



CLINTON

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BACK - T O - S C H O O L N E W S L E T T E R | S E P T E M B E R 2 0 2 5



Summer Academy Learning

During the month of July, one hundred-fifty K-5 students enjoyed a wide range learning activities based on two themes - STEAM and Wilderness. Core subjects were reinforced, and additional support received, as needed. Summer Academy students were visited by Mr. Cramer from Airborne Adventures and his hot air balloon who allowed students to walk inside a partially inflated balloon for a one-of-a-kind view.

Classroom teachers, along with the STEAM teacher, followed up with lessons about how these magnificent machines work, how to build models, then summarized their experiences in writing. Thank you Michelle Taranto, Michelle Gabree-Huba, Rebecca Stiliz, and all of our dedicated teachers and aides who have ensured that lessons are informative, interactive, and enjoyable.

Clinton Middle School Students Take Flight at STEM Camp

Additionally, 24 rising 6th through 8th graders from Clinton Middle School participated in a three-day STEM Camp at SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

The camp, held over three half days, offered students hands-on experiences in drone technology and engineering. With guidance from SUNY Poly staff and support from CNY Drones, students explored drone flight through realistic simulation programs, took part in exciting rounds of drone soccer, and worked in teams to engineer and modify remote control cars to boost their speed and performance.

"This was an incredible opportunity for our students to engage with cutting-edge technology in a college setting," said Clinton Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Technology Michelle Gabree-Huba. "They were able to learn by doing, ask questions of experts in the field, and see how science, engineering and technology come together in real-world applications."

The program was made possible through a partnership between Clinton Central School District, SUNY Poly and CNY Drones. The district is grateful for the CCSD Foundation and Town Gown Fund's continued support of enrichment programs that spark curiosity and foster future-ready skills in students.

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 2
Staff Development Day
Sports Boosters Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 3
Staff Development Day

SEPTEMBER 4
Classes Begin

SEPTEMBER 5
Bus Safety Drill

SEPTEMBER 8-12
Bus Safety Week

SEPTEMBER 11
9/11 Memorial Ceremony and
Brick Garden Dedication, 5:00 p.m.
High School Open House, 6:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 17
CCSD Foundation Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 18
Middle School Open House, 6:00 p.m.
General PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 22
Board of Education Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 25
Elementary Open House, 6:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 26 & 27
Homecoming Weekend

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.

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Celebrating the Class of 2025

On June 21, the students in the class of 2025 were celebrated in a meaningful ceremony attended by family and friends acknowledging the hard work and accomplishments of each of the graduates. Leading up to that moment, students were honored at the annual awards night, enjoyed a celebratory breakfast and inspired their younger classmates with the traditional senior walk, in graduation garb, through the elementary and middle schools. An outdoor fun day, organized by the Clinton PTA, followed commencement rehearsal. Congratulations and best of luck in your future endeavors!

Cassi Adams	Mackenzie Miller
Luke Adler Bentham	Ronan Milne
Anna Angell	Dylan Monroe
Elizabeth Bashant	Zeno Mummer
Garrett Bauer	John Musante
Thomas Bingham	Kyla Nicholas
Zechariah Bolos	Reilly Notar
Santino Castaneda	Matthew Orendorff
Hannah Castle	Isaiah Palmer
Rosemary Cimorelli	Olivia Pasiak
Emma Clark	Mitchell Peck
Connor Cook	Luis Ramirez
Kaden Cook	Nora Reid
Ben Copperwheat	Amanda Renee
Eliana Crissey	Lauren Rey
Dominick Curtis	Beatrix Rioux
Hudson Daughtry	Josie Rioux
Wynnin Davignon	Josie Rioux
Esme Davis	Marion Ritenour
Evy Dawes	Brennen Rockwell
Breona Deyo	Maxwell Ross
Quinn DiLauro	Allijah Sadler
Lees Divine	Mack Schaffer
Gideon Dreier	Sean Schreppel
Sophia Dunikova	Henry Schweitzer
Noah Eschenbach	Luke Shaw
Gabriella Gemelli	Bianca Siepiola
Gracen Grimm	Avery Smith
Gretchen Grimm	Emily Stockbridge
Cameron Hajduk	Eva Stone
Alex Hermann	Teagan Tabolt
Natalie Heselton	Connor Thompson
Jack Jacobson	Emily Tinkler
Clara Kelly	Giada Tofolo
Anthony Kingsley	Liam Tyler
Taylor Kittleman	Ethan Webb
Mia Le	Andrew Williams
Olena Lishchuk	Hannah Williams
Alex Martinez	Max Williams
Jackson Mauthe	Maren Wohnsen
Sophie McKea	Iris Xu



SENIOR ATHLETES AWARDED



Fifty-six Clinton senior student-athletes were recognized and honored at the Clinton Central School District's Senior Athletic Awards ceremony held on June 5. The Class of 2025 achieved great success both in the classroom and on the playing field throughout their high school experience. The Clinton CSD is proud of every individual student-athlete's contributions, accomplishments and growth.

