

CLINTON

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEW YEAR, NEW SPACES, NEW FACES | FEBRUARY 2025

Open for Business!

On January 13, Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Bolos welcomed students and faculty members for a walk through of the now completed Elementary Library. All were amazed, inspired and eager to utilize the new space. An official gala reveal occurred on that same evening.



Welcome Ms. Meggan Alt!

CCS welcomed Ms. Meggan Alt to the district in her new role as Elementary Assistant Principal on January 21. Ms. Alt brings extensive experience to the Clinton Central School District, having served as a resource teacher, elementary teacher and instructional support specialist. She will assume the role as Elementary Principal upon Mr. Waskiewicz's transition to the position of High School Principal on July 1, 2025.

Many thanks to Mr. David Langone and Mr. Matthew Reilly for serving as interim principals to help fill the gaps with their expertise during the transition time.



Table of Contents

- 02 | *Building Character in the Elementary School*
- 03 | *Building Skills in the Middle School*
- 04 | *Building Futures in the High School*
- 05 | *Building Teamwork*
- 06 | *Building Inspiration*
- 07 | *Building Generosity*

District Mission Statement: Clinton Central School proudly educates and empowers all students to realize their potential in becoming thoughtful, empathetic and contributing members of a global society.

District Vision Statement: 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.

Building Character In The Elementary School

Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Now Open



The Clinton Central School District is excited to welcome students to our Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program for the 2025-2026 school year! We are currently gathering preliminary information from families interested in enrolling.

If you would like your child to be considered for our full-day Pre-K program, and your child will turn 4 by December 1, 2025, please complete the interest form on the Pre-K webpage by 3:00 PM on March 10, 2025. Submitting this form enters your child into the Pre-K lottery. While completing the form does not guarantee placement, it is a required first step in the process. We look forward to the opportunity to partner with your family! Scan the QR Code to visit our Pre-K webpage.



Kindergarten Registration is Underway!



If your child will turn 5 years old by December 1, 2025, it's time to register for Kindergarten! Please complete the registration process by May 1 to help us plan for an exciting and successful school year. Kindergarten screenings will be conducted throughout the month of May.

To get started, visit the Clinton Elementary School webpage or stop by the school office to pick up a registration packet. We look forward to welcoming our newest students!

CHARACTER CLUB IN ACTION

The elementary schools P2 Character Club members hosted a Thanksgiving pie drive in November, collecting and delivering close to 200 pies from community members to the Clinton Country Pantry. That day, students also participated in the distribution of food items, an experience that they found to be so rewarding that they returned in December, donating and distributing over 100 cookie mixes. The club is advised by elementary teacher Megan Foley.



BRAIN SHOW FUN!

The Brain Show assembly celebrated education by communicating to children that learning can be fun. Both students and teachers engaged in this game show format learning activity, cheering each other on.

Thank you to the Clinton PTA for funding this wonderful assembly!



VETERANS APPRECIATION CEREMONY



On November 8, 2024, Clinton Elementary School paid tribute to the brave men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces with a heartfelt Veterans Day program titled Celebrating America's Heroes. A highlight of the program was a video message, C-Town Live, expressing appreciation for veterans.

The fifth-grade students also presented detailed descriptions of each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. Guest speaker and district parent, Mr. Keegan delivered an inspiring address, followed by a rendition of the song Fallen Soldier performed by District parent Mark Bolos, and a performance by elementary chorus directed by music teacher Lisa Jones.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Clinton Community,

As we continue to navigate the cold winter months, I am excited to share updates and highlights from our district in this edition of our newsletter. Our schools continue to make incredible strides, and I am grateful for the support and commitment of our students, staff, families, and community members.

Our capital project continues to progress positively, bringing improvements that will benefit our students for years to come. One of the project's most exciting milestones has been the celebrated opening of our newly renovated elementary library, a space where students can explore, discover, and engage with new books and technology.

