A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Clinton Central School District Resident:

I hope you are having a wonderful spring as we thaw out from this year’s relentless winter cold! In our schools, we are enjoying helping the community’s children learn, grow, and achieve in all aspects of their lives. We pride ourselves on offering a comprehensive whole-child educational experience for our children that continues to yield recognition for student excellence in all aspects of our program from the Arts to athletics and the classroom to extra-curricular activities. The Clinton community’s tradition and culture provides fertile soil upon which to nourish these young hearts and minds, and I thank you for that!

Spring is also the time of year for the community’s thoughtful consideration of our spending plan for the 2015-2016 school year, and I am proud of the work we have accomplished together during the development of this budget. We relied heavily on a budget communications cycle which yielded responsive stakeholder feedback that assisted us in developing a plan that I believe is educationally responsible to our students and fiscally responsible to our community. We also engaged in an internal process that required us to analyze all areas of our expenditures in order to find efficiencies, which allowed us to decrease costs, and reclaim those funds to preserve our vital programs and improve in areas identified as strategic priorities.

The proposed projected tax levy increase of 3.52% is composed of 1.84% for school program, and 1.68% for our voter approved capital project. While the capital project has been progressing since last summer, the financial impact occurs in this budget cycle, and is represented in both the expense and revenue sides of the budget. As outlined in the pages that follow, you will find that our plan calls for a 4.97% increase in spending with 2.73% associated with our capital project, and 2.24% connected to the instructional program, including academic intervention services and preserving our programs at appropriate levels in each of our schools. While the funds provided by state aid have increased slightly in recent years, we continue not to receive an acceptable amount to reflect our needs. Therefore, our revenue plan calls for an increase in the local tax levy that is again within the tax levy limit (tax cap), and will also allow our taxpayers to qualify for the tax rebate program which provides for the reimbursement of this year’s increase in the fall.

I have always believed that an educated electorate is the best circumstance for our community and school; therefore, I want you to have access to all of the information you need in order to enhance your understanding of our current situation, and allow you to make an informed decision about the proposed budget. I encourage you to visit the school district website at www.ccs.edu and to read related articles in The Courier newspaper, whose personnel have been covering our meetings and the budget development process. I also encourage you to contact any of our board members, faculty, staff, and me to help you make an informed decision.

Thank you for your time and interest in learning about the school budget and our educational programs; please contact me if you have any questions. Join me on Thursday, May 14 for “Coffee with the Superintendent” at 8 a.m. at Bob’s Cafe in Clarks Mills or for “Soup with the Superintendent” at noon at J Cafe in Clinton.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Grimm, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Jr. High All County

Clinton Central School had the honor of hosting the Jr. High All-County Music Festival in April. Students had the opportunity to work with new conductors and perform after two intense half-days of rehearsal. Thank you to Marlene Hawkins and the Music Staff for organizing this event.
Revenues ... where the money will come from

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Property Tax</td>
<td>$14,341,396</td>
<td>$14,845,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Aid</td>
<td>$9,219,881</td>
<td>$10,113,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance</td>
<td>$515,000</td>
<td>$550,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$809,780</td>
<td>$613,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$24,886,057</td>
<td>$26,123,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and what it will be spend on ... Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>$10,850,185</td>
<td>$11,503,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
<td>$7,190,733</td>
<td>$7,280,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service/Transfers</td>
<td>$2,741,059</td>
<td>$3,158,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$808,453</td>
<td>$833,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>$1,317,641</td>
<td>$1,346,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$1,977,986</td>
<td>$2,000,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure</td>
<td>$24,886,057</td>
<td>$26,123,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What happens if this budget proposal is defeated?

The Board of Education has three options under the law.

- Submit the same budget to the voters for a second vote on the third Tuesday of June;
- Revise and submit the budget for a second vote on the third Tuesday of June;
- Reduce the budget by eliminating the purchase of equipment and any amounts tied to the community’s use of the school facilities and declare a contingency budget without a second vote.

If the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, equipment expenditures of $78,000 will be removed and other items as required by New York State Education Department regulations.
Board of Education Candidates

Three candidates will be running for two vacant seats on the Board of Education.

Candidates include:
Matthew Van Slyke
Amy Franz, Incumbent
Courtney Zoller, Incumbent

Voter Eligibility Requirements

An individual must meet the following requirements to vote in the school election:
• Be a citizen of the United States;
• Have been a resident of the district for a minimum period of 30 days prior to the vote;
• Be at least 18 years of age.

