



CLAYTON  
HIGH SCHOOL

# Principal's Newsletter

August 18, 2023 | [claytonschools.net/chs](https://claytonschools.net/chs)

"One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world."

— Malala Yousafzai



## From the Principal



### From The Principal

It was great to see all of the freshmen and students new to CHS at orientation yesterday. The school year finally feels real now that fall sports practices have begun and we have students back in the building for activities. We are looking forward to seeing all of our students Monday (8/21) morning. The building will be open at 7:30am and classes begin at 8:15am. Students should use their ID badges to access the exterior doors to enter the building. We will be following a C-Day schedule which means that all classes will meet on the first day. We will have Link Crew leaders and staff stationed around the building to help students find their way if they need assistance. Students can find their schedule(with room numbers) and locker information(for 9th and 10th graders) in their PowerSchool portal.

As we continue to renorm positive student behaviors in a post-pandemic environment, our faculty will be making a concerted effort this year to reinforce these behaviors. Our goal at CHS is always to maintain a distraction free, academic environment at all times. With this in mind, the use of electronic devices such as (but not limited to) cell phones and earbuds is prohibited during instructional time. The expectation is that all students will have these devices put away during instructional time unless the teacher has given permission for use in a specific instructional activity. Students who violate this expectation will be subject to disciplinary consequences including possible loss of privileges. Parents, please help us maintain an academic environment by refraining from texting or calling students during instructional time. If you have an emergency or need to reach your child during the school day, please call the switchboard at (314)854-6600 and we will be happy to get a message to your student. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in our efforts to promote an academic environment at CHS at all times.

We have an amazing team to support your student during their educational journey at CHS and we look forward to partnering with you. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions

or concerns. We are looking forward to an outstanding year and we look forward to seeing you at Open House on August 31.

With Greyhound Pride,

Dr. Dan Gutchewsky

## Mark Your Calendar



### Important Dates

**August 21** - First Day for Students

**August 31** - Freshman Parents Night 6:00pm

**August 31** - Open House 7:00pm

**September 1** - No School - Professional Learning Day

**September 4** - Labor Day - No School

**September 13** - Fall Picture Day

## Upcoming Events

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
CLAYTON

### Upcoming Events

#### Freshman Parent Night - August 31 (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.)

- Freshman Parent Night will take place on Thursday, August 31 at 6:00 p.m. in the CHS Auditorium immediately preceding Open House.



#### Open House - August 31 (7:00 p.m.)

- Open House for all grades will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 31. Parents will walk their child's schedule, meet teachers and hear an overview for each class. There will be a bell schedule, after each class presentation, you will have a 3 minute passing period to get to the next class. Have your child's schedule in hand.

#### Homecoming Week - October 8-14

- Homecoming Week begins Sunday, Oct. 8th and continues through Saturday, Oct. 14th. Watch for an email from Ms. Young with more information.

#### Parent Conference Week - October 16-19th

- Parent-teacher conferences will be held the week of October 16-19th. Look for an email regarding sign-up and more information in September.

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### CHS Back-to-School Information

Days, Start and End Times



School hours will begin at 8:15 a.m. and will end at 3:05 p.m. View the bell schedules below.

- [23-24 Bell Schedules](#)

### **2023-2024 Student Planner**

Check out the [2023-24 Student Planner](#) for more detailed information on a variety of topics!

### **What is Greyhound Time?**

Clayton High School provides a common time each day to support the academic and personal growth of students. This time may be used in a variety of ways such as academic support (tutoring, reassessment, conferences), club meetings, exercise and mental wellness activities. While students are encouraged to be proactive in meeting their academic needs, teachers may require students to come to office hours for additional assistance. The expectation is that students will prioritize their academic needs during this time. Failure to comply with teacher requests may result in a loss of privileges until their academic obligations are met.

### **Locker Information**

Freshmen have received locker assignments at the Freshmen Orientation on August 17th. Sophomores will keep the same locker as last year. Juniors and seniors interested in a locker should go to room 75 (ISS room) to get a locker assignment.

Locker information can be found in the PowerSchool portal but not on the PowerSchool App.