In addition, Clinton Senior High School has been named a School of Excellence by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) for the 2024-25 school year. Congratulations to the varsity athletes who made this prestigious recognition possible! This achievement demonstrates Clinton Senior High School's ongoing dedication to nurturing both academic and athletic success, setting an impressive standard for all student-athletes.

CLASS OF 2025 FUTURE PLANS

Alabama University
Biology

Alfred University
Business Administration
Sports Management

Barnard College
Biology
Neuroscience

Butler Community, Kansas

CCNY
Communications
Marketing

Clarkson University
Business, Mechanical Engineering
Aerospace Engineering

Coastal Carolina University
Biology

Colgate University
Political Science
International Relations

Drew University
Finance

D'Yuoville University
Sports Management

Fordham University
Neuroscience
Political Science
Business

Hamilton College
Physics

HCCC
Early Childhood Education

Hobart and William Smith
Business Administration
Biology
Economics
Pre-med

Le Moyne College
Accounting

Liberty University
Communications

Miami University of Ohio
Psychology

Military

MVCC
General Studies
Business
Graphic Design
Electrician
HVAC

**National Technical Institute
of the Deaf**
Interpreting

Occidental College

Oklahoma State University
Sports Management

Paul Smith's College
Environmental Biology

Rochester Institute of Technology
American Sign Language

Russell Sage College
Nursing

St. Lawrence University
Business Communications

St. John Fisher University
Chemistry/Pharmacy

St. Bonaventure
Sports Management

SUNY Binghamton
Chemistry
Biology

SUNY Brockport
Exercise Science
Physical Therapy

SUNY Canton
Finance

SUNY Cortland
Math
Physical Education
Physics

SUNY Geneseo
Marketing
Adolescent Education in Math

SUNY Morrisville
Business of Agriculture

SUNY Oneonta
Early Childhood Education

SUNY Oswego
Broadcasting and Communications

SUNY Plattsburgh
Business Administration

SUNY Polytechnical Institute
Computer Engineering
Nursing
Biology

University at Albany
Environmental Science
Math

University at Buffalo
Nursing

University of Delaware
Exercise Science

University of Richmond
Philosophy
Politics
Pre-law

University of Rochester
Physics
Math
Cognitive Science

University of Vermont
Engineering

Utica University
Business
Physical Therapy
Health & Physical Education
Nursing

Vassar College
History
English
Anthropology

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University**
Aerospace Engineering

Western New England University
Music Business
Pre-law

Workforce
Welding
Firefighting
Farming
Excavation



FIFTH GRADERS CELEBRATE A MILESTONE

On the morning of June 18, the Clinton Elementary School community gathered to celebrate the 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony — a milestone marking the end of one chapter and the exciting beginning of another.

The ceremony opened with smiles, applause and a beautiful stage adorned with a new Clinton Elementary School banner, generously gifted by the 5th grade class and proudly displayed as a symbol of school spirit and pride. Students shared heartfelt reflections in "Elementary Memories," a student-written and presented tribute to their time at CES.

They also took a moment to recognize and honor four beloved staff members retiring this year: Monica Crumrine, Elizabeth Hobaica, Hilary Lopata and Shelly McNichol. Their impact on our school community is immeasurable, and we thank them for their years of dedication and service.

The celebration concluded with a surprise flash mob performance by the students who showed off their dance moves and excitement.



8TH GRADE MOVES UP TO THE HIGH SCHOOL

On June 27, the Class of 2029 was proudly celebrated at the 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony as they prepared to take the next step into high school.

Students were recognized for their achievements and inspired by words of wisdom from their chosen faculty speaker, science teacher Mr. King. Congratulations and best of luck to the Class of 2029!

