



Clinton Central School District Newsletter

2020 WINTER EDITION

A Message from the Superintendent



Dear Clinton School Community:

I want to thank you for your patience and support as we all navigate the challenges of this COVID-19 Pandemic. I am grateful for all of the support and well-wishes we have received from so many people and organizations within our school community.

Regardless of how hard we try, we cannot provide the traditional school experience that our students and community have been accustomed to over the years. Part of that experience was the constant interaction with the people and organizations in our community; seeing your smiling faces, feeling your energy and support, and learning, living, and laughing alongside each other. We miss you and I want you to know that!

In spite of the challenges that have us redefining teaching and learning this year, we continue to celebrate the many accomplishments and experiences that are occurring all around us, as you will see in this edition of our newsletter.

Please know that despite our challenges this year, I look forward every day to continued growth and excellence as we work together to provide the very best educational experience that we can for all of the children in the Clinton school community. Best wishes for a safe and healthy winter season!

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Grimm, Ed.D

Superintendent of Schools



September 11 Memorial Dedication

On September 11, the dedication of the Flight 93 Memorial honoring Edward Porter Felt, class of '77, with those who perished in the plane crash 19 years ago, took place on the school grounds near the Brick Garden. The idea originated with a group of citizens who, in a year's time, brought the project to fruition. Attending the dedication were many school and local dignitaries who delivered meaningful tributes to Mr. Felt, and recollected the details leading up to the decision made by those passengers who sacrificed their lives. The memorial site will serve to educate future generations about this historical event and about our local hero.

Music composed by the late Dr. Samuel Pellman, which rings through the bell tower at the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA, was included as part of the dedication ceremony. Thank you to the committee, fire departments and area color guards, local clergy, the CCS Chamber Singers, the CCS Foundation, our grounds keeper and custodial staff, theater manager, donors and all who helped make this event memorable.



Organizing Committee Members Dr. Stephen Grimm, Bill Huther, Allyn "Skip" Bearsall, Peter Goodfriend and Paul Riley. Missing from photo: Gordon Felt, Frank Perretta



Mother and brother of Edward Felt pictured alongside the monument



Several local dignitaries attend the ceremony honoring Mr. Felt

In the Trenches

There are those heroes who are recognized, and there are those who quietly support them. Throughout the spring and summer months, twelve month employees were charged with accomplishing additional tasks and meeting demands that were entirely new, often while displaced from their normal work locations and surrounded by construction crews. Without them, school would have not opened in September. Thank you! Pictured are some representatives of year-round staff.



Mr. Ezman, IT Department



Mrs. Lallier, Office Staff



Mr. Tague, Custodial Staff



Mr. Jewell, Bus Driver



Mrs. Macnamara and Mrs. Schick, Cafeteria



Welcome New Staff



Tenneil Mihm



Michael Pavone

Several new faces have been gracing the seemingly empty but active hallways of CCS this year. We welcome Michel Pavone, high school Spanish teacher; Tenneil Mihm, middle school Physical Education teacher, Jocelyn Schneider, elementary school Teacher Assistant and Sarah Lomanto, aide. Returning to us as Aides are previous employees Joshua Heintz and Sharleen Moulton. Thank you for all that you are doing for the students of CCS.

A belated congratulations to Diana Huss, Teacher Assistant, Cheryl Fitzpatrick and Veronica Golden, Aides, who retired either during or at the close of the 2019-2020 school year. We wish them all the best!

EnVision Math Program



A new program, EnVision Math, is being implemented in the middle school this year. The program, which is currently being piloted in several elementary classrooms as well, offers an improved curriculum and will provide a continuum of learning between grade levels. Student resources include digital access to all of the materials to support the student's virtual and hybrid learning experiences. Students learn more about math by solving rich, reality-based problems, gaining a deeper, clearer understanding of math concepts with visual models and scaffolds in every lesson. Pictured is Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mrs. Deb Van Slyke, reviewing EnVision materials.

Supply Pick Up

CCS staff members continue to distribute supplies to students, either by in-person pick-up or at-home delivery at all building levels. Supply pick-up days have also offered a welcome chance for students and staff to connect for a moment in-person.