Three-Part Budget Summary

New York State requires districts to present their proposed budget in three categories: program, capital and administrative. The chart below shows the dollar amount and percentage of spending in each of those three categories in the 2014-15 budget and the proposed 2015-16 budget. An explanation of what is included in each of the categories is provided below.

Program:
2014-15 .................................................... $17,802,951 ........ 71.54%
2015-16 .................................................... $18,450,408 ........ 70.63%

Capital:
2014-15 ...................................................... $4,476,757 ........ 17.99%
2015-16 ...................................................... $4,964,810 .......... 19.0%

Administrative:
2014-15 ...................................................... $2,606,349 ........ 10.47%
2015-16 ...................................................... $2,708,481 ........ 10.37%

Total:
2014-15 .................................................... $24,886,057 ...... 100.00%
2015-16 .................................................... $26,123,699 ...... 100.00%

Program includes:
• All instructional programs, transportation, athletics, co-curricular and associated employee benefits.

Capital includes:
• Operation of buildings, maintenance of buildings, refunded taxes, debt service and associated employee benefits.

Administrative includes:
• Board of Education, central administration, finance, legal services, personnel, public information, special items, supervision of instruction and associated employee benefits.

Notice

Absentee Ballot Applications are available in the Superintendent’s Office or by calling 315.557.2253.

PROPOSITION 1

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, is hereby authorized to expend and there is hereby appropriated, the sum of $26,123,699 estimated by it to be necessary for school purposes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, and to raise so much thereof as may be necessary by tax on the taxable property in said School District.

PROPOSITION 2

Shall the Board of Education (the “Board of Education”) of the Clinton Central School District (the “District”) be authorized to purchase three (3) 66-passenger school buses at a total estimated cost of $335,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other necessary costs incidental thereto, and to expend a total sum not to exceed $335,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax which is hereby voted for the foregoing in the amount of $335,000, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed $335,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations.
Overall Budget Proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget Adopted for the 2014-2015 School Year</th>
<th>Budget Proposed for the 2015-2016 School Year</th>
<th>Contingency Budget for the 2015-2016 School Year*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total budgeted amount, not including separate propositions</td>
<td>$24,886,057</td>
<td>$26,123,699</td>
<td>$25,619,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase / decrease for the 2015-2016 school year</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,237,642</td>
<td>$733,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage increase (decrease) in each proposed budget</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.97%</td>
<td>2.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in the Consumer Price Index</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.62%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount</td>
<td>$14,341,396</td>
<td>$14,845,962</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)</td>
<td>$14,341,396</td>
<td>$14,845,962</td>
<td>$14,341,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit</td>
<td>$484,349</td>
<td>$725,587</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions</td>
<td>$13,857,047</td>
<td>$14,120,375</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)</td>
<td>$13,857,047</td>
<td>$14,120,375</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Difference: (G - H): (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval See Note Below Regarding Propositions) **</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative component</td>
<td>$2,606,349</td>
<td>$2,708,481</td>
<td>$2,642,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program component</td>
<td>$17,802,951</td>
<td>$18,450,408</td>
<td>$18,063,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital component</td>
<td>$4,476,757</td>
<td>$4,964,810</td>
<td>$4,912,810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the Board of Education adopts a contingency budget, equipment expenditures of $78,000 will be removed and other items as required by New York State Education Department regulations.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Bus Purchase</td>
<td>$335,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basic STAR Exemption Savings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Under the Budget Proposal for the 2015 - 2016 School Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings1</td>
<td>$684</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2015-2016 by the qualified voters of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held at the Theatre Lobby in said school district on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Middle School, at which time the polls will be open to vote by voting ballot or machine.

