

Clarkson Public Schools

Continuous Improvement Profile

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[Clarkson Public Schools Promotional Video](#)

Continuous Improvement Goal and Objectives

- I. Our MOTTO: *One School. One Team. One Goal.*
- II. Our MISSION: *To empower our students to be self-sufficient, socially responsible learners and conscientious, contributing citizens.*
- III. Our VISION: *To engage our students in authentic and positive educational experiences that will prepare students for a variety of lifelong endeavors, encourage collaboration, and cultivate curiosity.*
- IV. **Goals:** (Updated 3-6-24)
 - A. All Clarkson Public students will improve in the area of **reading comprehension** across Curriculum areas
 - B. All Clarkson Public students will improve in the area of **vocabulary** across Curriculum areas.
 - C. To advance communication and engagement with all stakeholders to foster the development of Clarkson Public School's students.
- V. **Objectives:**
 - A. Teachers will implement pre-tests and post-tests for data collection and use explicit instruction of guaranteed vocabulary.
 - B. The school will utilize data from sources including Fastbridge to develop MTSS and CTE student supports, revise Title 1 interventions, and establish SOC compliance measures.
 - C. Improved transparency and communication between the school board, administration, staff, and stakeholders.

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External Visitation Schedule

Day 1	
2:00-2:30	External team arrives at school; External team orientation
2:30-3:15	Opening Presentation
3:15-4:00	Tour of the facility
4:00-4:30	Teacher Interview
4:30-5:00	Work Time
5:00-5:30	Board Interview
5:30-6:00	Parent Panel Interview
6:00-7:00	Dinner and CIP Team Interview
Day 2	
7:45-8:30	External Team Work Time (Blue Barn and Bakery) – Follow up with CIP Team
8:30-9:00	Classroom Observation (elementary)
9:00-9:30	Classroom Observations (middle school)
9:30-10:00	Student Interview (split EL 2-6 and HS 7-12)
10:00-10:30	Classroom Observations (HS)
10:30-12:00	Work time
12:00-12:30	Lunch(Contact cooks about salad bar & subs?)
12:30-3:45	External Team Work Time
3:45-4:15	Exit Presentation

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Continuous Improvement Members

TEAM MEMBER	POSITION	REPRESENTING	CONTACT	DATE ASSIGNED
LEAD: Abby Gall	Third Grade	Elementary; Parent	agall@clarkson.esu7.org 402-892-3454	September 2021
Jennifer Kappel	Counselor	School Counselor; MTSS; Parent	jkappel@clarkson.esu7.org 402-892-3454	September 2011
Tami Sayers	4-6 Social Studies, 7th ELA	Middle School; MTSS; Parent	tsayers@clarkson.esu7.org 402-892-3454	September 2021
Lee Schneider	HS Principal	HS, MTSS; Administration; Parent	lschneider@clarkson.esu7.org 402-892-3454	September 2011
Caitlin Kabes	MS SPED/FCS	SPED/FCS	ckabes@clarkson.esu7.org 402-892-3454	September 2021

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Organization of the Steering Committee

Process

The Continuous Improvement Process (CIP) begins with the organization of the Steering Committee. Steering Committee meetings occur during staff in-service days, which are held monthly. The Steering Committee communicates with staff members as decisions are made.

Members

The Steering Committee includes five members (two long-term and three rotating positions). The team consists of one administrator, and all other members collectively represent PreK-12. In the future, we will look at morphing the MTSS and CIP committees into one larger committee for continuity.

Responsibilities

The Steering Committee's responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Advising Administration regarding
 - Calendar
 - Professional Development
 - Student Needs / Concerns
 - Staff Needs / Concerns
- Monitoring the progression of the CIP Process
- Monitoring and adjusting practices to ensure the success of goals
- Managing and maintaining the CIP Profile
- Organizing and managing student data
- Work with MTSS, CTE and other committees to provide transparency and communication

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Community Demographics

Location

Clarkson is located in Colfax County in northeast Nebraska, three miles west of the junction of Nebraska Highways 15 and 91. Clarkson lies 35 miles southeast of Norfolk, Neb.; 35 miles northeast of Columbus, Neb.; 85 miles northwest of Omaha, Neb.; and 90 miles northwest of Lincoln, Neb.

Local Economy

Basic economic activities in Clarkson include grain and livestock farming, nursery, and retail and wholesale sales.

County Government

Colfax County is governed by three county commissioners who are elected by popular vote to four-year terms. Colfax County belongs to the [Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District](#) along with 12 other counties.

Municipal Government

Clarkson, a second-class city, is governed by a mayor-council form of government who are elected to four-year terms.