**ATTENTION
CLINTON ELEMENTARY
100% VIRTUAL FAMILIES
MONTHLY SUPPLY PICK-UP'S**

**COME PICK UP SUPPLIES FOR
YOUR STUDENT FROM
11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
IN THE FRONT CIRCLE**

**SEPTEMBER 25 • OCTOBER 23
NOVEMBER 20 • DECEMBER 18**

**PLEASE REACH OUT TO YOUR
CHILD'S TEACHER IF YOU
CANNOT MAKE IT!**

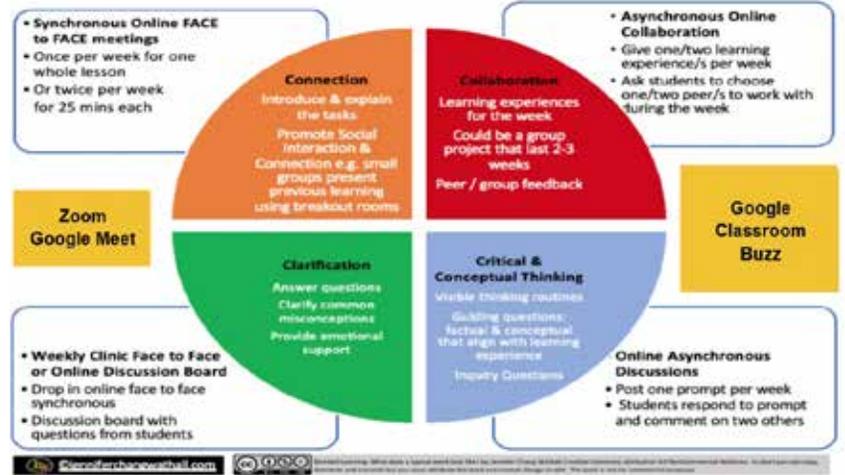
Blended Learning



First Grade 100% virtual teacher Samantha DiPietro displays the set-up she uses to instruct and engage students online.



Blended Learning: What does a typical week look like?



Socially Distanced Classes



Vocal music teacher Jenna Wratten conducts a socially distanced music class in the theater.



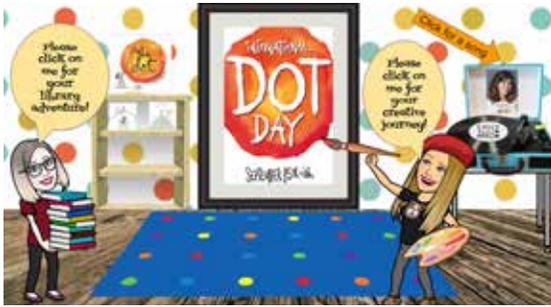
High school science lab following safety protocols.

Positivity Project



Middle school students participated in a Positivity Project training session facilitated by NYS project leaders. Those students, overseen by school social workers Monica Moshier and Rachel Grisham, as well as guidance counselor Danielle Tesak, will begin piloting a zoom peer mentoring program in both the middle and elementary schools with the goal to make CCS a warm and welcoming place to learn and grow.

Dot Day



Elementary students continue engaging in traditional activities such as "Dot Day." International Dot Day is a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration that began when teacher Terry Shay introduced his classroom to Peter H. Reynolds' book *The Dot* on September 15, 2009.

Firing Up the Kiln



Elementary art students are excited that the kiln is completely installed and ready to fire up! Students will soon be working on their first clay projects.

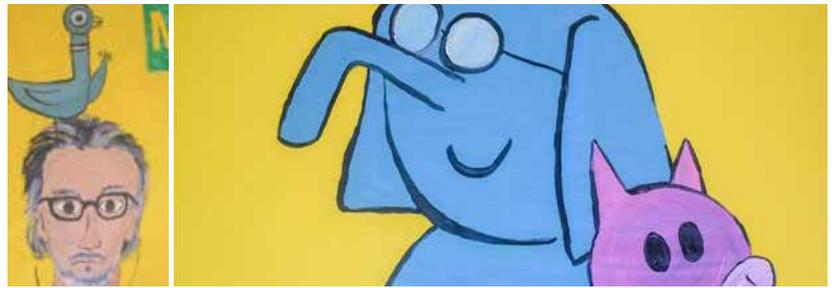
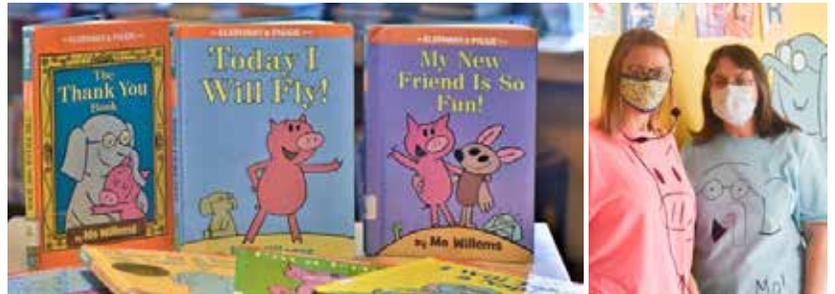
Virtual Museum Field Trip



Ms. Culver's fifth grade class enjoyed a virtual field trip to the Wellin Museum at Hamilton College where student docents led them through current installations. A related project will be shared in a follow-up visit occurring in December.