1 The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 415 of the Real Property Tax Law.
## Proposed 2015-2016

### Breakdown of Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Support</th>
<th>7.66% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Education</td>
<td>22,369</td>
<td>23,519</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Administration</td>
<td>191,242</td>
<td>207,009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>327,212</td>
<td>336,821</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditing</td>
<td>26,650</td>
<td>27,175</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>16,277</td>
<td>18,304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Collection</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Agent Fees</td>
<td>15,400</td>
<td>15,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Services</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>25,107</td>
<td>26,625</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Printing</td>
<td>166,800</td>
<td>147,700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Processing</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>26,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability/Property Insurance</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund Taxes</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOCES Administration</td>
<td>330,102</td>
<td>320,144</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Development</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision of Schools</td>
<td>642,827</td>
<td>668,683</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,977,986</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,000,880</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>44.04% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching/Regular School</td>
<td>6,878,040</td>
<td>7,373,358</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>2,084,610</td>
<td>2,152,126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library/Media</td>
<td>153,617</td>
<td>163,468</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Instruction</td>
<td>509,541</td>
<td>520,308</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance</td>
<td>262,532</td>
<td>271,871</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>150,445</td>
<td>157,599</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychological Services</td>
<td>82,800</td>
<td>89,033</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Work Services</td>
<td>183,680</td>
<td>194,538</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Curricular Activities</td>
<td>196,152</td>
<td>217,584</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>348,768</td>
<td>363,730</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,850,185</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,503,615</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Transportation</th>
<th>3.19% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>615,453</td>
<td>653,588</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOCES Bus Maintenance</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>808,453</strong></td>
<td><strong>833,588</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debt Service</th>
<th>11.95% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Construction Bonds</td>
<td>1,899,394</td>
<td>2,585,282</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Bus Bonds</td>
<td>178,643</td>
<td>251,937</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Anticipation Note</td>
<td>224,850</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Performance Contract</td>
<td>270,000</td>
<td>269,700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Anticipation Note</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,617,887</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,121,919</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operations and Maintenance</th>
<th>5.15% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Custodial Services</td>
<td>1,179,643</td>
<td>1,206,196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Expenses</td>
<td>137,998</td>
<td>139,888</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,317,641</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,346,084</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interfund Transfers</th>
<th>0.14% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Food Service</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education/Summer School</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Transfer</td>
<td>105,172</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>123,172</strong></td>
<td><strong>37,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>27.87% of budget</th>
<th>2014-2015</th>
<th>2015-2016 Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health, Dental &amp; Vision Insurance</td>
<td>4,186,685</td>
<td>4,528,486</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers’ Retirement</td>
<td>1,429,866</td>
<td>1,163,464</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees’ Retirement</td>
<td>338,427</td>
<td>324,006</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security (FICA)</td>
<td>797,655</td>
<td>841,657</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Workers Compensation</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Insurance</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Insurance</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Insurance</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits Administration</td>
<td>5,600</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee 403B Deferral</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,190,733</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,280,613</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014-2015 Budget:</th>
<th>24,886,057</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016 Proposed:</td>
<td>26,123,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**2015-2016 Budget Edition**
Mark Your Calendar…

May 14
Elementary School Spring Concert
7:00 p.m., Theatre

May 16
Junior Prom

May 19
Budget Vote, Noon-9:00 p.m., Theatre Lobby

May 21
National Jr. Honor Society Induction
7:00 p.m., Theatre

May 22 & 26
Give Back Snow Days, No Classes

May 26
Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Media Center

June 3
High School Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m.

June 4
Middle School Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m., Theatre

June 10
Grade 12 Awards Ceremony, 6:00 p.m., Theatre

June 12
Elementary Flag Day Ceremony, 9:15 a.m.

June 17
Grade 5 Awards Day, 10:00 a.m., Theatre

June 20
Senior Ball

June 24
Last Day of Classes

June 27
Commencement, 10:00 a.m., Theatre

Mission Statement

Clinton Central School proudly educates and empowers students to realize their potential and become thoughtful, contributing members of society.

Safety and Security

The Clinton Central School District continues to implement procedures and partnerships to improve safety and security for our students. The district has entered into partnerships with local law enforcement including the Kirkland Police Department and the Oneida County Probation Department, providing onsite personnel whose expertise contributes to the physical safety of students and staff and a vital link to crisis response networks. The district also engages the services of the BOCES Safety Office to assist with the further development and implementation of the District Safety Plan. Fireman Jim Scoones, who is also employed by the District, offers a key connection to fire safety instruction for students and emergency fire and medical response.

The relocation of the Middle School/High School attendance office and the aligned installation of secure electronic building entries have succeeded in streamlining traffic flow and visitor accountability. Through the generosity of the Kirkland Police Benevolent Association, a Raptor Security System has been installed at the Elementary School which requires visitor identification and is linked to local law enforcement systems.