Historical / Community Blog

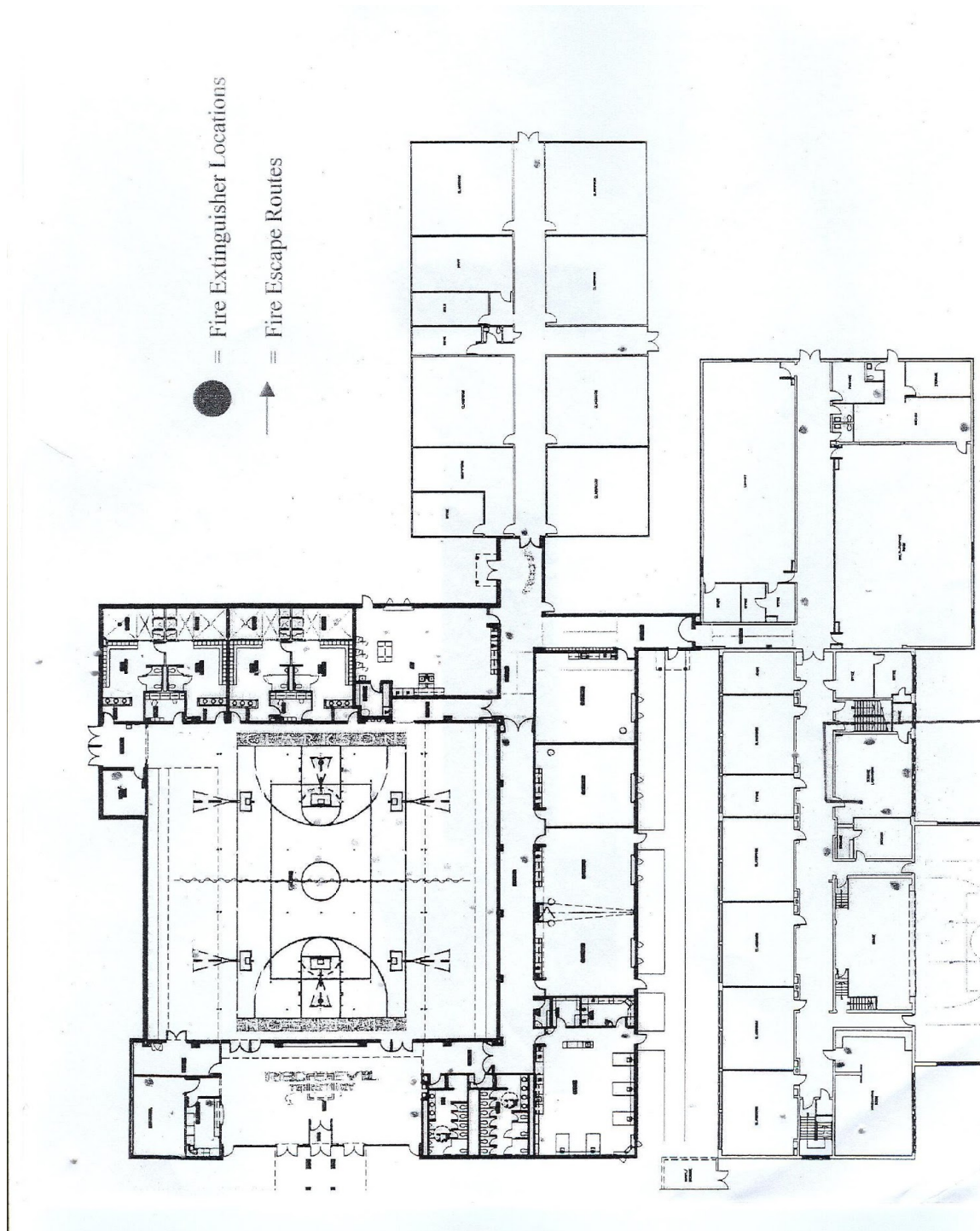
Clarkson is a unique ethnic community located in northeast Nebraska. Clarkson celebrates its Czech history with an annual Czech Days Festival each summer.

