



# CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER



*Fall—Volume 9, Issue,*

From the Desk of Principal: Scott Graber

WOW! It's hard to believe how fast time is flying by. For some of us, it's just another day. For others, going back to school is finally a reality. As many of you are aware, Clark Middle School has adopted Pershing Middle School in Houston, Texas as a result of the devastating damage caused by Hurricane Harvey. When speaking with the principal of the school, he stated that over 100 of his students lost everything and many of his staff members were in the same situation. As a school, we decided to sponsor a "TEN" day. Encouragement was given to the students to bring in denominations of "10." Since this is our tenth year at CMS, our hope was to be able to have students bring in 10 pennies, 1 dime, a dollar, 10 dollars, etc. In the end, we raised almost \$900.00 for the school. Thanks for your help. The Cross Country teams also did a collection at the home meets and raised a total of \$448.25 for the school as well. Again, thank you for your generous help. It's hard to imagine not being able to start school until the end of September, going to school with no school supplies, school being damaged, materials lost, etc. As principal, I am hoping that our act of "service learning" has an impact on our students as it is "better to give than to receive." THANK YOU!

As we enter the second nine-week period, I want to encourage you to continue checking Skyward and Canvas on a regular basis. Teachers are required to post assignments daily as well as upload the dates of upcoming assessments. If you have questions, feel free to give us a call at CMS.

Since the last newsletter, the students and staff have been busy with a number of activities and events. The Halloween dance/party took place after school on October 19. All students and staff had a great time. Thanks to Mrs. Nelson and Mr. Magdziarz for organizing the event through our student council members.

The Eco-teens group will continue to focus on Sojourner's House, as we collect new and/or slightly used shoes to assist the home and their endeavors. The bins will be available outside the main entrance areas until the end of October. Please donate if you are able.

Our enrollment continues to grow at CMS. Currently we are at 1139 with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class being our largest at 325, 7<sup>th</sup> grade at 265, 6<sup>th</sup> grade at 285, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade at 264. Over the last several weeks, we have received many new students to our area. I want to express my appreciation to our students and parents, as our students have taken the new arrivals under their wings. It is great to see the number of kids that have stepped up to help out in the lunchroom, classes, etc. Your help is appreciated. Thank you, parents, for instilling the value of "helping/serving" in your children.

Please continue to focus on the educational aspect with your kids. All students should be doing some aspect of homework nightly. Whether it is homework from an academic class or reading an AR book, there is always something to do. Don't forget that on Tuesdays and Thursdays, all CMS teachers are available to assist with free tutoring from 8:00-8:30am. Please bring your child in for tutoring if you feel there is a need.

Until next newsletter, stay safe.

# From the Guidance Office



Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Shapiro, counselors at Clark, started the school year meeting with the new students and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. They also attended the grade level meetings with Mr. Graber and Mr. Stanisiz and welcomed students to the start of the 2017-18 school year. The counselors organized a NEW STUDENT Breakfast, which involved all new students moving into the district and corporation transfers. The morning kicked off with a delicious breakfast of pancakes, sausage, fruit, and whipped topping, prepared special by Clark food service. New students also played an interactive bingo game and had the opportunity to meet other students at the breakfast. There were prizes and a raffle for Clark spirit wear.

College "GO" Week was held September 25<sup>th</sup>-September 29<sup>th</sup>, and students participated in several activities during homeroom to assist them in thinking about interests and future career options. The *Learn More Indiana* magazine will be distributed to all students in October and it is filled with age appropriate activities and articles about planning for their future and goal setting. The 5th graders participated in a "Stamp Out Bullying" seminar with the counselors the end of September and the first week of October.

Red Ribbon week (October 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>) was filled with activities that emphasized the theme, "*Your Future is Key, so Stay Drug Free*". We would also like to thank Mrs. Shapiro for all of her excellent work with students and staff the past two months. Mrs. Shapiro's last day was October 16th and, we welcome Mrs. Churilla from maternity leave. We also welcome Mrs. Julie Myers, who started as guidance secretary in late September. As always, the counselors and school services provider, Mr. Aguilera, are here to assist your students with any issues that may arise.

