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**Email Test: 2022.08.01Parent Newsletter**

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To: loribarker@claytonschools.net

Tue, Aug 2, 2022 at 9:31 AM



August 1, 2022 | [claytonschools.net/wms](https://claytonschools.net/wms)

### **A Message from Dr. Jordan**

Dear Wydown Families,

August 1st - it is so hard to believe! This summer, like most summers, has gone incredibly fast! I am not sure if it was the incredible heat or the rain this past week, but it seems like we lost a couple of weeks of our valuable summer time.

Starting this week, we really start to move into full planning mode for the upcoming school year. Our administrative assistants are in the process of finalizing our student's schedules and getting ready for our Wydown Walk-Through which will be on Thursday August 18, from 4-6 p.m. Other important information about registration and upcoming dates are listed below. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions regarding the information.

This summer many of our teachers spent time in many different professional learning sessions. One notable one is with a partnership through Washington University Institute for school Partnerships who worked with around 30 teachers on empowered learning techniques for our students. This included not only explanation of problem based learning and design thinking but also work time for implementation of these ideas into instruction for the upcoming school year.

Also, I wanted to share with you about an exciting initiative that our PTO is putting forward this year, called *We Are Wydown*. You will be hearing much more about our PTO providing many more opportunities for our students and families to gather together as a

Wydown Community. Please look for upcoming dates, as well as opportunities to volunteer with our wonderful Wydown students.

Lastly, as we embark on another school year, I just want to remind you that we are partners with you during your time at Wydown. While we have the knowledge and expertise about middle school development and academics, you know your child the best. This partnership is what will make the best opportunities for success for your child. Please do not hesitate to reach out and share any concerns or even positive happenings. I want Wydown to be a place where everyone feels at home.

See you soon,

Jamie Jordan

### **Welcome, Dr. Daniels!**

Dr. Neil Daniels, II, has been appointed to serve as assistant principal at Wydown Middle School. He will serve as the grade-level administrator for next year's eighth graders and replaces Dr. Tarita Rhimes, who was recently selected to be the next principal of Glenridge Elementary School.

For the last 11 years, Dr. Daniels has served students at Parkway Southwest Middle School where he was named that school's Teacher of the Year for 2019-2020. In addition to teaching sixth grade communication arts and, most recently, seventh grade world history, Dr. Daniels has held a variety of leadership roles supporting students and colleagues in the Parkway School District. Dr. Daniels received his doctoral degree in educational leadership from Maryville University. He also holds a Master of Education in Communications Arts from Webster University and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications-Public Relations from Fontbonne University.

Join us in welcoming Dr. Daniels to the Wydown family!



### **Wydown Walk-Through Will Be Held Thursday, Aug. 18**

Mark your calendars now for Thursday, Aug. 18! Wydown Walk-Through is a time for students to receive and "walk through" their schedule and purchase supplies.

4-5 p.m.: 7th and 8th Grade Walk-Through

5-6 p.m.: 6th Grade Walk-Through

During the Walk-Through, families are welcome to come to Wydown to meet the team teachers, drop off bulk school supplies in your team area, turn in forms and get information on a variety of topics.

#### **Walk-Through will take place in the gym and will include the following:**

Visit the Band table to complete your forms for band materials/school instruments

Purchase your Wydown planner - **Cash or Check Only**

Purchase your Wydown PE shirt (7th and 8th Grade Only) - **Cash or Check Only**

Information on Picture Day

Information on ordering a Wydown Yearbook

Visit the PTO table and make your donation to Funds for Excellence

Learn about the Clayton All In Coalition

Nurse - Turn in physicals, shot records and medication

Opportunity to complete the online PowerSchool forms

Put money on your student's lunch account

\*Please note that payment is cash or check only.

If families are interested in tours of the building this will be done in small groups by our student leaders.