<https://clarksonhistory.wordpress.com/about/>

[About Clarkson, Nebraska | clarksonhistory](#)

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Clarkson Public School Map



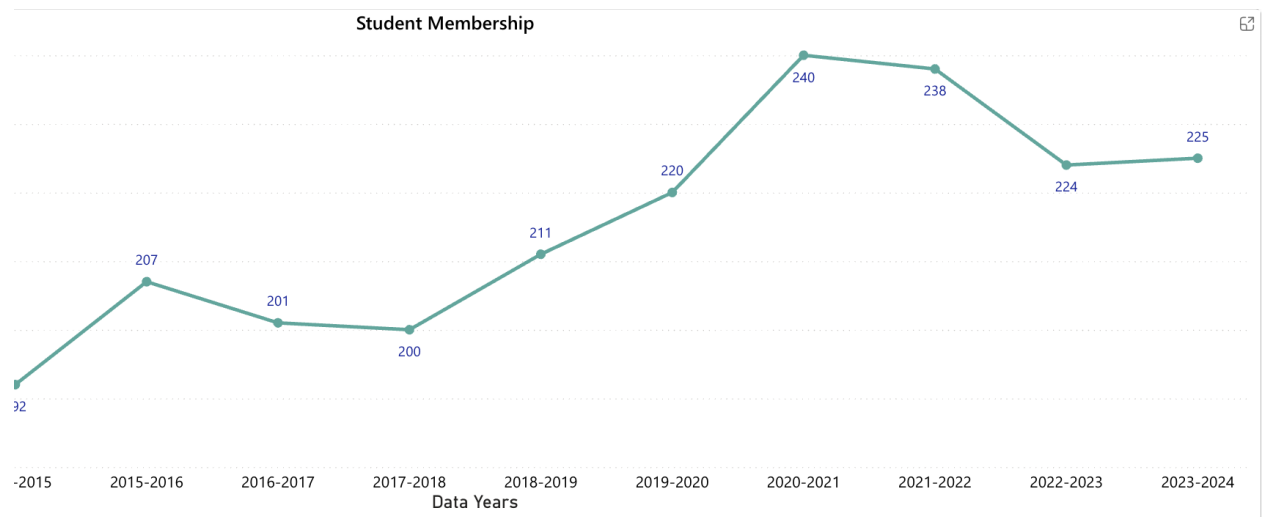
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District Organization

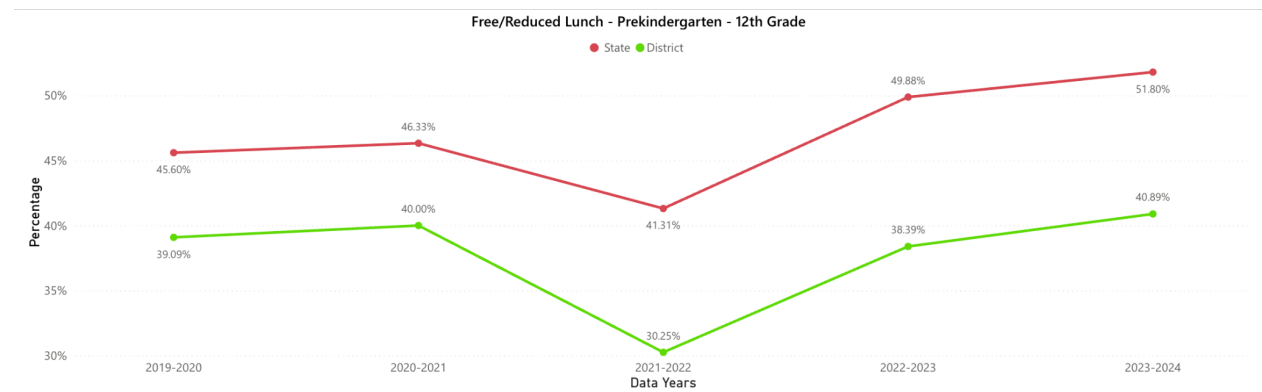
Grade Level	Staff Services	Students Served
Clarkson Public Schools	26 Certified Staff Members / 8 Paraeducators	All School-Aged Students Living in the District and Option Students from Area Districts
Saint John Neumann Catholic School	Preschool and First through Sixth Grade	All Students Opting to Enroll
Three-Year-Old Preschool	One Certified Staff / Paraeducator	All Students Opting to Enroll
Four-Year-Old Preschool	One Certified Staff / Paraeducator	All Students Opting to Enroll
Kindergarten	One Certified Staff / Paraeducator	All Students in the District (Kindergarten Not Offered at SJN)
First Grade	One Certified Staff / Part-Time Paraeducator	Public School Students Only
Second Grade	One Certified Staff / Part-Time Paraeducator	Public School Students Only
Third Grade	One Certified Staff/ Part-Time Paraeducator	Public School Students Only
Fourth through Sixth Grade	Four Certified Core Staff / Multiple Certified Elective Staff / Multiple Paraeducators	Public School Students Only
Seventh through Eighth Grade	Five Certified Core Staff / Multiple Certified Elective Staff / Multiple Paraeducators	All Students in the District
Ninth through Twelfth Grade	Thirteen Certified Staff / Multiple Paraeducators	All Students in the District
Ninth through Twelfth Grade Special Needs Program	One Certified	Students in the Special Needs Program