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2. A B C D E
3. A B C D E
4. A B C D E

**INFO ON NUMATS:** Northwestern University's Midwest Talent Search (NUMATS) is a program that assists in identifying and meeting the needs of high ability students in the Midwestern states. If your child has scored in the 95th percentile of a nationally normed test or PASS + on the ISTEP MATH OR READING last year, and they are now a 7th or 8th grader, you may want to consider having your child take the SAT or ACT. More information is available on the NUMATS website [ctd.northwestern.edu/numats](http://ctd.northwestern.edu/numats). The dates for the tests, required fees and eligibility information can all be found at this website, as well as answer questions you may have regarding the value of taking a high stakes test.

The Lake Central School Corporation is looking for substitute teachers and paraprofessionals!

Please go to the main website: [www.lcsc.us](http://www.lcsc.us) Under Administration>Human Resources.

Scroll down and click on *Steps to Substitute Requirements*. The document will explain the steps needed to become a substitute in the corporation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Central Office at 365-8507.



## Notes from Mr. Stanisz, Assistant Principal:

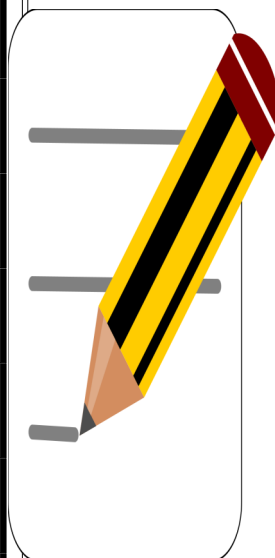
The fall sports season has concluded, which means the holidays are quickly approaching and so is the winter sports season. Boys/girls basketball, wrestling, and dance will be competing in the winter for the Coyotes. We have scheduled the "red out" game for Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> against Colonel John Wheeler Middle School. We will also be holding our annual pep rally that afternoon! Make sure to buy your t-shirts to support the American Heart Association. Information was sent out through email about purchasing shirts for \$10.00.

Our annual Veterans Day celebration is scheduled for Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. The festivities will begin with a complimentary breakfast at 8:00 AM followed by an all-school program at 9:30 AM. Any student who brings a veteran as their guest is welcome to attend the breakfast. During the breakfast, Interstate Studios will be taking pictures of the students with their veteran(s). Pictures will be passed out to the students within a couple of weeks after the event. The program will last approximately one hour.

Thanks for your help when dropping your children off by door J on the south side; however, please be mindful of the following issues: (1) please make sure that you remain in the car line and do not allow your child to exit the vehicle until they are motioned out by a staff member. (2) If you are parking your car, please use a proper parking spot, do not drive in-between the orange cones, and do not pull out into oncoming traffic if you are parked in the front row. (3) The handicapped parking spots are needed for our students with disabilities and we appreciate your help in keeping those spots available. (4) When escorting your child to door J, please use the cross-walk located by the three orange cones. Thank you for your help in this matter!

Have you signed up for Twitter? Twitter is gathering support from parents and students around the school. To sign up, go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) or download the app to your Smartphone and create a username. You can follow us at @Clark\_coyotes for news and information regarding CMS.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a Happy Holidays!



We are beginning a new award program for [Box Tops for Education](#). Each semester, the top three students bringing in Box Tops will win Target gift cards (\$20, \$15, or \$10). If we get a large increase in the number of Box Tops received, we will increase the number of prizes. **Please remember that the box tops do expire. Expired box tops will not be counted for the contest, because they can't be submitted for redemption.** They have to be thrown away. Let's try to see if we can make more money to build up the student activity fund. Please remember **all** the money goes back to the students!!!! Please check the Clark webpage for a complete list of items that are included in the Box Tops for Education program. You may be surprised with some of the items! There is also a list on the box in the office.



## PAWS FOR A CAUSE

On Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> members from "Paws for a Cause" attended the town of St. John Pet Parade. The parade is a fundraiser for the St. John K-9 team of Officer Adams and Match. A great time was had by all!



## ***“10 Years of Keeping the Magic Alive”***

### **NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY**

#### **FALL AUTHOR VISIT**



**New York Times best-selling author Gordon Korman**

**To visit Clark Middle School on Friday, November 17, 2017.**

***“Get Schooled @ CMS”***

We'll have two assemblies (5th & 6th grade  and 7th & 8th grade), students and staff will meet the author, have books signed, enter reading contests to win fabulous prizes and the opportunity to have lunch with the author. This will be another awesome day for everyone at Clark!

T-shirt and books order forms have been distributed to students and staff. **The deadline to order books is Monday, 11/13/17 and t-shirts is Monday, 10/23/17.** Don't miss the chance to be a part of the big day! Students still have time to read 12+ books and eat lunch with the author. Lucky students will meet the author in the library for a short writing workshop.