The District is grateful for the support of these community organizations.

Congratulations to our Retirees

We thank all of our retirees for their many years of service to the Clinton Central School and community. Retiring at the end of the school year are elementary school teachers Kate Chute, Helen Leonard and Adrian Pollock, special education teacher Kathy Moran, and music teacher Marlene Hawkins. Elementary School Principal Steve Marcus will be retiring in September.

We wish them all a very happy retirement!

Capital Project Update

Phase B of the current Capital Project that was approved by voters in February of 2013 is underway and will be restricting campus use during the summer months. The cost of this project is responsible for 1.68% of the tax levy and includes components necessary to protect the community’s investment. This summer’s portion of the project will include asbestos abatement, roof replacement, roof top mechanical equipment upgrades, paving, kitchen and cafeteria repairs and improvements, elementary school bathroom reconstruction for handicap access, athletic field reconstruction and further flood mitigation.
Partnerships

Students Experience the Wellin Museum of Art

The second grade class took a spectacular field trip to the Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College on March 11. While visiting the museum, the students engaged in a variety of activities including examining artwork from ancient Greece, learning how to use visual thinking strategies, sketching, writing, and viewing a solo exhibition of recent work by Brooklyn-based sculptor Alyson Shotz. Before visiting the museum, the students completed a project in the art room with Mrs. Hall about pendulum art and force.

Hamilton College Teach Spanish to Students in K-5

Additionally, Hamilton College students taught Spanish to students in grades K-5 who elected to spend their lunch or recess learning to speak words and phrases in a foreign language, playing creative games, and having fun! Teaching Fellow in Hispanic Studies María Gabriela Portal, Elisa MacColl ’16, and Emily Hess ’16 coordinated the project and could not have done so without the help of Mr. Marcus, the elementary school teachers, and the lunch and recess aides. College students also tutor in the middle school.

National Honor Society Holds Successful Coin Drive

The CCS National Honor Society held a coin drive and raised $632 by collecting coins in the high school homerooms. The funds were donated to the food pantry at the Church of Annunciation (the Country Pantry) which services many families in the Clinton School District who are in need.

Curriculum Nights

Partnership with parents plays a key role in student success. To assist parents in this effort, several information/education evening sessions were held where teachers explained new grade level curriculum to attendees. Additional workshops devoted to a more in-depth look at math curriculum followed during which the PTA for provided child care.
Partnerships

Thank You to the CCSD Foundation…

The CCSD Foundation is an independent organization whose mission is to promote and support excellence in education in the Clinton Central School District. The Foundation’s Board of Trustees is composed of local citizens who prepare and manage fundraising events whose profits are used to benefit both students and teachers.

Since its inception 20 years ago, the Foundation has donated well over a quarter of a million dollars to CCS. This year, the Foundation donated nearly $37,000, funding the purchase of a sound control console for the theatre, middle school science microscopes, electronic probeware for high school science classes, the creation of a Junior First LEGO League, and a portion of the modern language learning lab.

It has also funded the restoration of the school’s bell tower; the local share of the new theatre ($100,000), which created an $800,000 match by the State of New York; and additional land for new athletic fields.

If you are interested in becoming a Foundation trustee, please contact Tony Acee at 853-6778 or tony987@roadrunner.com; Pat Palladino at 853-6983 or patpalladino@gmail.com or Alicia DeTraglia at 790-7720 or Alicia.detraglia@gmail.com.

The CCSD Foundation also sponsors the Hall of Distinction which is designed to recognize and celebrate graduates and retirees of the school district for their accomplishments as well as to inspire current students to future success.

Graduates or retirees eligible for consideration will have exemplified the school district’s educational philosophy throughout their lives. Candidates must have made an enduring contribution to society, have or had an outstanding professional career, and/or have demonstrated a high level of commitment to the school and community. Former students must have graduated no less than 12 years ago. Former staff members must have been retired from the district for at least 5 years.

Anyone may nominate either a graduate or retiree. Forms can be found at on the CCS website at http://www.ccs.edu/Page/1291, or can be obtained through the Superintendent’s Office.

Partnering with BOCES

Clinton Central School’s partnership with Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES allows for affordable expanded curriculum. Pictured is student Michael Petrie presenting to the BOCES Board about their Capital Project. Students enrolled in the Construction Trades program were involved in the planning and execution of portions of the project, working alongside professionals.