### **2023-24 Finals Week Schedules**

December 18th - 20th - First Semester Finals

May 28th - May 30th - Second Semester Finals

### **View the District Calendar**

Check out the [District Calendar](#) to view all upcoming events at Clayton High School and around the District!

### **First Week of School Schedule:**

| All Science L sections are 30 minute Labs                      | Monday<br>Aug 21<br>C  | Tuesday<br>Aug 22<br>A       | Wednesday<br>Aug 23<br>B     | Thursday<br>Aug 24<br>A      | Friday<br>Aug 25<br>B        |
|--|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|  | 40 min periods<br>NO LABS  | 80 min periods               | 80 min periods               | 80 min periods               | 80 min periods               |
| 8:15 - 9:35<br>80 minutes                                      | 1<br>8:15-8:55   | Science L5                   | Science L1                   | Science L5                   | Science L1                   |
|  | 2<br>9:00-9:40   | 1                            | 5                            | 1                            | 5                            |
| 9:40 - 11:00<br>80 minutes                                     | 3<br>9:45-10:25  | Science L6                   | Science L2                   | Science L6                   | Science L2                   |
|  | 4<br>10:30-11:10   | 2                            | 6                            | 2                            | 6                            |
| A/B Days<br>11:00 - 12:15<br>Greyhound<br>Time & Lunch         | 1st LUNCH:<br>Lunch & GT<br>11:15-12:00<br>5th Hr Class<br>12:05-12:45 | Lunch &<br>Greyhound<br>Time | Lunch &<br>Greyhound<br>Time | Lunch &<br>Greyhound<br>Time | Lunch &<br>Greyhound<br>Time |
| C Days<br>11:15 - 12:45<br>5th Period<br>& Lunches             | 2nd LUNCH:<br>5th Hr Class<br>11:15-11:55<br>Lunch & GT<br>12:00-12:45 | 11:00-12:15                  | 11:00-12:15                  | 11:00-12:15                  | 11:00-12:15                  |
| 12:15 - 1:40<br>85 minute due to<br>Announcements<br>3rd & 7th | 6<br>12:50-1:30  | Science L7                   | Science L3                   | Science L7                   | Science L3                   |
|  | 7<br>1:35-2:20<br>Announcements  | 3<br>Announcements           | 7<br>Announcements           | 3<br>Announcements           | 7<br>Announcements           |
| 1:45 - 3:05<br>80 minutes                                      | 8<br>2:25-3:05   | Science L8                   | Science L4                   | Science L8                   | Science L4                   |
|  |  | 4                            | 8                            | 4                            | 8                            |

## CHS News



Are you a teen who's ready to quit vaping or smoking?

Not On Tobacco® (N-O-T) is a proven teen vaping and smoking cessation program.

N-O-T gives teens ages 14-19 the resources they need to break nicotine dependency and find healthier outlets. N-O-T is an evidence-based program with an impressive success rate, with approximately 90% of teens who participate in the program cutting back or quitting tobacco altogether. Post-program, youth have been shown to have better grades, higher motivation, fewer absences, better relationships with teachers, and fewer school tobacco use policy violations.

**WHEN:**  
Tuesdays, September 5-November 14  
(no meeting October 31) | 6-7 PM

**WHERE:**  
PreventEd,  
9355 Olive Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63132

For more information, contact  
Lil Schlessner at 314-854-6745 or  
lilschlessner@claytoncoalition.com

Visit [allincoalition.com/events/](http://allincoalition.com/events/)

850 Walmart gift card to  
those who attend at least  
8 of the 10 sessions.



This program is sponsored by All in  
Clayton Coalition with support from  
the American Lung Association in  
Missouri



## Free In-Person Vaping Cessation Course for Teens

Do you know a teen who's ready to quit vaping or smoking?

N-O-T: Not On Tobacco is a proven teen smoking and vaping cessation program. N-O-T gives teens ages 14-19 the resources to break nicotine dependency and find healthier outlets. N-O-T is an evidence-based program, with approximately 90 percent of teens who participate in the program cutting back or quitting tobacco altogether. Post-program, youth have been shown to have better grades, higher motivation, fewer absences, better relationships with teachers, and fewer school tobacco use policy violations.