Read Mr. Korman's fantastic stories and earn your AR points. You won't want to miss his newest book, ***Restart***! Other interesting series include: *Swindle*, *Masterminds*, *Hypnotists*, & *Island*. Also, be sure to read the ever favorite, *Schooled*, *Slacker*, *Ungifted*, *Pop*, *Juvie Three*, *Born to Rock* & *Son of the Mob*. He has written over 80 books for young readers. All titles are available in print and on eBooks. Also, check the public library.



The **Welcome to Middle School 5th Grade Book Club** will be launched on Monday, October 30th. Students will meet in the gym during homeroom and learn all about this 5th grade only reading event! Students may be “puzzled” now, (Who's F.R.E.D?) but things will be very clear on the 30th!

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The **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR** is scheduled for November 20th, 21st & 22nd in the library. Please encourage your students to support the library fundraiser by purchasing books at the fair. Each Language Arts class will be given a shopping day and time. Parents may stop in before school at 8:15AM each day. Parent volunteers are needed, please contact Karley Kutka at [clarkmspto.yahoo.com](mailto:clarkmspto.yahoo.com) if you can help.



# 2017 CROSS COUNTRY BOOT CAMP





As we approach the second nine weeks, Language Arts classes will be studying new units. To help promote these units and extend them beyond the classroom, we encourage you to discuss the following essential questions with your child at the dinner table, on the way to a practice or game, or whenever you have an opportunity.

#### 5th Grade

1. What is the difference between fact and opinion?
2. How can people's differences of opinion lead to a revolution?
3. What words are used in a text to express an opinion?

#### 6th Grade

1. How do individuals react when dealing with disaster?
2. How do people deal with and explain the impact of damaging events?

#### 7th Grade

1. How do I step outside of my own perceptions to allow myself to look at a situation objectively?
2. How are people's perceptions shaped?

#### 8th Grade

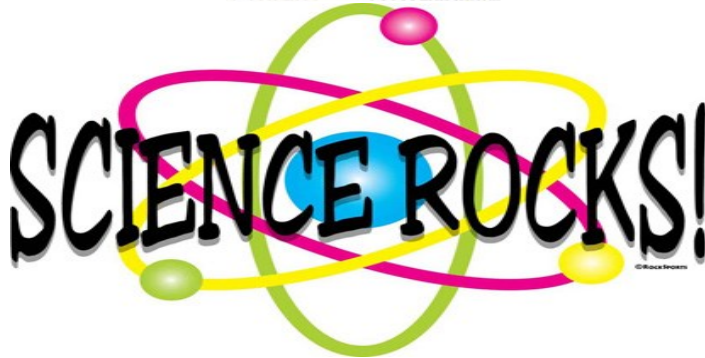
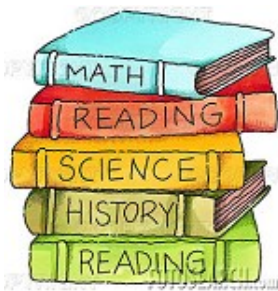
1. At what point do you transition from childhood to adulthood?
2. How do major economic events change and/or influence your life?
3. How can lack of communication interfere with the relationship between you and your parents?







This fall and winter, students at Clark Middle School will be participating in the National Geographic Geography Bee. This is an outstanding competitive program that allows students to qualify for the state and national geography bees in the spring. If you have any questions, please feel free to email the department chair and site coordinator, Mr. Jason Putman at [jputman@lcscmail.com](mailto:jputman@lcscmail.com).



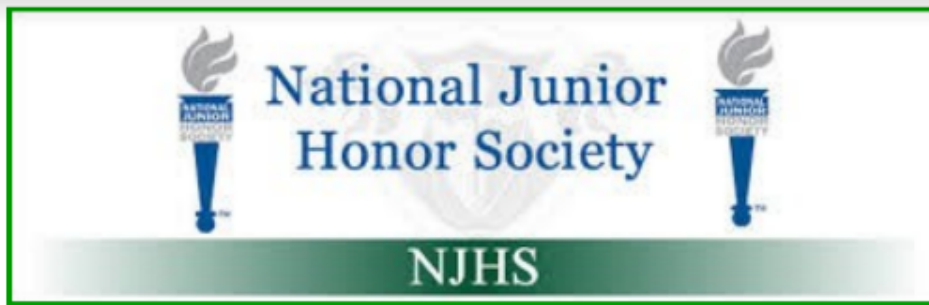
The math department at Clark Middle School hopes everyone had a great first nine weeks! Teachers have been working to get the students not only acclimated to the new year, but working to better their math skills and be ready for testing in the spring. Teachers are using Canvas to post assignments given in class. Please be sure to check each teacher's Canvas page to see what has been assigned in case a child forgets his assignment or will be gone from class. Textbooks for Big Ideas are online. Students can access their books through their Canvas account. Teachers are using I-Ready in class as extra practice to reinforce skills taught in class.