In addition to instructional programs BOCES provides to CCS, such as eight itinerant teachers and special education programs, BOCES also provides IT support and purchasing power, professional development for staff, administrative services and representation in Albany and beyond.

Foundation treasurer Ed Ewen is pictured presenting a “check” to Superintendent Stephen Grimm.
Class of 2017 Fundraiser

The class of 2017 would like to thank all who supported their fundraiser. Two-hundred fifteen tickets were sold, raising $1,075. Winners were drawn by Dr. Grimm and Mr. Lee. The grand prize went to the Cicchinelli family, a 16GB iPad Air, and the second prize of a $100 Wal-Mart gift card was awarded to Laiken Hall. Proceeds will help the class of 2017 finance their prom and senior year activities.

PTA Reflections Program

The districts valuable partnership with the PTA provides an essential link between school and home, and offers additional opportunities to students, parents and community members.

The PTA Reflections Program is a National program that encourages all grades and abilities to explore and be involved in the arts! Annually, thousands of students reflect on a common theme and create original works of art in the categories of dance, choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography and visual arts. The theme this year is: “The world would be a better place if ...” Winners include:

Writing
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
1. Jason Rivera
2. Izzy Marcus
Honorable Mention: Grace Gentile and Isla McCullough

Middle School (Grades 6-8)
1. Alyssa Cancilla
2. Madison Steates
Honorable Mention: Gabrielle Lewis

High School (Grades 9-12)
1. Joe Weider

Special Artist
1. Nicholas Bonfardeci
2. Megan Gromo
Honorable Mention: Mia Peycke and Alex Martinelli

Visual Arts
Primary (Grades K-2)
1. Hannah Castle
2. Stephanie O’Neil
Honorable Mention: Chase Ruppel and Gemma Spadea

Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
1. Claire Barone
2. Mistee Eldevik-LaCotera
Honorable Mention: Jack Sullivan, Aria James

Middle School (Grades 6-8)
1. Jacob Lewis
2. Brian Hall
Honorable Mention: Rebecca Bashant and Marina Marcus

High School (Grades 9-12)
1. Nicole Einfalt
2. Elizabeth Diamond

Photography
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
1. Jack Sullivan
2. Ella Fay
Honorable Mention: Olivia Cofano and Caden Hinderling

Middle School (Grades 6-8)
1. Harrison Knight

High School (Grades 9-12)
1. Brett Graeldinger
2. Peter Burke
Honorable Mention: Joseph Bonanza and Emily Landry

Music
Middle School (grades 6-8)
1. Mallory Wickline

Dance
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
1. Eden Knight

Middle School (Grades 6-8)
1. Jenna Cofano
2. Gloria Kramer

Film
Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
1. Brooke Wollin
2. Elijah Hagar

The PTA also sponsors the annual book fair and has helped fund the Global Connect communication system.

NSDAR Essay Winners

Three Elementary School students were honored at an award ceremony held on February 28. Students were required to author essays titled "A Child’s Journey through Ellis Island.” Fifth grade awarded students included: Madeline Stell, First Place; Erica Racioppa, Second Place; and Alayna Krom, Third Place. This contest is sponsored by the Oneida Chapter of the NSDAR.
Teaching the Whole Child

Photograph by student Billy White was one of six works chosen out of 120 at the 33rd annual Artistic Discovery Congressional Arts Competition for display at the Roberson Museum in Binghamton. It was then considered for the next level of competition in April.

Creating a Culture of Kindness

Rachel's Warriors are very active in the high school and middle school. In March, CCS sponsored a Rachel's Challenge speaker that presented to the middle and high school students about the importance of building a positive community within our school and world. One hundred students participated in an afternoon leadership workshop that taught students strategies to intervene in bullying situations and stand up for positive change. The group also created ten goals for the secondary buildings that the Rachel's Warriors group will use as guiding objectives for the 2015-2016 school year projects. Middle School students who practice these values are honored as “Upstanders” and are recognized for their efforts at Board of Education meetings.