Mo-ember

Mrs. Parker, elementary school Librarian, shares her love for author Mo Willems every day, but especially in "Mo-ember." Willems is a number-one New York Times best-selling author, voice actor and illustrator who develops his stories based on "fundamental issues that young children can relate to," including emotional roadblocks and creative problem-solving. Special shoutout to our wonderful librarian and art teacher for bringing "Mo-ember" to life in and out of our classrooms.



Sixth Grade STEM

Sixth grade science students experienced the frustration and success of the engineering process. Students met specific criteria from the "2018 Fluor Design Challenge" while working within the constraints of time, material and competition. Students proudly displayed their results.



VR Field Trip



Seventh grade students took a field trip to colonial Jamestown, using virtual reality headsets. Teacher Judi Scoones served as the tour guide.



World Kindness Day

Rachel's Warriors celebrated World Kindness Day on November 13 in the middle school. A nationally recognized club instituted by the father of Rachel Scott, Columbine victim, the Warriors work to diffuse bullying situations and create a positive environment throughout schools.

With the help of our Rachel's Warriors members and the English department, students wrote friendly letters to area nursing home residents, brightening their day during this time of isolation.



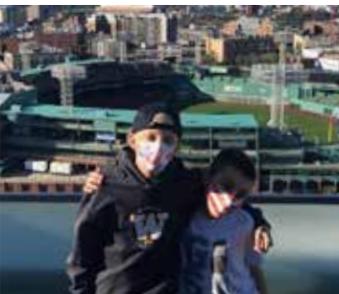
Veterans Day Cards

Students in Mrs. Steele's high school math classes created Veterans Day cards that were distributed at food banks through the Feed Our Vets organization. The students included a patriotic picture and thanked veterans for their service and sacrifice to our country. They also sent holiday cards to servicemen and women who are serving on the USS Abraham Lincoln, empathizing with those deployed. Students wished them a safe return to their families.



395 Free Meals Served at Clinton ES

History was made at the Clinton Elementary School cafeteria where 395 free meals were served to students in one day, a new record for the year! As a reminder, meals are FREE for the remainder of the school year. Thank you to our cafeteria staff for all of their hard work!



Supporting Cole Campbell

The CCS field hockey team is "sticking together" in support of Cole Campbell. In their annual three-game fundraising effort in memory of long-time devoted Clinton field hockey coach, Jean Vicks, \$7,000 was raised to be donated to the family of Cole Campbell.

Cole, who is battling cancer, is now recovering in Boston with his family by his side. He has been a long-time hockey player for the Clinton Comets. We are grateful to our athletes and for the overwhelming support from community members for Cole! The girls finished the season with a 10-1-1 record.



Jeans Day for Diabetes

Staff members at the Elementary School held a "Jeans Day" to help raise awareness about Type 1 diabetes. As a result, a total of \$129 was donated to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The family of Nicholas Venero, who is a victim of this disease, raised \$12,330 for the cause.

Pictured from left to right: Elizabeth Hobaica, Tracy Abrams, Ellen Leuthauser, Jodi Frank, Paige Culver and Lisa Tickle.



Coat Drive

A successful coat drive organized by members of the National Honor Society yielded over 120 coats that will be distributed to and welcomed by the refugee center, women's shelter and the Thea Bowman House! Pictured are Bart Hearn and Katie Dewhurst who spearheaded this worthy effort. Thank you to the CCS community for your generosity and to NHS members for your good citizenship!



Library Clean-Up

Twenty-two students participated in a Fall Clean-up Day at the Kirkland Town Library, beautifying the grounds for this important community partner.



NYSSMA Conference All-State Participants

After completing an arduous and heavily adjudicated process, two talented vocalists have been selected to represent CCS at the Conference All-State Music Festival. This hard-earned designation offers these students, along with almost 900 All-State musicians, an opportunity to work with the finest conductors on music that is of the highest quality, and enjoy an experience of a lifetime! Congratulations to Rebecah Bashant and Elizabeth Wratten!



Model UN Virtual Conference



The Clinton Model UN team attended their first-ever virtual conference at Manlius Pebble Hill on October 24. CCS represented the countries of Finland, Canada and Kenya in

such committees as the General Assembly, the World Health Organization, Disarmament and International Security, Economic and Social Council and UNICEF. Two special committees, the Council of the Baltic Sea States (2015) and the Committee Ending the Raj (1947) were part of this conference.