If students need extra help in math class, they can come into tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tutoring is open to any student. As a reminder, tutoring begins at 8:00 a.m. It is important the students bring questions or work that needs to be reviewed when coming to tutoring. As always, if there are any concerns, please contact the student's teacher.

7th grade science classes painted rocks donated by the NWI Rocks Association to exhibit the character trait of "Kindness rocks"! They will be displayed permanently across from the concession stand in the football field area at Clark to remind all students how important being kind to others is. The WISE program from LC will be visiting Clark's 8th grade science classes on Friday, November 3rd.

They will be presenting interesting lab experiments that the students can participate in.



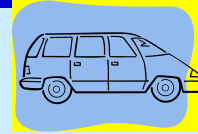


Applications for new members will be given to students who have qualified to be a part of the National Junior Honor Society early second semester. Students in the 7th and 8th grade who have a cumulative grade point average of a 3.33 will be receiving applications. In order to become a member of the Clark chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, members must complete the application and then be selected by a faculty committee. Just getting the application does not guarantee membership. **Students must have at least two in-school and two out-of-school activities** and answer an essay. The following are examples of activities: Jazz Band, Swing Choir, ISSMA, Chess Club, Friendship Club, Science Olympiad, Academic Superbowl, Dance, Cheer, Sports, Winter Guard, Theatre, Church Youth Group, Religious Classes, Club Sports, etc. You must be in an activity for at least one semester or a full athletic season for an activity to count. The following activities **DO NOT count**: any classes (band, peer mentoring, etc.), babysitting, pet sitting, bake sales or other one-day fundraisers, races/color runs etc. Any questions about what is considered an in-school activity can be answered by checking the agenda book for school activities or contacting Mrs. Giannini at Clark.

### Parent Volunteers:

Anytime you volunteer, you **MUST** have a current limited criminal history check on file and a copy of your drivers license. There is **NO** cost.

## Clark Middle School After-School Procedures



To improve the safety of our students, staff, and guests, please follow the procedures listed for car riders. All students who are being picked up will need to exit the building at Door J, which is the main entrance. We will load and release cars along the curb first. We strongly encourage everyone picking up to get in this line. We usually have cars loaded and released by 3:50. Students waiting to enter the parking lot to a guest in a parked car will be released after the cars along the curb have exited. Please do not use the other lanes in the parking lot to pick up or drop off your children. Those lanes are for cars to find parking spots. In addition, please do not use the parking spots designated for our handicapped guests unless you have the appropriate pass.

Thanks for working with us to make our parking lot safer for all. Please share this information with anyone that will be picking up your children.

## LUNCH PRICES AND PAYMENTS

**Breakfast \$1.60 / Lunch \$2.45**

**For more info, please check our school  
corporation website.**



### **OPTION 1: Online Payment - Now you can make payments to your students account online!**

Parents can prepay student lunch accounts online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with Mealtime Online payment feature. It is fast, convenient and secure. Go to

[www.mymealtime.com](http://www.mymealtime.com)



### **OPTION 2: Check**

You can send a check with your student or bring it in personally to your student's school. On the check please mark clearly your student's first and last name, their ID #, and your driver's license number. Turn in deposits in the Food Service deposit box located in the school office or to the cafeteria cashier(s).

### **OPTION 3: Cash**

We ask you refrain from sending cash, but you can send money in with your student or bring it in personally to your student's school in an envelope clearly marked with your student's name, their ID #, their teacher's name, and \$ amount. Turn in deposits in the Food Service deposit box located in the school office or to the cafeteria cashier(s).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Our technology trainers, administration, and School Resource Officer Jerry Patrick hosted several parent presentations last year on student social media use. Many parents who attended said they gained valuable information; therefore, we will be hosting these presentations again in November. The goal of these presentations is to work in partnership with parents to help teach our students how to use social media responsibly.