We are also pleased to welcome Ms. Meggan Alt as our new Elementary Assistant Principal. Ms. Alt has embraced our elementary students and staff, and I know that she looks forward to meeting families at some of our upcoming spring events. We look forward to her continued leadership as she prepares to assume the role of elementary principal on July 1, 2025 when Mr. Waskiewicz moves to the High School.

Our fall athletic teams have represented our district with outstanding sportsmanship and dedication. I would like to extend my congratulations to all of our student-athletes on a successful season and a special commendation to our field hockey team for their remarkable season and trip to the NYS semi-finals. Their hard work and perseverance are a testament to the spirit of excellence that defines our school community.

Finally, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the tremendous generosity our school community displayed during the holiday season. Whether through food drives, toy collections, or other acts of kindness, your contributions have made a meaningful impact on those in need. Thank you for your compassionate and generous support.

As we enter the second half of the school year, I am grateful for all that we have accomplished together and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our students and schools.

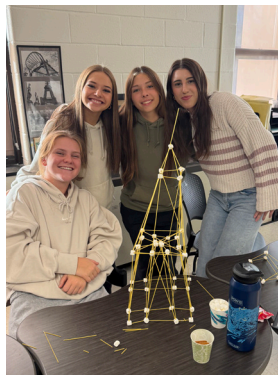
Sincerely,

Christopher M. Clancy
Superintendent of Schools

Building Skills In The Middle School

FRENCH CLUB EXPLORES NEW CULTURES

With the help of Madame Hogan the middle school French teacher and Monsieur Wratten, her high school counterpart, along with some helpful high school French students, the Middle School French Club is off to a fantastic start. Their journey has already taken them through the rich cultures of Switzerland and France.



In October, they explored Swiss customs, including fondue etiquette. November brought a shift in focus to France, with the iconic Eiffel Tower taking center stage. Students were challenged to build their own miniature Eiffel Towers using spaghetti and marshmallows. While they constructed their towers, they learned fascinating facts about this Parisian landmark. They also enjoyed delicious Petit Écolier cookies.

Students are excited to continue their cultural journeys.

Middle School Scientists

Congratulations to all participants in the CMS 46th Annual Science Fair held. Faculty, staff, students and judges were impressed with the hard work, dedication, knowledge and overall excitement of these young scientists.

3rd place winners:

- Simon Terrell for Synapsid Origins
- Brady Barker and Carissa Cotto for Orca Insights

2nd place winners:

- Merrick Reeske for Mind Logic
- Elijah Bentley for Oil Spill Clean-up
- Kourtney Quesnell and Kaylin Young for How do we Float in Water?

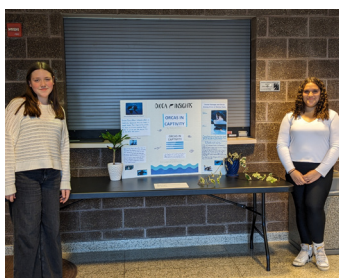
1st place winners:

- Claudia Hepler and Mathilde Boucek for Apple Oxidation Prevention

1st place winners who have competed in the CMS Science Fair all three years of middle school.

- Aliyah Bentley for Drink up, Fuel up
- Andrew VanWynsberghe for Flying Wings

Congratulations to all for a job well done!



CCS Portrait of a Graduate



New York State has recently developed a Portrait of a Graduate as part of its transformative vision for education, redefining what it means to be prepared for life beyond high school.

Recently, our Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Gabree-Huba, collaborated with student leaders from Student Council, National Junior Honor Society, and the LEOs Club to begin shaping what our district's Portrait of a Graduate will look like. Students engaged in thoughtful discussions about the skills and attributes they feel are essential for future success, identifying traits such as leadership, hard work, empathy, and kindness as some priorities. Their insights will combine with those of other students, staff, and community members to serve as the foundation for our district's vision, ensuring it reflects the aspirations and needs of our students as they prepare for an ever-evolving world.

CLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL HOSTS CAREER DAY

Students began their day in the Theater with a presentation from the Brooklyn Pickle restaurant where they learned about the history behind the business, the work involved in starting up, and how employees can learn and grow within a business. A fun, interactive sandwich making activity concluded the presentation!



Students then elected to attend various career sessions, choosing from 28 offerings, during which professionals informed students about the skills and education needed for their respective careers! Thank you to all of our career presenters for their time and commitment to educating our middle school students

and to Ally Golden, Career Exploration Specialist with the School and Business Alliance at OHM BOCES for her assistance. We are looking forward to next year!

HISTORY CLUB VISITS THE SEWARD MANSION

The Middle School History Club had a fun, exciting, and rewarding day in Auburn touring the William Seward Mansion and Equal Rights Heritage Center. Students were respectful, curious, and enthusiastic. History Club looks forward to future adventures!



Building Futures In The High School

NATIONAL MERIT CANDIDATES



Congratulations to Clinton's National Merit Scholarship students. These awards are determined by performance on the PSAT exams at the National level.

NATIONAL SEMI-FINALIST

Alex Hermann

COMMENDED STUDENTS

John Musante

Maren Wonhsen

National Honor Society

On November 20, 44 high school students were inducted into the National Honor Society. The NHS recognizes students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of academic achievement, leadership, character and service. Congratulations to the following students: Martin Amuso, Juliana Bean, Ella Brehaut, Sarah Butcher, Molly Call, Brian Chang, Vincenza Constantino, Natalie Cortright, Rowan Dawes, Chloe DeNoon, James Dillon, Emmanuel Douya, Charlotte Gale, Lucas Galinski, Nikolina Gleboff, Charlotte Guity, Samuel Hepler, Avery Hurlly, Andrea Jimenez, Gavin Kapes VanSlyke, Jeffrey Knight, Olena Lishchuk, Claire Mihm, Claire Morford, Zeno Mummer, Aidan Mungo, James O'Brien, Mariya Panasyuk, Emma Peto, Zoe Pieri, Leah Randall, Margaret Reardon, Nora Reid, Peyton Seymour, Avery Smith, Gemma Spadea, Ryan Squires, Ryder Stilz, Cole Thayer, Phoenix Townsend, Leah Vanderlan, Hannah Williams, Jack Wratten and Justin Zalewski.



SABA Breakfast

SABA NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Several CCS high school students attended the SABA Networking Breakfast at Oneida Herkimer Madison BOCES where students had the opportunity to network with professionals in their career areas of interest and gather more information about job outlooks, educational experiences, and marketable skills.

Attending students included Nora Reid, Olivia Pasiak, Garrett Bauer, Gideon Dreier, Luis Ramirez, Noah Eschenbach, and Taylor Kittleman.



Tech at MVCC

TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS EXPLORE OPTIONS

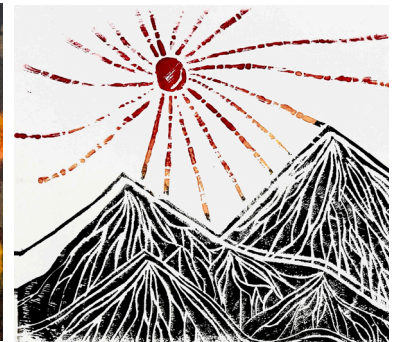
Technology Education students in grades 10-12 recently attended National Manufacturing Day at MVCC. Students were given the opportunity to speak with over 30 local companies to discuss products, internships, training, skills and potential career opportunities!



Student Art



James O'Brien



Colton Bobowski

P-TECH STUDENTS EARN HONORS

Pathways in Technology Early College High School at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES (P-TECH OHM) has announced its honor roll students for the first quarter. The honor roll recognizes students in grades 9-12 who have demonstrated academic excellence. The honor roll is divided into three categories: **Principal's List** (95-100%), **Honor Roll** (90-94%) and **Merit Roll** (84-89%).

The following Clinton students were named to the Principal's List and Merit Roll.

PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Ivan Haldenwang

Ethan LaBuz

Karnelia Samoshuk

Ilia Suvorov

MERIT ROLL

Elliot Moore

Building Teamwork

FIELD HOCKEY ACCOLADES!

Three CCS athletes, Gretchen Grimm, Gracen Grimm and Gabby Genelli, were selected by Syracuse.com, in all of section 3 classes A-D, as recipients of the All-CNY Sports Award. Additionally, the Grimms are up for Player of the Year for Section 3. The winner will be revealed and presented on June 24, 2025. Leah Randall was also named to the CNY Second Team List, and Family & Consumer Science teacher and varsity field hockey coach, Miquel Grimm was named the 2024 All-CNY field hockey coach of the year. Congratulations to all!



Coach Grimm Gretchen Grimm Gabby Gemelli Gracen Grimm



**Congratulations to Clinton Girls Field Hockey
- Section 3 Class D Champions!**

Scholar Athletes

Seven Varsity teams qualified as NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Teams, requiring that 75% of the team roster have a combined average of 90% or higher. They are:

Cheer: 90.06
Field Hockey 97.88
Girls Tennis 97.72
Girls XC 99.08
Girls Soccer 96.57
Boys XC 99.52
Boys Soccer 95.10

Congratulations to all of our student athletes, coaches, parents and fans!

Highlights

COMETS WERE STREAKING THROUGH THE FALL SEASON

BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER:

The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished 14-4 in the fall and captured another Center State Conference Division Title. The Varsity Girls Team was also successful on the field, capturing a Division Title and finishing the season at 12-5. Special recognition to Senior Henry Schweitzer, who finished his stellar high school career at Clinton with over 100 career points. He scored 56 points this year, which was 2nd in all of Section III Class B. Henry was recognized by coaches, teammates, and opponents, as one of the best, earning Small School All-State Team honors.



FOOTBALL & CHEER:

The Football & Cheer Teams returned to action this Fall, with Football playing its first season of 8-Man. The boys made an instant impact, and qualified for a playoff contest. While the team benefitted from contributions of all, Freshmen through Seniors, they relied heavily on their eight Seniors. Notably, QB/LB Benjamin Copperwheat who led all of Section III 8-Man in completions and ranked third in TD passes. WR/DB Ronan Milne led all of Section III 8-Man in receptions, receiving yards, and receiving TDs (regular season only). Ben and Ronan were both named to the All-CNY 8-Man Football First Team, with fellow Senior Zach Spaven making the Second Team. Clinton had one Senior Cheerleader in the Fall, Emily Stockbridge.

CROSS COUNTRY:

Both Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams experienced success in the Fall as well. The Boys won their 3rd straight CSC Title, and the Girls finished second to Adirondack. Both teams performed well in the Sectional Championship race as well, with the boys finishing second, and the girls fourth. For the Girls, the Sectional Championship was the final run for CCS by dedicated Seniors Natalie Heselton, Beatrix Rioux, Josie Rioux, Wynni Davignon & Emily Tinkler. On the Boys side, it was the final race for John Musante, Lees Divine, Wyatt Forbes, and Sean Shreppel. Special shout out to John Musante who finished first for Clinton all season, and missed qualifying for States by just one position.

Building Inspiration

ALLEGRO HONOR BAND



Several CCS Band Students were selected to perform with the Allegro Honor Band again this year. One hundred sixty musicians from twenty-three school districts came together to learn and rehearse, perform in a wonderful concert at Liverpool High School.

Participating CCS students included Zarine Datta-Wood, Caleb Strong, Meredith Earl, Emma Bobo, Emma Walden, Jack Wratten, Vivian Skibinski, Rowan Dawes, Grayson Bastain, McKenzie Wadsworth and James Shelley.

WINTER CONCERTS

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Throughout December, orchestra, band, and chorus students from all three buildings delighted audiences with their holiday concerts.

Additionally, the chamber singers, jazz band, and chamber orchestra had the opportunity to perform for residents at the Brookdale Senior Living community and the New Hartford Square Senior Apartments.

