



CLAYTON
HIGH SCHOOL

Principal's Newsletter

July 31, 2023 | claytonschools.net/chs

"I believe that education is all about being excited about something. Seeing passion and enthusiasm helps push an educational message."

— Steve Irwin



From the Principal



From The Principal

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful summer and you are returning excited for the new academic year. My family and I enjoyed some time away this summer as we traveled with my son to various lacrosse events. We spent time in Nashville, Columbus, Baltimore (four times), Newport and Annapolis. It was fun to watch my son play and it was nice to vacation in some great places on the East Coast. I've been feeling a bit nostalgic as the realization hit me that we will only have a couple more summers of these lacrosse experiences as Michael is entering his sophomore year and will be in college before we realize it. I'm sure that many of you can relate. The dedicated time with family always recharges me and it was much appreciated, but the summer seemed to go by way too quickly.

Clayton High School has been a busy place this summer as we hosted summer school and a few minor maintenance and construction projects. We hired a Wellness Coordinator and will spend the first semester developing protocols and a space for a planned January opening of the new CHS Wellness Center. The CHS Administrative Team gained a new member, as Drew Spiegel was named Assistant Principal. Dr. Moore and I have enjoyed working with him this summer and planning for the upcoming year.

On the athletics front, it has been a busy time as well. We ended the school year with state championships in Girls Soccer and Boys Tennis. Congratulations to all involved and to all of you who came out to support our teams. We resurfaced our track and will be adding new scoreboard/video boards in Stuber Gym and at Gay Field before the start of Fall Sports competitions (hopefully). We also spent the summer finalizing our plans to merge the Brentwood and Clayton football programs for the upcoming season. The team will play "home" games at each

school this year and they will be part of Homecoming festivities in each community. It is certainly an exciting time to be a Greyhound!

Speaking of athletics, Fall Sports practices begin Monday, August 7. Please see the CHS Athletics website for information. Please remember that you must be present within the first three days of practice in order to try out for a team. It is important that you have all necessary forms completed and submitted to Powerschool prior to this date. Please [login to PowerSchool](#) to complete or verify the submission of your Powerschool forms.

Schedules will be made available electronically in Powerschool at 8am on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. New this year: Schedules will only be made available in Powerschool to those students/families who have completed all of their required forms. Please complete all of your required forms in Powerschool no later than August 13th in order to have access to your schedule electronically.

This spring and summer we added a few new members to our faculty and staff. I am excited about what each of them will bring to the CHS community and I look forward to their contribution. Please help me welcome the following staff members.

2023-2024 New CHS Staff:

Assistant Principal - Drew Spiegel (Fort Zumwalt North)

Wellness Coordinator - Jennifer McKeown (Ritenour)

Gifted - Chris Holmes (Wydown)

World Language - Michael Crowell (Francis Howell Central)

CTE/Journalism - Debra Klevins (Parkway West)

Social Worker (Secondary) - Lauren Stoelting (Special School District)

Guidance Office Administrative Assistant - LaToya Barry (Meramec)

Special School District - Jocelyn Schuh (Lindbergh)

Special School District - Sara Koci (Lindbergh)

Enjoy your last few weeks of summer break and I look forward to seeing you very soon!

With Greyhound Pride,

Dr. Dan Gutchewsky

Mark Your Calendar



Important Dates

August 13 - Powerschool Forms are Due

August 14 - First Day for Faculty/Staff

August 16 - Schedules will be available electronically in Powerschool at 8:00am

August 17 - (8:00 am-12:00 pm) Freshman Orientation

August 17 - (1:00-2:00 p.m.) New (to CHS) Student Orientation 10th-12th grades

August 17 - (12:00-12:30 p.m.) Freshman and New (to CHS) SSD Meet and Greet

August 21 - First Day for Students

August 31 - Freshman Parents Night 6:00pm

August 31 - Open House 7:00pm

Upcoming Events

Freshman Orientation - August 17 (8:00 - 12:00 p.m.)

- Freshman Orientation will take place on Thursday, August 17 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Watch for an email from Ms. Young next week with more information.

New (to CHS) Student Orientation 10th-12th Grades - August 17

- New Student Orientation will take place on Thursday, August 17 from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Watch for an email from Ms. Young next week with more information.

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.

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

Student Schedules

CHS student schedules will be available on **August 16th**. All Powerschool forms must be completed before you will be able to access your schedule.