We will host multiple opportunities for parents to attend a presentation on **Student Social Media Use and Monitoring**. This presentation will focus on teaching parents about the most popular social media apps students are using, how to monitor usage and update privacy settings, and how to talk to children about the impact of what they share online. This presentation is geared towards late elementary and early middle school parents, though all are welcome. The dates and time are as follows:

- **Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6PM in the Kahler Middle School LGI**
  - **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:30PM in the Kahler Middle School LGI**
- Please RSVP for this event using the Google form link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/bVrM4LfxofKeiljL2>

We will also host a separate presentation on the topic of **Sexting**. This presentation is geared towards our middle school parents, though all are welcome to attend. We will focus specifically on the issue of sexting, how images sent and posted are permanent with long term consequences, and how parents can monitor for this kind of behavior. This presentation will be held on **Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> in the Kahler Middle School LGI at 6PM.**

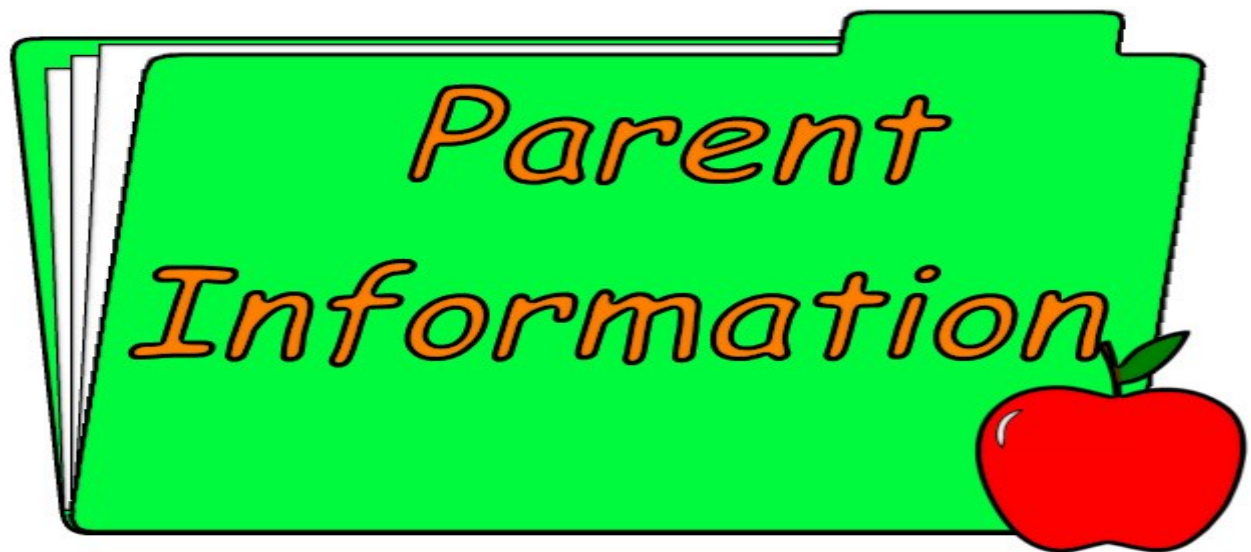
Please RSVP for this event using the Google form link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/MvvK0dAdXdV8yKUW2>

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Do you need to know when school is in session or when you have school events for the 2017-2018 school year? Please check out the LCSC website at [www.lcsc.us](http://www.lcsc.us) and look for the [Academic Calendar link](#) on the lower left side or open the [Full Lake Central School Corporation calendar](#). **All the information you need at your fingertips!!**





## WELCOME TO TWITTER, CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

CMS is officially on the Twitter wire! What is Twitter, you ask? Twitter is a social network site set up for parents, students, and staff for news and information. We will be providing information regarding all the happenings around the middle school and important dates to remember. We WILL NOT be responding to questions on the twitter line as it is used strictly for information only. You can set up a twitter account by visiting [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com). THIS IS NOT MANDATORY! It is just another helpful tool for those of you that access your cell phones on a regular basis. @Clark\_coyotes

## Did you know?

Announcements are posted daily on the website. Check us out at:

<http://clark.lcsc.us>

MAKE US A  
FAVORITE!!

Students are not allowed to enter the building before 8:00 am unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member. Door A will not be unlocked until 8:30 am. Walkers/bikers need to walk around to Door J (south entrance) if arriving before 8:30.



Before and after school care for 5th & 6th graders can be provided by

Adventure Club.

For more info call 865-6283.