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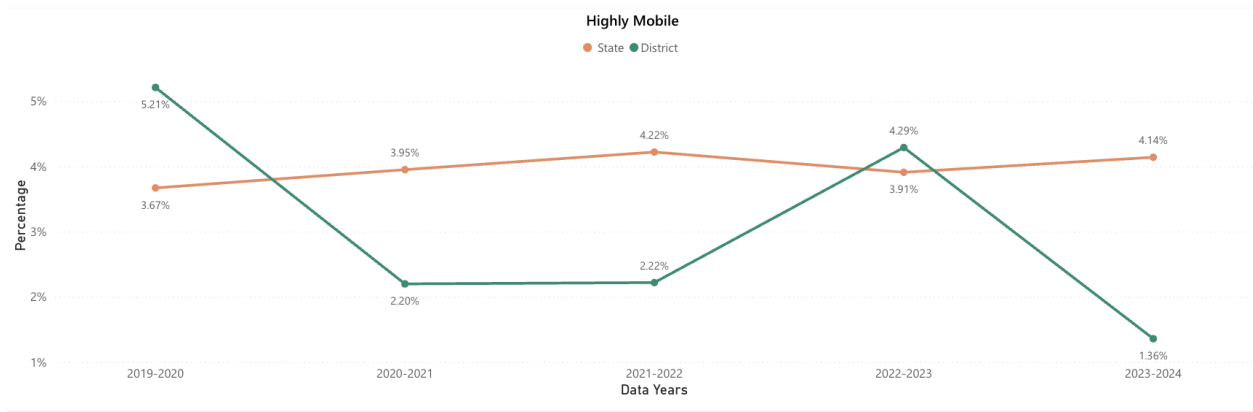
Student Demographics



Free and Reduced Qualification PreK-12



Student Mobility Rate PreK-12

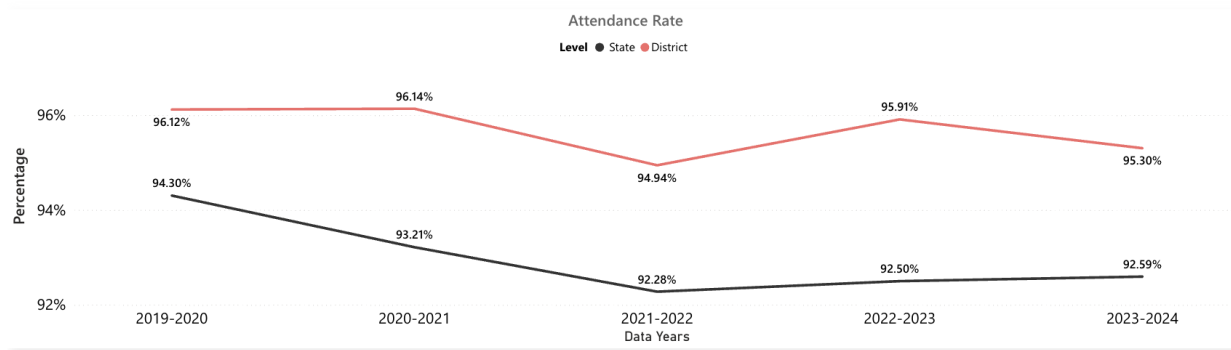


Attendance Rate PreK-12

Attendance Rate

What percentage of days do student attend school?

[Click Here for Data Definition](#)