## **6th Grade WEB Orientation Invitation**



Hello, families of new 6th Graders! We are very excited that your child will be attending Wydown Middle School, and we look forward to meeting them during 6th Grade Orientation on Thursday, Aug. 18. Our school has chosen to participate in the nationwide WEB Program, an organization that helps sixth graders feel comfortable and achieve success in their first year of middle school. WEB stands for "Where Everybody Belongs," and helps students find their place at Wydown.

The purpose of this program is to make the transition from elementary school to middle school a positive one. Each student will be assigned an 8th Grade WEB Leader that will serve as a mentor and resource during their first year. During orientation, students will meet their WEB Leaders and participate in a variety of large and small group activities designed to address students' needs and concerns in a safe, fun, and enjoyable manner.

Sixth-graders should wear comfortable clothes for this student-only event. Travel light - please leave your backpacks and cell phones at home. Sixth-graders will return to Wydown with their families for Sixth-Grade Walk-Through at 5 pm.

If you have any questions about orientation, please contact the Front Office or one of our WEB Coordinators: [Frankie Synovec](#), [Chris Chisholm](#), or [Jason Thompson](#).

## **Breakfast Orientation for Families New to Clayton School**

## **District and Wydown Middle School**

Families new to Wydown Middle School and also Clayton School District are invited to Wydown on Thursday, Aug. 11, from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. for an orientation breakfast.

We will join together for some food and drink, introduce our administrative team and counselors and share some important information.

If you are unable to attend, the event will be recorded and posted on our [website](#).

## **PowerSchool Forms Need to be Completed**

The required forms for the 2022-2023 school year are now available in PowerSchool.

**These forms must be resubmitted every year before the first day of school.**

Completion of the forms enables your child to retain access to their google account and continued chromebook usage. Completed forms are required to view your child's 22-23 class schedule when they become available in August.

If you are newly enrolled and will be attending Wydown for the first time this fall, look for an email from our registrar, Steffie Stout. This email describes how to set up your parent portal in PowerSchool. If you need technical assistance, please contact the Help Desk by emailing [techsupport@claytonschoools.net](mailto:techsupport@claytonschoools.net) or call 314-854-6033.

Please be sure to complete both the parent and student forms in PowerSchool by **Friday, Aug. 12, 2022**. All forms will need to be completed, along with any fines paid and books returned, to have access to your child's schedule. Schedules will be available on Monday, Aug. 15, in PowerSchool. It may be difficult to complete these forms on a phone app, a computer may be needed. The forms are located in your PowerSchool account under the "navigation" tab on the left-hand side. **These forms also need to be completed to insure receiving communication from the District and school (such as newsletters, memos, emergency phone messages, inclement weather notifications, etc.) at the correct email address and phone number.**

The following forms need to be completed:

### **For Parents:**

PowerSchool Introduction/Instruction Form - Read Only Form

Back-To-School Health Checklist - Read Only Form

Annual Student Health Information Form

Parent, Guardian and Emergency Contact Information

Permissions Form

## Student Device Expectations

### **For Students:**

[Acceptable Use Policy](#)

[Student Device Expectations](#)

If you need assistance, please stop by Wydown on any weekday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and we will be able to assist you.

## **Back to School Information**

[Arrival and Dismissal Times and Procedures](#)

[Attendance](#)

[Bell Schedules - A, B, C Days and Early Release](#)

[Cafeteria - Ala Carte Snack Program and Free and Reduced Lunch Form](#)

[Clubs and Intramural Sports After School Activities](#)

[Code of Conduct](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Dress for School](#)

[Health Clinic](#)

[Immunizations](#)

[Insurance](#)

[PowerSchool Forms](#)

[PTO](#)

[School to Home Communications](#)

## **Important Dates**

August 11: New to Clayton School District Family Breakfast/Orientation, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

August 18: WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) 6th Grade Orientation, 8:30 a.m. - Noon

August 18: Walk Through, 4-5 p.m. for 7th and 8th Graders, 5-6 p.m. for 6th Graders

August 22: First Day of School

August 22: Beginning Band Instrument Display Night, 7 p.m. in the Gym

August 28: All School Back-to-School BBQ, 5-6:30 p.m., Enterprise Pavilion at Shaw Park

August 29: PTO Meeting, 9 a.m.