Following weeks of preparation, Clinton students debated well enough to be awarded Best Small School Delegation! Clinton MUN gives students an opportunity to learn about current and historical events, develop their public speaking skills, practice their problem solving skills, think on their feet and meet students from other schools. Clinton students demonstrated diplomacy as they debated world issues.

The Model UN team is advised by high school teachers Nicole Goodelle and Roger Wratten.



National Merit Scholarship Program

Congratulations to four high school students who received National Merit Scholarship Program Letters of Commendation based on their 2019 PSAT test scores. Only 34,000 out of 1.4 million students who took the PSAT in 2019 received this award. Congratulations to Katie Dewhurst, James Bart Hearn, Olive Niccoli and Madeline Walters for this prestigious academic achievement.



Girls Varsity Soccer MAKE HISTORY!



Warriors Make History

The CCS girls' varsity soccer team finished the 2020 athletic season stronger than ever before! The team completed the season undefeated for the first time in program history, while setting the school record for the least amount of goals scored against them in a season! Congratulations on this achievement, and to the boys' team that finished with a worthy 9-3 record!



Girls Tennis

The Clinton Girls Tennis Team finished the season with an incredible 10-0 record! The 26 member team was split into two sections during practice sessions in order to maintain social distancing guidelines. Recognized at the close of the season were nine graduating seniors: Mei Cassidy-Heekin, Maddie Walters, Casey Vechery, Emily Smith, Alyson Burns, Abigail Soika, Mallory Wickline, Olivia Bessel-Nolan and Hannah Slawson. Congratulations on finishing a difficult season undefeated!

Clinton Girls XC Undefeated in CSC D-1

In the uniquely different year of COVID-19 and sports, the Clinton Central School girls' cross country team completed a successful season. At the end of the season, Clinton Central School defeated all 13 CSC teams that chose to participate this season.

Seniors Taylor Harvey and Emily Hemstrought, juniors Finley Davignon, Jessica Gale and Leah Borton as well as sophomore Paige Luke, all earned CSC All-Star status for their efforts. In addition, Senior Taylor Harvey, junior Madison Luke and junior Joey Detraglia have been named to the 2020 "All-Mohawk Valley" XC team.

The CCS girls' cross country team were the clear class C winners. Congratulations to our athletes! We are so proud of all your accomplishments during a challenging season.



Clinton Varsity Girls top times on the 2020 season:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Madison Luke: 18:50 | Taylor Harvey: 19:25 |
| Paige Luke: 21:20 | Emily Hemstrought: 21:47 |
| Jessica Gale: 21:55 | Finley Davignon: 22:21 |
| Leah Borton: 22:26 | Carina Pascucci: 23:10 |
| Jenna Deep: 26:01 | Rebecah Bashant: 26:10 |
| Georgia Deep: 31:44 | |

Junior Madison Luke's fastest 5K time of 18:50 ranks as the #3 performance in NY State in Class C!

Senior Taylor Harvey's fastest 5K time of 19:25 ranks as the #5 performance in NY State in Class C!



Clinton Varsity Boys top times on the 2020 season:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Joey Detraglia: 18:23 | Morrison Powell: 18:29 |
| Nick Fostini: 20:03 | Porter Dawes: 20:20 |
| Jason Rivera: 20:30 | Morgan Dawes: 21:34 |
| Patrick Ward: 21:40 | Boone Schaffer: 22:25 |
| Matt Squires: 25:26 | Caleb Stanco: 26:29 |

Clinton Boys placed 3rd in CSC D-1 dual meets with a 4-3 record and placed 4th over-all at the combined CSC Championship meet of 13 schools.

Junior Joey Detraglia earned over-all CSC "all-Star" status!



Thank You Laura Fuller

A special thank you to Mrs. Laura Fuller for filling in during an unanticipated staff leave of absence. Mrs. Fuller helped CCS seniors navigate the college admissions process to ensure every detail was accomplished and deadlines met. On behalf of the students and parents, thank you for all of your help!

Thank you Parents!

Thank you to our wonderful CCS parents for all of your help, flexibility and understanding! Together, we succeed!

CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

75 Chenango Avenue
Clinton, New York 13323

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Stephen L. Grimm

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CLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL VIRTUAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE



The Middle School production in 2020 unfortunately cannot not safely be a traditionally staged musical. Instead, the musical team is assembling a Cabaret style Collection of Short Scenes and Monologues. Students have been rehearsing via Zoom with each other and Mrs. Wratten for a few weeks. Groups have begun working out their 11 scenes on stage with the added benefits of in-person feedback and the addition of sound, lighting, sets and props. The cast is being supported by a technical team of high school student volunteers acting as crew in all of these technical roles. Small set pieces have been constructed and painted with the assistance of a group of middle school students. The performances will be recorded and delivered virtually to staff and families privately.