After the school presentations, members of the community were invited to learn about Rachel's five challenges:

1. Look for the Best in Others
2. Dream Big
3. Choose Positive Influences
4. Speak with Kindness
5. Start Your Own Chain Reaction

In addition to the March presentation, Rachel's Warriors will host a badminton tournament to benefit their scholarship fund. This fund is set up to benefit students who require financial assistance for sports or school-related costs (i.e.; equipment, field trip fees). Students or parents who are interested in applying for this assistance should contact ajohnson@ccs.edu or kwashburn@ccs.edu for more information. Fifty-two students and two teachers participated in the tournament. The final two teams will play at Student Council's Spring Fling to determine the 2015 Rachel's Warriors Badminton Champion.

Six students represented CCS in the Elementary All-County Choir. From left to right: Lizzie Wra...
On March 12, a few select members of the Clinton Middle School Technology Club participated in the Mohawk Valley Technology Education Showcase at SUNY PI. Students competed against over 100 other students from area schools in competitions such as junkyard wars, projectile devices and, our favorite, sumo bots. Students were tasked with building a robot capable of pushing another out of a 4’ ring. The CCS team built two robots and programmed them to autonomously turn around when the robot senses a black line. They also used a lower gear ratio that would improve the torque of our drive system. Overall in this competition, we took 3rd place out of 18 teams!

Congratulations to the following members who attended: Kyle Dawes, Matt Gadziala, Nick Gale, Nathan Myers, Tyler Perkins and Daniel Fitzgerald.

Technology club is advised by Ryan O’Rourke. The team has fun with CAD, 3-D printing as well as robotics. Meetings occur on Tuesdays after school from October to April, and we are always looking for more members!

The annual high school science fair took place in December in the high school atrium. Students from all four grade levels participated in the event, where a total of 14 projects were represented by 19 students. Judges for the science fair were professors from Hamilton and Utica Colleges. Projects by Chris Rivera, Ian Brehaut, and Hannah Deering were chosen to move on to the next level of competition at Utica College. Prizes for the winners in the high school science fair were generously provided by the Clinton PTA and businesses such as Giovanni’s Pizza. The winners for the local science fair were as follows:

Grand Champion: Christopher Rivera
1st place: Antonia Cardamone
2nd place: Lizzy Diamond
3rd place: Adam Koren
4th place: Ian Brehaut
5th place: Hannah Deering
6th place: Nathan Gale

The high school science fair was coordinated by teacher Corey Snitchler.
Middle School Science Fair

On January 31, a total of 82 science projects created by 135 students in grades 6 through 8 were judged by 20 people from several walks of life (professors, physics majors, biology majors, computer scientists, dairy farmers and engineers). Ten groups were nominated to participate in the 37th Annual Utica College Regional Science Fair that was held on April 11 where they competed at the junior level against many other top students from other local schools districts.

Those nominated to advance are Jadon Ingalls, Robert Musante, Joey Pascucci, Eva Borton (last year’s junior Grand Champion), Jessica Bailey, Kimberly Rivera, Lauren Chmielewski, Andrew Krom, Andries Kruger, Matt Gadziala, Daniel Fitzgerald, Gabrielle Lewis and Piper Davignon.

Thank you to Dr. Grimm, Mr. Carney, the middle school science teachers, parent volunteers, the custodial staff, the students and the PTA for working together to make this a successful event.

Middle School Social Studies

Eighth grade social studies students have been actively engaged in analyzing topics from Manifest Destiny to World War I. A highlight was a presentation given by representatives from the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees. This enrichment opportunity made both the social studies and ELA curricula relevant as students learned about United States immigration and refugees during the Vietnam War. Students participated by asking thought-provoking questions and relating the presentation to classroom content.

Students also visited the Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College where they had the opportunity to examine and analyze artifacts from the 1920’s and 1930’s, followed by an independent research project about what they discovered. In early May, students visited the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum and toured the 9/11 Memorial and Museum.

Leadership, Experience, Opportunity

The Middle School LEO Club has been active this winter by assisting with the All-county Music Festival and the High School Musical and fund raising by raising selling chocolate bunnies at Easter time. They will be sponsoring faculty riders for the Ride For Missing Children, sponsoring students for the SABRE baseball trip to a Syracuse Chief game in June, and walking in the Lions’ Club Journey For Sight on May 9. The club continues to collect used eye glasses and stamps in each school building.
Athletic Highlights

Both boys and girls indoor track teams enjoyed great success this winter by BOTH winning their respective Center State Conference championship titles!