MEET THE CCS LEADERSHIP

Here to Serve Our Students and Community



Ms. Michelle Gabree-Huba
Assistant Superintendent
for Instruction and Technology

Mr. Christopher Clancy
Superintendent

Mr. Edward Waszkiewicz
High School Principal

Mr. Ethan Martin
School Business Administrator

Dr. Arnie Johnson
Middle School Principal

Ms. Meggan Alt
Elementary School Principal

Ms. Elizabeth Dougherty
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Ms. Karen Holton
Elementary School Assistant Principal

Mr. Robert Bentley
Director of Athletics
High School Assistant Principal

Mr. Jordan Ezman
Telecommunications Specialist

Mr. Nicholas DeStella
Building and Grounds Lead

Mr. Benjamin Getler
Transportation Lead

Superintendent's Message

Dear Clinton Community,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! The beginning of a new academic year is always a time of energy, anticipation, and hope. We are excited to welcome our students and staff back after a well-deserved summer break—and we're ready to build on the momentum of last year with renewed purpose and enthusiasm.

This edition of our newsletter includes reflections on the close of the 2024–2025 school year and previews many of the opportunities and initiatives ahead. Congratulations once again to the Class of 2025! We are so proud of all you accomplished. And to our newest Comets, the pre-K Class of 2039, welcome to the Clinton Central School District family!

The summer months have been a time of both preparation and progress across our district. Over 150 students participated in our Comets Adventure Academy, continuing their learning in a fun, supportive environment. Construction projects from our ongoing Capital Project have continued, bringing us closer to our vision of updated, flexible learning spaces. We've also welcomed new staff members who bring energy, insight, and heart to their roles—several of whom you'll meet in this newsletter. And this fall, we are proud to be offering three thriving Universal Pre-Kindergarten classrooms, laying a strong foundation for our youngest learners.

This school year, our work will be guided by five district goals, each aligned with our shared vision for student success and educational excellence:

Goal 1:
Empower Learning Through Innovation and Real-World Experiences

Goal 2:
Advance Instructional Excellence and Staff Development

Goal 3:
Expand Pathways and Programs

Goal 4:
Strengthen Community and Student Voice

Goal 5:
Sustain and Modernize Programs for a Future-Ready Education

These goals are more than aspirations—they are a roadmap for the work ahead, and a reflection of the values we share as a school community.

Over the past 24 months, our district has experienced meaningful and transformative change—new leadership, new programs, new ideas, and many new faces. Some of these transitions were anticipated and energizing; others brought challenges and a sense of uncertainty. Through it all, we have remained centered on what matters most: our students and the future we are building together. We've assembled an incredible administrative team whose leadership, dedication, and collaboration have been instrumental in moving our district forward.

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We've also welcomed many exceptional new employees—educators and support staff alike—who have already begun making a tremendous impact on our schools and community. Change, while not always easy, is often necessary for growth—and with every step forward, we move closer to realizing the full potential of our schools, our staff, and our students.

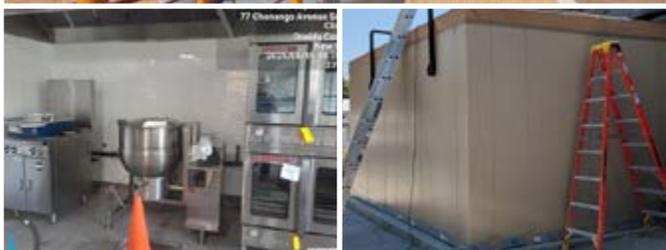
Thank you for your continued support and belief in the work we are doing. Together, let's make this a year filled with learning, connection, and purpose.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Clancy
Superintendent of Schools

Capital Project Update

INVESTING IN OUR SCHOOL, INSPIRING OUR STUDENTS



BEAUTY MEETS FUNCTION

In addition to what is pictured, the following projects are nearing completion: UPK classroom updates, elementary elevator installation, roofing repair, asbestos abatement, boiler pipe and courtyard entrance sidewalk installation, Norton Ave parking lot and basketball court, whiteboard installation, ceiling tile and lighting replacement, elementary gym partition and exterior door replacement and bike rack and pad installation.

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 20
9AM - 11AM

Watch for Details
@ ccs.edu

OPEN HOUSE

2024 CCS CAPITAL PROJECT

CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CAMPUS

Visit campus to see outstanding work completed during the 2024 Capital Project, including:

- New Multipurpose Turf Field
- Renovated Elementary & Secondary Libraries
- New Elementary Playground
- New Universal Pre-Kindergarten Suite
- Renovated Elementary Kitchen
- Renovated Elementary Gymnasium



Thank You Summer Staff!

