summer School Program, also supported in part by the Hamilton College Town Gown Fund, which helped close the gap in learning created during COVID-19

closures. With this donation, the Foundation's funding to the school since its inception, has surpassed the \$1 million mark. Thank you!

The Season of Giving

In the few weeks leading up to the holidays, students and staff in all three buildings, along with community partners and student groups, organized collections of non-perishable food items, toys, clothing, coats, coins, gift cards and cash, totaling approximately \$4,000. Thank you to all who donated, collected, organized and distributed items to all of those in need.



Hangin' with Hamilton

The latest middle school "Hangin' with Hamilton" event was attended by approximately 70 students. Attendees enjoyed free music, games, food and craft activities with Hamilton College student leaders who donated their time for our students.



RECYCLING CHALLENGE

Through the efforts of the High School LEAP Club, the district took part in the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority's Fall 2022 Plastic Film Recycling Challenge! For this challenge, students were asked to collect plastic film from their homes and communities and bring it to the school for recycling.



To Connect



Clinton Seniors Participate in the REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE

Five CCS seniors were selected to participate in the Regional Program for Excellence (RPE). Through the RPE, students spend at least 72-75 hours in a work setting, to complete an internship with respected professionals as mentors. Thank you to our students for representing CCS so well and to our community partners for creating meaningful opportunities for students.

Boone Schaffer, video editing with MPW Marketing

Alexandra Doggett, nursing

Callie Kozak, journalism with WKTV

Elise Mozloom, law with the Hobika Law Firm

Sabina Rodriguez-Plate, pharmacy with the Medicine Shoppe *(not pictured)*



Members of the CTOWN live crew plan a segment about student employment for an upcoming special edition in Mrs. Pavone's multimedia production course. These periodic student broadcasts are accessible through the "Quick Links" section on the District website.

ParentSquare

We use ParentSquare as our primary parent & guardian communication tool. ParentSquare is used by teachers, building offices and administration. *If you have a student in the District and do not have access to ParentSquare, please contact your building office.*

High School Weekly Updates

Through the weekly high school online newsletter, parents are informed of current happenings, helpful information and important updates, such as this year's building goals, with periodic reports regarding District progress made toward their achievement. They can be found on the high school page of the school website.



Clinton Dollars for Scholars is a nonprofit foundation that supports academic success in the Clinton community. It is one of the programs under Scholarship America's national network of community-based, volunteer organizations.

The Clinton chapter has been awarding scholarships since its founding in 1984. Over time, membership has grown and fundraising efforts have successfully progressed, so that the chapter can now award scholarships ranging from \$250 to \$1,500. You can help by mailing your donation to Clinton Dollars for Scholars, 75 Chenango Ave, Clinton, NY 13323, or by clicking the "Dollars for Scholars" link at www.ccs.edu/domain/278.



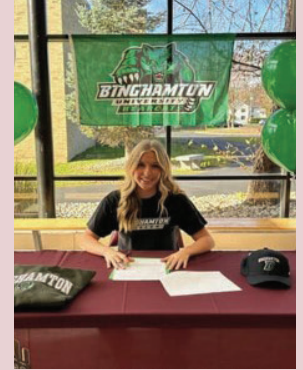
To Achieve

John Musante

Ninth grader John Musante received the traditional CCS send off to compete in the State Cross Country Meet held at VVS.



ALL-STAR ATHLETES



Lydia DeTraglia and Paige Luke were named Section III Class B All-Stars in soccer. Paige has signed with Binghamton University to play soccer as a Division 1 athlete. Congratulations!