### WHEN:

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(no meeting on October 31) | 6-7 PM

### WHERE:

PreventEd, 9355 Olive Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63132



For more information, contact Lili Schliesser at 314-854-6745 or [lilischliesser@claytonschools.net](mailto:lilischliesser@claytonschools.net).

This program is sponsored by All In Clayton Coalition with support from the American Lung Association.

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## **Caring for Head & Heart Event**

**The School of Hard Talks: Surviving Difficult Conversations and Bringing Out the Best in Adolescents**

**Tuesday, September 19, 6-7pm, Zoom**



Motivational interviewing is a communication tool that therapists use to talk with clients about reducing alcohol use or making other important changes in their lives. Research shows that it works! Dr. Emily Kline has translated the secrets of motivational interviewing for parents of teens so that they can have better relationships and more productive conversations about everything from substance use to birth control to college applications. In her talk with Clayton parents, she will teach them about what motivational interviewing is and isn't, and share the findings of her research studies involving 130 families who wanted to learn the technique.

This event is FREE but registration is required. Register here: [https://claytonschools-net.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEqceGhqjsqHNaW3EdaoS2-wutp5y4VI\\_z](https://claytonschools-net.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEqceGhqjsqHNaW3EdaoS2-wutp5y4VI_z)

### **About the Presenter:**

Dr. Emily Kline is a clinical psychologist and assistant professor of psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine. She serves as the Director of Psychological Services for the Wellness and Recovery After Psychosis team and leads the Motivational Interviewing for Loved Ones lab at Boston Medical Center.

Dr. Kline is the author of *The School of Hard Talks: How to Have Real Conversations with Your (Almost Grown) Kids* and the creator of *The School of Hard Talks Online*. She has published dozens of articles appearing in a range of peer-reviewed scholarly journals, textbooks, and popular magazines, and she has spoken with audiences all over the world about mental health and interpersonal communication.

Dr. Kline completed her bachelor's degree at Haverford College, her master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and her clinical and post-doctoral training at Harvard Medical School. She lives in Boston with her family.

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## **Order a Yearbook Today!**

Go to [Yearbookordercenter.com](http://Yearbookordercenter.com) to order your Clayton High School Yearbook today! Enter code:25661.

# ORDER A YEARBOOK TODAY

CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL  
GO TO YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM  
ENTER CODE: 25661



IT'S PROOF OF EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED THIS YEAR.

CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL

## Celebrating Our Students

### NPR Student Podcast Challenge

Join us in congratulating junior Stella Plein for their podcast "transAction." Selected as one of 13 high school finalists (out of 3,300 entries) for the NPR Student Podcast challenge, Stella developed a very enlightening and moving collage about what it means to be a trans teen in Missouri today.

- [NPR Announcement](#)
- [Stella's Podcast: transAction](#)



## Parent Corner

### PTO Meeting Dates

CHS PTO will hold monthly meetings at the Center of Clayton - Meeting Room C on the first Wednesday of the month from 12-1 pm. Below are the planned meeting dates.

#### PTO Meeting Dates:

- Sept 6
- Oct 4
- Nov 1
- Dec 6
- Jan 3
- Feb 7
- Mar 6
- April 3
- May 1





## Parent Coffee

Please save the dates and join Dr. Gutchewsky for casual conversations at our Parent Coffee Gatherings at 9:00 a.m. on September 22, December 8, February 23 and April 19. Please RSVP [here](#) if you would like to attend.

## District News



### Technology for Students

- Students are encouraged to exclusively use their district-provided Chromebooks while on campus. Doing so will provide them with the best overall experience when accessing the district's new high speed educational network and associated learning resources. For students electing to use a personal device on campus, they are permitted to connect a single device to a separate WiFi network called SDC Courtesy WiFi. This courtesy network is provided as a convenience only, and personal devices connected to it will not experience the same high speeds and reliable connectivity that is available on district-provided devices. Internet content filtering is in place on all district networks to help protect students and their data. Directions for accessing the courtesy WiFi network are available [here](#).



### CHS Principal's Newsletter



The Principal's Newsletter is sent to CHS families and staff who have subscribed or have provided an email address on the student information form or via Powerschool.