Throughout the summer, our amazing custodians, student helpers, office staff and administrators have worked tirelessly to prepare our school. They have been getting classrooms, hallways, gyms, grounds and athletic fields ready, all while managing a Capital Project, hiring new staff and purchasing supplies. It's thanks to their hard work that we are always ready when students arrive. Thank you!

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

CCS is proud to introduce new staff members for the 2025-2026 school year:

Lauren Bennati
Kindergarten Teacher

Drew Burdick
Groundsworker

Drake Carnot
Elementary School PE Teacher

Richard China
Music Teacher

J'Nai Clark
High School Social Studies Teacher

Alaina Clifford
Elementary School Nurse

Courtney Gus
Speech Pathologist

Marie Jasinski
Middle school Special Education Teacher

Bobbi Latray
Middle School Math Teacher

Akil Ruzich
High School Math Teacher

Merissa Shaler
Elementary School Office Specialist

Sarah Snediker
High School Math Teacher

Taylor Statkowski
High School ELA Teacher

Kyle Taranto
Middle School Interim Social Worker

Carly Van Alstyne
Middle School Counselor

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE: WELCOME BACK!

The Clinton Central School District Transportation Department is excited to welcome students back! Our dedicated drivers and monitors are committed to ensuring every student's ride is safe, friendly, and reliable.

We appreciate your patience as routes settle during the first few weeks. For any questions, contact us at **(315) 557-2265**.

BUS STOPS & PICK-UP TIMES

To ensure a smooth start to the year, students should arrive at their stop **5 minutes early**. Routes and timing will be finalized after the first week, and drivers will communicate updates as needed.

Note: All routes are subject to change throughout the year. Updated schedules can be found on our website: www.ccs.edu.

BUS SAFETY REMINDERS

- Line up single file and wait for the bus to stop and the door to open.
- Cross only when signaled by the driver.
- Use the handrail when boarding.
- Be respectful and stay clear of the back of the bus.
- A bus pass (with written permission) is required to get off at a stop other than your regular one.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

- The bus is an extension of the classroom—respectful behavior is expected.
- Stay seated; keep hands and belongings to yourself.
- No food, drinks, smoking, or inappropriate language.
- Vandalism, harassment, or unsafe behavior will result in school discipline.

FOR DRIVERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

As students return, please help us keep them safe:

- Watch for children near schools and bus stops.
- **Flashing yellow lights = slow down. Red lights = stop!**
- This applies even on divided highways, multi-lane roads, parking lots, and school grounds—**unless directed otherwise by a police officer or the bus driver.**

Thank you for helping us start the year safely and smoothly. See you at the bus stop!

Ben Getter – Transportation Leader

Frank Tizzano – Bus Dispatcher

NOTICES

PARENTSQUARE

Parent Square is the most commonly used communication tool for District and Building notices. Please make sure that your student's building office has your most current contact information on file so that you receive these important communications.

SCHOOL WEATHER EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

The decision to close schools because of adverse weather conditions is not made lightly or easily. The road conditions in the district are reviewed personally by district and town staff. The final decision is made by the Superintendent after consulting with those who have checked the conditions.

A text will go out on Parent Square to the phone number provided to the building offices alerting parents of closings or delays. The news media are informed and information is posted on the website at www.ccs.edu.

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

No student should feel that it is not safe to come to school and participate in all school activities. No student should ever be prevented from concentrating on schoolwork because another student or a school staff member is teasing you, making fun of you, or threatening you in some way, because of your actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin (where your family comes from), ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity or expression), or sex, or for any other reason.

No student may act toward another student in a way that might reasonably make them feel threatened or unsafe, or that might reasonably make them unable to concentrate on their schoolwork because of what you might think about their race, color, weight, national origin (where their family comes from), ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity or expression), or sex, or for any other reason. It is against school rules for any student or staff member to do this by physical actions or by verbal statements, including electronic messages. This kind of behavior is prohibited on school property, on school buses, and at all school-sponsored events.

You should report acts of bullying, discrimination, harassment and other inappropriate actions that harm others to your Dignity Act Coordinator. Contact information for your Dignity Act Coordinators are:

High School

Mr. Edward Waskiewicz, Principal
315.557.2233

Middle School

Dr. Amie Johnson, Principal
315.557.2260

Elementary School

Ms. Meggan Alt, Principal
315.557.2256

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE

The Clinton Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national origin, handicap or age in employment or in providing student access to educational programs, courses and activities. This policy is in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. Any alleged grievances should be reported to the appropriate compliance officer. Compliance officers are as

follows: Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Ms. Elizabeth Dougherty, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Clinton Central School, 75 Chenango Ave, Clinton NY, 13323; or Title IX Coordinators Mr. Edward Waskiewicz, Clinton High School, 75 Chenango Ave, Clinton, NY13323 and Mrs. Elizabeth Dougherty, Director of Pupil Personnel services at the above listed address.