Seniors Liam Pierce and Alayna Loefgren qualified for the NYSPHSAA championships at Cornell over the weekend of March 7th. Liam was also named Center State Conference “boys field event MVP” on the season. The boys finished 3rd at class B sectionals with Junior Avery Crosley earning an individual sectional title in the Pole Vault. The girls finished 4th with Loefgren earning an individual title in the high jump.

Volleyball team member Anna Salerno was named a league all-star while Emma Storey and Alexis Racioppa received honorable mentions.

Scholar Athletes

The Athletic Department has announced that the following teams qualified as NYSPHSAA winter scholar athletes, requiring a team average GPA of at least 90%:

Girls Indoor track - 95.2%
Girls Basketball - 93.5%
Girls Volleyball - 91.9%
Boys Indoor track - 91.1%
Hockey - 90.9%

Elementary Students Visit Lutheran Home Residents

Second and third graders were offered the opportunity to exercise their thinking, problem solving and reasoning skills by participating in the Continental Math League Challenge. Students attempted to solve six multi-step problems individually followed by classroom discussion.

Achievements in the area of mathematics of K-12 students were celebrated at a banquet held on April 15. Congratulations to all of our students.
Model UN

CCS students participated in the Model UN Conference held at Syracuse University on January 9 and 10. Since its inception in 1973, the Upper Mohawk Valley Model United Nations (UMVMUN) conference has endeavored to simulate the spirited diplomacy practiced in the United Nations and to provide future generations of leaders a chance to develop their skills and talents through public speaking, writing and negotiation in an environment conducive to the diplomatic practices found within statesmanship.

Model UN is advised by high school social studies teacher Kathy Glickman.

Mrs. Fical from the National Center for Exploited and Missing Children visited Mrs. King’s 8th grade health class to share information about how to navigate social media safely. Mrs. Fical is a recurrent face at CCS and she spoke to all 8th grade and 7th grade health classes this year. Health curriculum covers a wide range of topics crucial to students well being.

Mrs. Glickman Honored

Elizabeth Balch, Connor D’Angelo, Daniel Martini and Amara Rojo were invited to attend Rotary meetings this year in order to “expose them to a civic organization that promotes Service above Self and provides students the opportunity to network with community leaders and explore vocational opportunities.”

The students were asked to nominate an educator from their school who “goes above self, providing students with opportunities to learn and grow in a way which embodies the humanitarian spirit and exemplifies the Four-Way Test of Rotary: Is it the Truth? Is it Fair to all Concerned? Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?”

Our students selected high school social studies teacher Kathy Glickman! Mrs. Glickman also advises Model UN. She was honored along with other local educators at the May 1, 2015, Utica Rotary luncheon.

Congratulations, Mrs. Glickman!

Mrs. King’s Health Class

ES Science Fair

Elementary students proudly display their projects to the student body and community. Thank you to coordinators Kelly Landry and Sarah Huller, to the PTA and the dedicated volunteers who helped to make this event possible.
Students Place at Science Olympiad Regional Competition

The Clinton High School Science Olympiad Team earned a strong 17th place finish at the Mid-state Regional Science Olympiad Competition on January 31. Seventeen students attended and competed in the 25 events that tested a multitude of science, engineering and technology skills.

Events span several content areas including technology and build ahead events, such as Bungee Drop and Compound Machines. The Mid-state Region is one of the largest in the state and was comprised of 32 competitive teams this year. The team is advised by teachers Meredith Callaghan and Kathleen Washburn.

Medals are awarded to the top 10 finishers in each event. Winning medals for the CCS team were: Evan McCormick and Brett Hammes, 8th place Astronomy; Evan McCormick and Mitchell West, 3rd place Bungee Drop; Marilyn Cirincionne and Jake Thiele, 8th place Compound Machines; Jeff O’Neil and Miranda Riley, 3rd place Geologic Mapping; Vincent Dinh and Jake Thiele, 2nd place Technical Problem Solving; and Marilyn Cirincionne and Jeff O’Neil, 4th place Write it Do it.

Congratulations to the Clinton Middle School MathCounts team who won the regional competition held at MVCC on Feb. 7.

Members of the team pictured left to right include: Michael Halick, Robert Musante, Eva Borton, Matthew Gadziala and Nick Gale

The team continued on to the State Competition March 28 at RPI in Troy, NY. The Mathcounts Team is advised by Ms. Sue King, middle school mathematics teacher.
High School Musical Production of *Grease*