FALL ATHLETIC SUMMARY

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY: (15-3 OVERALL)

5-0 Champions of the CSC D-1

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY: (12-3 OVERALL)

1-1 and 2nd in CSC D-1

FIELD HOCKEY:(15-2 OVERALL)

3-1 Champions of the CSC D-1

BOYS SOCCER: (6-10-1 OVERALL)

5-5 CSC

GIRLS SOCCER:(7-8-1 OVERALL)

5-1 Champions of the CSC D-1

GIRLS TENNIS: (4-5 OVERALL)

4-5 CSC D-1

FOOTBALL/COMPETITIVE CHEER: (2-7 OVERALL)

0-6 CSC



CONGRATS VARSITY SCHOLAR ATHLETES

VARSITY GIRLS

Cheerleading 92.62 | Tennis 96.18 | Soccer 94.87

Field Hockey 94.1 | Cross Country 94.71

VARSITY BOYS

Varsity Soccer 91.57 | Football 90.3

Cross Country 94.66

To qualify, 75% of the team roster had to achieve a cumulative GPA of 90 or better.

To Achieve



MINDFULNESS ADVENTURE CLUB

Mindfulness Adventure Club members climbed three local mountains, completing the Fulton Chain Trifecta Hiking Challenge. This challenge, based in the Old Forge region of the Adirondack Park, is a fun and rewarding adventure to the summits of Black Bear Mountain, Rocky Mountain and Bald Mountain. The club is advised by school social worker Mr. Anthony Sirianni.



GREEN BUSINESS BREWERY TOUR

Mrs. Washburn's environmental studies students recently toured the Saranac Brewery, where they learned about green business practices. They especially enjoyed the tour of the anaerobic digester and the Saranac sodas that were provided!



LEARNING ABOUT CONSERVATION

Grade six students attended Conservation Education Days at Delta Lake State Park, gaining knowledge about nature, ecological balance and related careers. Thank you to community organizations Cornell Cooperative Extension, 4-H and the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for offering this opportunity to our students.



CLINTON MODEL UN TEAM ATTENDS CONFERENCE

The Clinton High School Model UN Team, with their advisor Mr. Wratten and chaperone Mrs. Smiegal, attended the 40th Annual Central New York Model United Nations (CNYMUN) Conference at Syracuse University January 6 and 7.

The theme of the conference was promoting global equity. Students attended a variety of committees, such as the Food and Agricultural Organization, the UN Population Fund, and the UN International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

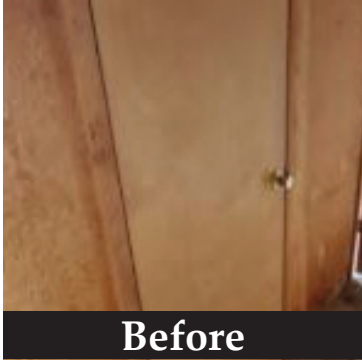
The conference was conducted in Harvard style, which means that resolutions were not written ahead of time, but created spontaneously through in-session working papers, moderated and unmoderated caucuses and lots of diplomacy.

Clinton delegates were enthusiastic about the experience and are looking forward to what the next conference will bring! Landon Stilz won an Honorable Mention representing Spain in NATO. Isla McCollough won Best Delegate for representing Wei Funghe in the Taiwan Cabinet. Izzy Marcus also won Best Delegate for representing Yu-Shyi Kun in the China Cabinet.

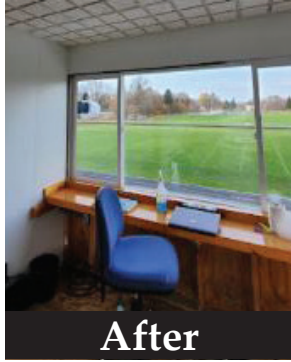


For Stewardship

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT



Before



After

For his Eagle Scout Project, student Jacob Eschenbach chose to renovate the inside of the District's press box. Thank you, Jacob, for your hard work and generosity. Over the past few years, several Eagle Scout projects have been completed to the District's advantage. Thank you!

THE BOILERS HAVE ARRIVED!



During the December winter recess, crews were hard at work to deliver and install two new boilers in the middle school. The Board of Education approved this emergency action upon learning that two of the existing boilers were in need of immediate replacement. Thank you to our custodial crew and the Board of Education for making this possible.

