



2021-2022 Year End Highlights

From the Superintendent

The 2021-2022 school year was another great year for our students and staff in the School District of Clayton. While it was challenging at times, it was also full of many rich teaching and learning experiences. Our students and staff contributed to our schools being recognized as one of the best places to learn and work in the region. Our work to empower student learning, in an equitable and inclusive environment, ensures the Clayton experience is one where our schools are a place for everyone to grow as learners in head and heart.



The District continues to be in a strong financial position. Our efforts to strategically manage our resources, combined with sound fiscal oversight from the Board of Education, continues to sustain the Proposition E tax increase approved by the community back in 2019. Our ongoing work to both monitor enrollment and ensure the quality of our school facilities matches the quality of a Clayton education will help ensure Clayton schools remain some of the best in the area.

Included in this brief "End of the Year" report are a few memorable highlights from this past year. While it's just a brief glimpse, I hope you see them as some of the many things that make the School District of Clayton such an amazing place. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our outstanding school district.

TOP SCHOOLS

Schools in Clayton continue to be recognized as some of the top public schools in our area and region. Wydown Middle School was named a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School. This is the second year in a row, and third time since 2016, that a Clayton school has received this honor. All of our schools were recognized this year in the 2022 Niche Best Schools rankings with Clayton High School also making the US News and World Report list of Best High Schools.

TOP STUDENTS

Our students are widely-recognized not only for their work but also for who they are. Thirty-two of our seniors were recognized as National Merit Scholars. Nationally, less than one percent of all students make the cut to become Semifinalists. Our 16 Semifinalists at Clayton High School represent more than seven percent of this year's graduating class. The Class of 2022 also included one of only 150 (nationwide) Coca-Cola scholars along with the sole national recipient of the Robert Kennedy Human Rights Award in the High School Print News Category.

TOP WORKPLACE

One thing that stands out about Clayton is our incredible staff. Regardless of someone's role in our district, they always put students at the center of everything. Their commitment to our students, and each other, is one of the many reasons Clayton was named a 2022 Top Workplace by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. It's a meaningful honor because it's based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey and measures 15 culture drivers that are critical to the success of any organization: including alignment, execution, and connection, to name a few.



Our Strategic Plan

Our strategic work in Clayton is focused on ensuring our schools are a place for everyone to grow as learners in head and heart. This work took on a number of different forms throughout the 2021-2022 school year. We did some intentional listening to our students and parents about our work to build a sense of belonging in our learning community and how we can best care for the social-emotional wellbeing of our students. Our teachers continue to grow in their work with empowered learning, which ensures all learners' voices are heard, their perspectives are valued, their identities celebrated and their strengths and talents are acknowledged and supported within the learning environment.



→ SCHOOL SAFETY

Parents throughout the country ended their school years with a heightened focus on school safety. Our community in Clayton has always held safety as a top priority and approved additional funding for school safety initiatives in April 2019. This summer will see us finishing the second phase of safety improvements promised as a result of Proposition E. These improvements enhance both the physical and emotional safety of our students.

New visitor management systems in all of our buildings help make school an even safer place to work and learn. We are also improving our monitoring and alert systems in all of our buildings, which will allow school personnel to respond more quickly and effectively to emergency situations. The addition of gender-neutral restrooms in our schools was another big step in our work to ensure our schools are always a place for everyone.

The Profile of a Clayton Graduate

Our Profile of a Graduate represents the desired outcome of our students' PK-12 journey through our schools. It's the "end game" for the goals and outcomes identified in our strategic plan and works to ensure all Clayton learners will be self-actualized, collaborative, intellectually curious, empathetic, culturally competent and creative thinkers. Data from our graduating seniors, as well as information that we continue to hear from colleges, universities and employers, reaffirms that we are on the right track in helping foster these qualities among our learners.