



Clayton High School PTO

*From The CHS PTO.*

# POSTCARD TO PARENTS



## Ground Hog Day Edition

February 2, 2024 | [claytonschoools.net/chspto](https://claytonschoools.net/chspto)

## Message from the PTO Presidents



### Funds for Excellence Highlight Reel

Ever wonder how your PTO donations help our school community? Watch the video below to see how grants from the PTO Funds for Excellence are making a difference! These grants were awarded last spring and the projects are already making an impact! A big thank you to two students, Adam Halloul and Izzy Proctor, for creating this video to showcase the Funds for Excellence grants in action!



Innovative and creative requests have already been submitted by both teachers and students for the 2024 Funds for Excellence grants. The PTO budget is fully funded by parent donations. We are currently just a few thousand dollars short of this school year's fundraising target. [Here's the link to donate online.](#) Your contribution of any amount is greatly appreciated!

Thank you,  
Suzy Ogé and Jena Schaumburg



## Monthly Meeting Invitation

**Roundtable with Carolyn Blair at the PTO meeting Wednesday, February 7th.**

Wednesday, February 7th, 12-1 pm, Meeting room C at the Center of Clayton

Carolyn Blair, Director of CHS Counseling Services will be our special guest. She will lead an open discussion with parents on the connection between parents and the counseling department. Please join us on Wednesday to give your input on the timeline of topics and touch points of communication between the CHS College Counselors and families. We aim to have each grade level well represented at the table, as well as a mix of both newbies and veterans of the college process. If you are interested in giving input, but are unable to make it to the PTO Meeting Wednesday, you can reply to this email to express interest in joining a future focus group. Thank you!

#### Additional Agenda items:

- Dr. Gutchewsky and T'Shon Young will give updates on what's happening around Clayton High School as we approach midterm, Parent Teacher Conferences, and spring sports and activities.
- We will highlight upcoming events so you can find a place to meet others, make an impact, and get connected.
- As always, you'll have an opportunity to ask questions or bring up topics you'd like to discuss.
- We hope to see you in person, but feel free to join us via Zoom if that works better for your schedule. See below for the link!

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88132824346?pwd=LLv6EV5UbDi60aUG8nZELzcW8DwVMA.1>

Meeting ID: 881 3282 4346

Passcode: 200708

## Reminders

### "Just in time" reminders for CHS parents

- Schedule requests from students for next school year are due February 8.
- Upcoming four-day weekend for students: No school Friday, Feb.16, & Presidents' Day, Feb.19.
- Quarterly Parent Coffee with Dr. Gutchewsky in the CHS Library on Friday, Feb. 23, 9-10 am.
- Celebration of Black Achievement Feb. 26, CHS Auditorium 6:30pm
- Spring sports start Monday, Feb. 26.
- The student Wellness Center is opening this month! Stay tuned for more details and an opportunity to visit.

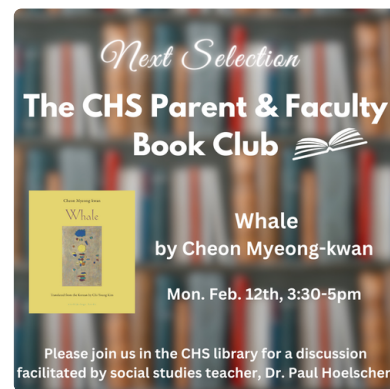


## Mark Your Calendar

**Next Parent & Faculty Book Club Discussion of Whale is February 12**

The next international book selection is **Whale** by South Korean Author **Cheon Myeong-Kwan**. The discussion will be Monday, Feb. 12, 3:30-5 pm in the CHS library. If you have the intention to read more books in 2024, this is a great opportunity to kickstart your effort with a deadline to make it a priority!

The Parent and Faculty Book Club at Clayton High School brings teachers and parents together to discuss important topics. The book discussions are an opportunity to build partnerships and talk about important ideas. Thank you to Dr. Paul Hoelscher in the CHS Social Studies Department for initiating the revival of these book discussions. Three books by international authors will be selected this school year. Thanks to all who participated in the first discussion on December 11. We had a diverse group of parents and teachers and an interesting, friendly, non-intimidating conversation. Everyone is welcome!



## Recap of Last Month's Meeting



### January Meeting Minutes

We covered a lot in last month's meeting! In addition to our usual agenda items and updates, Robyn Wiens, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, and presenter Kate Pavliss, Instructional Coach from the Clayton Special School District (SSD) were special guests. They work with parents via individual meetings and engagement forums on how to support families of students with disabilities. We had an engaging discussion about making sensory accommodations at school events to be more inclusive for students with particular sensory sensitivities. It was an engaging topic and everyone walked away with a greater awareness. Thank you to Robyn Wiens and Kate Pavliss and to all the parents who participated with great ideas and suggestions!

Here's a link to the full [January meeting minutes](#) along with the 2023 Clayton Profile of a Graduate info.

### The CHS PTO

[www.claytonschools.net/chspto](http://www.claytonschools.net/chspto)



For real time communications, please follow ClaytonHighPTO on Instagram