THE KINDNESS CLOSET

The Kindness Closet is open during designated hours to students, regardless of need; All items offered are free of charge. Winter coats, jackets, hats/scarves, gloves, t-shirts, long-sleeve shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, polos, dress shirts, pants, skirts, dresses, hats, sneakers and shoes, athletic wear, personal care products, the list goes on and on! Thank you to all who have helped stock these shelves with their generous donations. If you have items that you are willing to donate to the CCS Kindness Closet, please email kindnesscloset@ccs.edu or simply drop them off at the Superintendent's Office. Thank you Mr. Pavone for initiating this effort!



THANK YOU VOTERS

On December 13, Clinton Central School District residents voted to approve an \$18 million Capital Improvement Project by a vote of 258 (yes) to 46 (no).

The project will address the District's most pressing facility needs. This includes infrastructure updates, such as the replacement of boilers and roofs; space renovations to our school libraries and to the elementary school kitchen and site work throughout the campus, including a new elementary playground and installation of a multi-purpose turf field.

Superintendent of Schools Christopher Clancy shared, "On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to thank everyone who voted and for the support of this project. The work included in this project will help us maintain our outstanding facilities and will provide new and exciting opportunities for our students."

Dec. 13
Vote

Dec. 14- Aug. 31
Project Design

Sep. 9, 23 – Jan. 2, 24
NYSED Review

Jan. 8, 24 – Feb. 15, 24
Project Bid

Apr. 1, 24 – Oct. 1, 25
Construction

SECURITY & TECH UPDATE



SAFETY PATROL GOOD CITIZENS

Fifth grade students began their duties as safety patrols helping to keep their fellow students safe, especially during busy drop-off and dismissal times. Thank you for stepping up to serve in this important role.

FIRE SAFETY

As they do every year, Clinton Fire Department personnel spent time with students explaining what their job entails, introducing them to equipment used and instructing them on how to stay safe in the event a fire occurs. Thank you to our valuable community partners for sharing their expertise and for their concern for our students and community members.



CYBER SAFETY

Technology is an important part of the student learning experience at CCS. As a school district, we provide students and teachers with some form of access to technology in almost every instructional space. As more digital tools and devices are introduced into our classrooms and meaningfully integrated by our teachers, the need for additional access will only increase. Additionally, the use of technology in schools has grown exponentially throughout the last few years as they have adjusted to new and different digital learning platforms. Our students use devices throughout the day in their classrooms.

The District has put several measures in place to protect students, including a filtering system to track and monitor all student internet use to meet CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) requirements. The system is designed to prevent inappropriate access and monitor usage. No right to privacy exists in the use of technological resources provided by the school.

Some of our teachers use an approved tool called GoGuardian in their classes during school hours. When it is in use, GoGuardian allows a teacher to oversee the internet activity on a student's school Google account in real time. GoGuardian provides both an additional layer of security for our students, as well as quick and easy access for teachers if their students need support during a lesson. Monitoring through GoGuardian occurs anytime a student is logged in to his/her school Google account. **So, it is important for students to always logout of their school Google account if they are using a personal or family computer at home.**

As always, parents are asked to monitor their student's use of their CCS student account, including internet browsing at home or in any other location where a student is able to access a wireless network outside of school.

NYS Testing Changes

In June 2022, the NYS Education Department notified school districts of their intention to transition all grades three through eight NYS math, ELA and science tests from paper to computer format by the spring of 2026. In response, CCS has put together a plan that will help transition both our students and staff to computer-based testing (CBT) successfully, provide appropriate support and will meet the requirements of this mandate.

In preparation for the upcoming 2023 ELA and math assessments scheduled in April and May, grades four through eight students participated in an unscored ELA & math CBT simulation/practice test. This provided these students and our faculty with the opportunity to become familiar with the online testing platform and question items prior to the April and May administration of those assessments. Third grade students, for the time being, will continue with paper-based testing.





CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
75 Chenango Avenue | Clinton, New York 13323

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Superintendent of Schools

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Mr. Sam Catterson

Mr. Kevin Magdon

Ms. Lisa Magnarelli

Ms. Erica Shaw

GINGERBREAD HOUSES



A favorite annual event at CCS, Mrs. Goodelle's AP European history students created and displayed replicas of historic buildings using edible ingredients. Amazing!