- [Click here to view more information about Powerschool forms.](#)

Daily 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!

2023-24 Finals Weeks

View the District Calendar

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

Fall Sports

Fall Sports begin on August 7th. See [CHS Athletics Website](#) for team information. All forms required for the upcoming high school year are available in PowerSchool under the **FORMS** tab located in the left hand column. This includes the standard school forms and those forms required for athletics. [Click here to view more information about athletic forms.](#)

All forms must be completed prior to the first practice.

- [Physical Examination Form](#)
- [MSHSAA Pre-Participation Documentation](#)



CHS 2024 Graduation

2024 CHS graduation will take place at Chaifetz Arena on Thursday, May 23, 2024. For questions regarding graduation, please contact: Tanya Brooks at tanyabrooks@claytonschoools.net

The Documentary: Big Sonia

Join us on Sunday, August 6 for an exclusive program with the directors of the documentary film, *Big Sonia*. For years, Sonia Warshawski has been an inspirational public speaker at schools and prisons, where her stories of surviving the Holocaust as a teenager have inspired countless people who once felt their own traumas would leave them broken forever. *Big Sonia* explores what it means to be a survivor and how intergenerational trauma affects families and generations.

During this program, directors Leah Warshawski & Todd Soliday will share clips from the film and hold a discussion about the importance of telling this powerful story. The presentation will be followed by an audience Q&A. Sonia's daughter, Debbie Warshawski, will participate in Q&A.

Director Leah Warshawski is a Clayton graduate from the class of 1996. We were honored to have a showing of *Big Sonia* at CHS a few years ago and are happy they are back in St Louis.

Telling Sonia's Story: A Director's Insight

The documentary film, *Big Sonia*, about Holocaust survivor Sonia Warshawski, is a story of generational trauma and the power of truth-telling to heal us all.

Sunday, August 6, 2023
3:00 pm • Tickets: \$5
(Free for Members and Guardians)



ST. LOUIS
**KAPLAN FELDMAN
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM**
In honor of the survivors and the memory of the victims



Reserve your tickets at:
STLHolocaustMuseum.org/BigSonia




ORDER A YEARBOOK TODAY

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IT'S PROOF OF EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED THIS YEAR.



HEREFF  JONES.



Parent Corner



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.

YEARBOOK

SENIOR ADS

ATTENTION SENIOR FAMILIES

Congratulate your senior and express your pride and love with an ad in the 2024 yearbook!

Message Details:

1/8 page: \$50
1/4 page: \$90
1/2 page: \$175
Full page: \$350

Due: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

Payment:
Create and pay for your ad online at:
www.yearbookordercenter.com

How to Submit Online:

Log on to yearbookordercenter.com and enter school order number 25661

Go to the tab **START YOUR AD** found in **SHARE YOUR LOVE** box.

Follow the prompts to design your ad, add it to your cart and purchase it. Your ad is not complete until you complete the checkout process and receive a confirmation email.

Message Guidelines

Create the message EXACTLY as you want it to appear in the yearbook. You will have a final approval before you submit your ad. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any portion of your message or photo that is unacceptable for publication.



For Tech Support while creating an ad contact Herff Jones Tech Support at 877.562.7750

Senior ads are accepted on a space-available basis. When space runs out or we reach our plant deadline, we can no longer accept ads. Submit your ad early by OCTOBER 27!

ADS DUE NO LATER
THAN FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 27.



District News



VISITOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Student safety is our top priority throughout the School District of Clayton. In the interest of student and staff safety, the District uses a visitor management system to check in all visitors to our buildings. It allows schools and buildings to produce visitor badges and electronically check all visitors against registered sex offender databases. All visitors will need to show a photo ID each time they enter a building. Visitors will receive a printed visitor badge to wear that includes a photo, their name, time, date, destination and purpose of visit. Thank you in advance for helping us use this extra step to keep our schools safe.

MISSOURI SCHOOL REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS

Please see the Missouri school immunization requirements for the 2023-24 school year at the link below. Per Missouri state law and School District of Clayton Board of Education policy, all students must present documentation of up-to-date immunization status of each immunization before attending school. Please be aware that a second meningococcal immunization is required before 12th grade unless the first dose was administered to a student who was 16 years of age or older, in which case only one dose is required. At least one dose must be given after 16 years of age. Additional information regarding medical and religious exemptions can be found on the attached link as well.

<https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/immunizations/pdf/2024-school-requirements.pdf>



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.