Thank you to our students for sharing your talents and inspiring audience members, and to the CCS music staff for inspiring students' generosity.

ELEMENTARY BAND & CHORUS



MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND CHORUS



HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA, BAND & CHORUS



Tri-M Music Students

TRI-M MUSIC STUDENTS

Tri-M Music Honor Society students helped spread holiday cheer by performing in the hallways during passing time between periods in the middle school and the high school.



Building Generosity

LEOS CLUB GIVES BACK

LEOS Club members generously volunteered their time to ring the bell for the Salvation Army in front of Kinney's. All donations collected will stay local, directly benefiting our community. A big thank you to our dedicated LEOS members for their commitment to giving back!



STUFF THE BUS

Students in our LEOS service organization recently organized and promoted a toy drive to support the Stuff The Bus CNY campaign! Thanks to the generosity of our staff, students, and community, three large boxes filled with toy donations brought joy to children in our community this holiday season. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported the LEOS in making a positive difference in our community!



APPRECIATION FOR SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

CLINTON MUSIC PARENTS

Thank you to this dedicated group of parents and teachers for supporting "all things musical" at CCS and encouraging student enrichment opportunities to over 400 participating students.

CLINTON SPORTS BOOSTERS

Thank you for supporting the Clinton athletic program with scholarships and financial funding for all athletic programs through parent and community involvement.

CLINTON PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Thank you for providing an important link between school and home and for working to enrich the educational experience of children in the district through its many sponsored events.

Visit www.ccs.edu for information on how to become involved.

CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY PARTNERS

THANK YOU CCSD FOUNDATION

Founded in 1991, the mission of the Clinton Central School District Foundation is to promote and support excellence in education in the Clinton Central School System. The Foundation's basic premise is that there is no more important gift we can give to our students and to our society than a high-quality educational program. To date, the Foundation has contributed \$1,155,930 to the District. Information on ways to donate can be found on the school website at www.ccs.edu/community/foundation.

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

Student Angelo Gaetano, class of '30, and family raised funds for Clinton Dollars for Scholars at the Shoppers' Stroll. Clinton Dollars for Scholars® is a nonprofit foundation that supports academic success in our community. Dollars for Scholars chapters help hometown students achieve their educational goals by raising scholarship funds, establishing endowments, providing assistance with college readiness and the financial aid process, and distributing scholarships each year.



Please consider donating to this worthy organization.

HOLIDAY GIVING

HOLIDAY GIVING

Kudos to the K-12 Counseling team for collaborating district wide and with our local community to raise over \$5,800 to provide food, clothing, and gift cards to support families over the holiday break. A special thank you to the Country Pantry, Clinton Fire Department, Coldwell Banker Faith Properties, Leo's Club, Kindness Closet, the music department, the CCS faculty, staff, and student body for contributing so generously. The outpouring of support received was overwhelming!



Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Christopher Clancy

Clinton Board of Education

Ms. Melinda Leising, *President*

Ms. Lisa Magnarelli, *Vice President*

Mr. Sam Catterson

Ms. Rachael Clark

Mr. Orlando Guitián

Mr. Patrick LaVeck

Ms. Erica Shaw

CONFERENCE ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL



Charlotte Gale



Mia Le

Each year, student musicians from all over New York State perform solos hoping to score high enough to be accepted into our Area All-State Festival or even more challenging, the Conference All-State Festival. This is the highest honor for a student musician in New York State.

We are pleased to acknowledge Charlotte Gale (piano) and Mia Le (clarinet) for their amazing performances at this year's conference in Rochester. State adjudicators first narrowed down the pool of applicants to around 120 pianists and accepted just 11 performers.

Charlotte was selected to play Copland's *The Cat and The Mouse* at the piano showcase on December 6. Mia, an outstanding clarinetist, joined similar students from around the state for three days of intense rehearsals followed by a performance at the Kodak Hall Eastman Theatre on December 7.

Congratulations to these accomplished musicians, not to mention all-around excellent students!