USE OF PESTICIDES

The District recognizes that pests can pose a significant risk to health and property, and that significant risks exist in using chemical pesticides in the school environment. In accordance with CCS Policy 8115, pesticides will not be used on District playgrounds, turf, athletic or playing fields unless an emergency occurs, which will be handled in accordance with applicable law and regulation. In the event that this becomes necessary, all District staff and parent/guardians will be notified.

ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Act of 1987 (AHERA), and CCS Policy #7100, a copy of building inspection reports are available for review by appointment. CCS Policy #7365 ensures that all areas disturbed through renovation or demolition are tested for lead and asbestos. Please contact Mr. Nick DeBella at 315.557.2390 with any questions.

ACCESS TO TEACHERS' APPR SCORES

Regulation 9420-R.1 of the District Policy Manual explains procedure, enabling parents to request information regarding the APPR scores for their child's teacher using Exhibits 9420-E.1 and 9420-E.2.

The District Policy Manual can be found on the website, www.ccs.edu, under the District tab, then under Board of Education.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The most current Code of Conduct can be found in the Required NYS Notifications section on the homepage of the CCS website, as well as in your child's beginning of the year agenda or handbook. Many questions regarding acceptable behavior and apparel can be found in this document. The District Policy Manual can also be found on the website at www.ccs.edu

LIVESTREAMING

Many school events are livestreamed, and are announced at least a day in advance. Select events continue to be available for viewing using the CCS TV Livestreaming link in the Quick Links section of the website, www.ccs.edu. Recordings of Board of Education meetings will be posted on the website.

CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS

How Do I Sign Up?

CCS uses FamilyID to enroll students in athletic programs. For each sports season, information will be shared on Parent Square with the FamilyID link provided. You can also find documents including sign up requirements, the Athletic Code of Conduct, Section 111 Updates, the Athletic Calendar and directions to playing fields at www.ccs.edu under the Department Tab, then Athletics.



FACEBOOK

Like us on Facebook

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

Ms. Jennifer Giannone

Mr. Orlando Guitian

Mr. Patrick LaVeck

Ms. Alice Gaetano, Student Board Member

Mr. Antimo Pellicchia, Student Board Member

CHROMEBOOK REMINDER
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL FAMILIES

Student Chromebooks will be redistributed to students in grades 6-12 during the first week of school. As a reminder, these devices are being provided to students to use during the school day and at home until they are returned at the end of the school year. Thank you for helping your child maintain responsibility for these devices, including bringing them to school fully charged each day.

Clinton CSD Student Personal Device Ban
EFFECTIVE FALL 2025 | APPLIES TO GRADES PK-12

To support a safe, focused, and distraction-free learning environment, **Clinton Central School District** has adopted a new personal electronic device [Policy 5695](#) in alignment with the New York State Distraction-Free Schools Law. This policy is designed to **minimize classroom distractions, promote academic focus, and foster social connection** at school.

Definition of "Personal Electronic Device":

Personal Electronic Devices include—but are not limited to—phones, smartwatches, wireless earbuds, tablets, e-readers, music players, voice recorders, and internet-connected accessories. Devices used for texting, calling, browsing, or taking pictures are included.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE EXPECTATIONS:

Elementary School (PK-5):

- Devices are **not permitted** at school or on school buses.
- Devices should be **left at home**.

Middle and High School (6-12):

- Devices must be **turned off** and **stored in lockers** from arrival until dismissal (7:48 - 2:15).
- This includes between classes, lunch, study halls, bathrooms, locker rooms, detention, and ISS.
- Lockers should be **locked** during the school day, as the school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices.
- Students may use personal electronic devices on the bus as long as the use is **non-disruptive** and **follows the Code of Conduct**.

Permitted Communication During the Day:

To reach your child during the instructional day, please call the school office. Students should not use personal devices to text or call home during the school day.

Elementary Office: 315.557.2256 | **Middle School Office:** 315.557.2260 | **High School Office:** 315.557.2233

Students are able to use district phones located in the main office during the instructional day.