August 30: Fall Play Information Meeting, 3:15 p.m. in the Theatre

September 2: No School for Students, Professional Learning for Teachers

September 5: No School, Labor Day Holiday

### **School Supply Lists**

School supply kits that were pre-ordered at the end of the last school year will be delivered directly to your home. If you did not pre-order your supply kit, the grade level supply lists are listed below.

[Sixth Grade Supply List](#)

[Seventh Grade Supply List](#)

[Eighth Grade Supply List](#)

### **PTO News**

Join us for our monthly PTO meetings listed below:

Aug. 29 - 9 a.m.

Sept. 19 - 6 p.m.

Oct. 10 - Noon

Nov. 14 - 9 a.m.

Dec. 12 - 6 p.m.

Jan. 23 - Noon

Feb. 13 - 9 a.m.

Mar. 13 - 6 p.m.

Apr. 10- Noon

Be sure to check out the [PTO website](#) to learn more about Funds for Excellence and volunteer opportunities!

### **New for the 2022-2023 School Year: We Are Wydown!**

*We Are Wydown!* is a series of social and volunteer events aimed at strengthening our school community and creating a sense of belonging for students, staff and parents alike. Keep an eye out for the PTO table at Walk-Through on Aug. 18, to see how you can get involved. Save the date for our first event, a back-to-school family BBQ at the Enterprise Pavilion at Shaw Park on Sunday, Aug. 28, from 5-6:30 p.m.

## **Clayton Connections: Support New WMS Families!**

WMS Clayton Connections is still looking for volunteers to help the nearly 50 new families that will join our school community this year. By volunteering with Clayton Connections, you can make a meaningful difference helping these kids, parents, and caregivers feel welcome and included at WMS.

There are two ways to get involved in 2022-2023:

(1) Ongoing support to a new family: serve as a single point of contact for a new family about WMS events and activities and provide insider's info on how things work at the school and in Clayton (year-long commitment)

and/or

(2) Community-building activities: participate in one or more casual activities designed to broaden contact between new and current families and build WMS community overall.

Find more specifics and sign up to volunteer [here](#).

Questions? Contact WMS Clayton Connection co-chairs Kelley Karandjeff ([kellyk75@gmail.com](mailto:kellyk75@gmail.com)) and Maureen Satorius ([msatorius@gmail.com](mailto:msatorius@gmail.com)).

## **Required Summer Reading for All Incoming 6-8 Graders**

All Wydown students are required to read any book of their choice this summer.

[View more information here.](#)

## **Summer Math Work**

Summer is a time to relax, have fun, and continue to grow as a mathematician.

If you are looking for summer math practice opportunities, please take a look at the options [on this site](#).

## **Message From the Counseling Department**

Welcome back! We hope you all have had a great summer break. If you have had the opportunity to travel and have come home with all the small personal hygiene products you get in your hotel rooms (shampoo, conditioner, soap, etc.) and are not sure what to do with all that you gathered, we would love to take them off your hands. Feel free to bring them to the Wydown counseling office and/or drop them off in the front office labeled with



my name on them: Liz Tucker. Thanks so much! This will help add to our food and personal hygiene pantry.

## **We Are Hiring!**

Clayton School District is looking for foodservice workers, kitchen leads and cooks for both full and part time positions. No nights or weekends! You will also receive paid sick days and holidays. For more information or to apply, [view the flyer](#). If you know someone who may be interested, we would appreciate you sharing this information with them.

## **WMS Calendar**

To keep up on the happenings at Wydown, be sure to check out our calendar [here](#). You will be see all of the activities for Wydown, as well as the rest of the District!



*The Principal's Newsletter is sent to Wydown families who have subscribed or have provided an email address on the student information form or via Powerschool. Your email address will only be used by the School District of Clayton and will not be sold or distributed. Questions? Give us a call at 314-854-6400 or visit [claytonschools.net/wms](http://claytonschools.net/wms). The School District of Clayton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age or disability.*



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