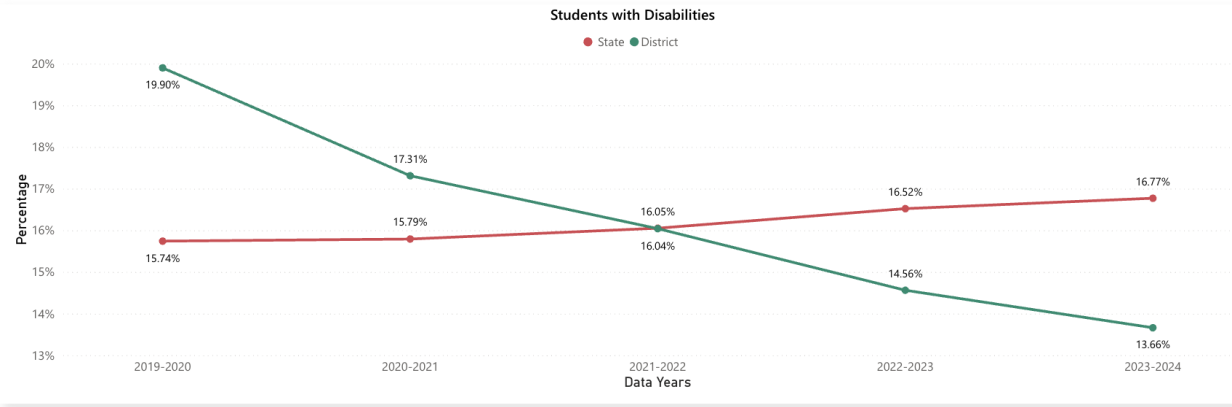


Special Education Percentage PreK-12

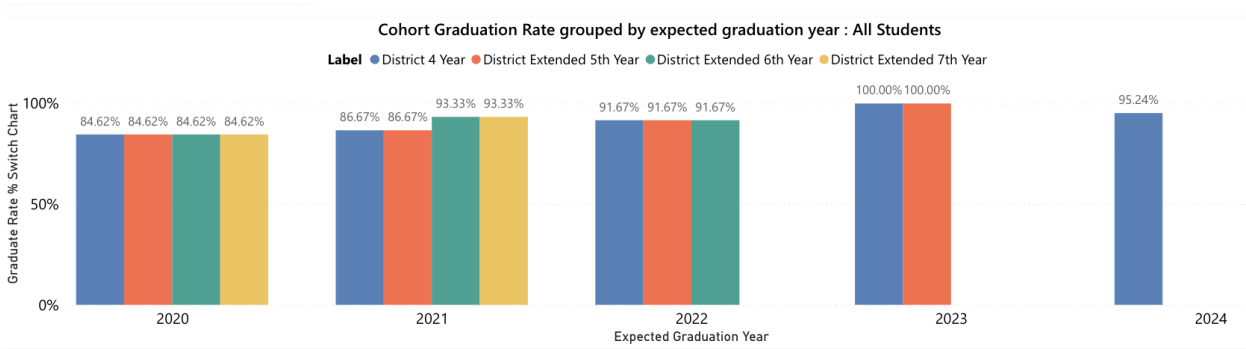
Students with Disabilities

What percentage of students receive special education services?

[Click Here for Data Definition](#)



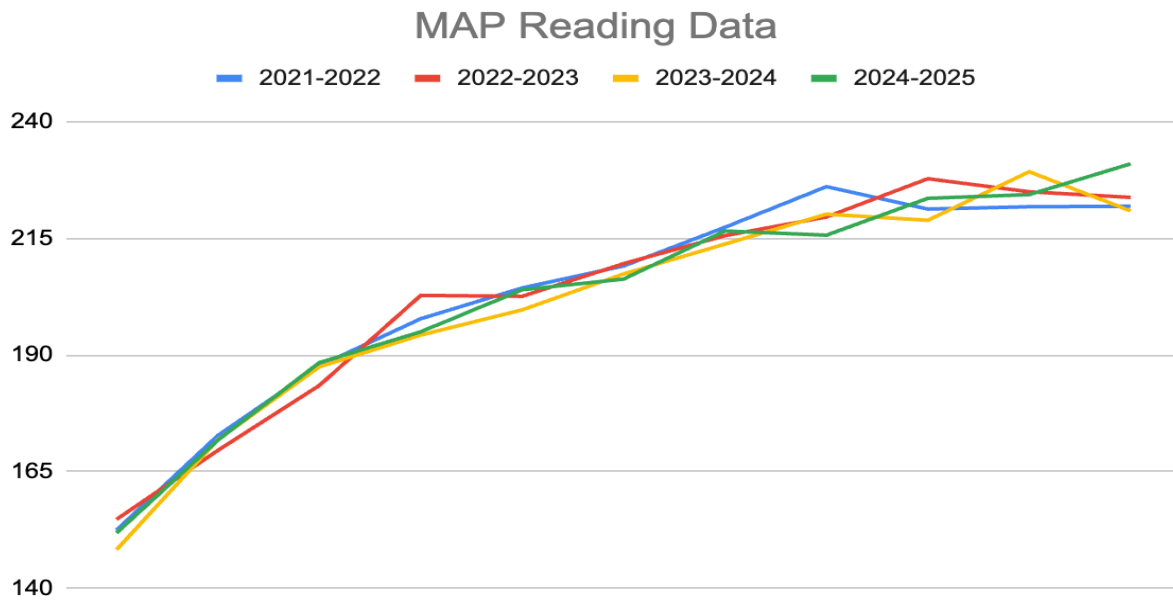
Graduation Rate



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Vocabulary Data

The vocabulary portion of the MAP Reading Test has been tracked since 2021.



Grade	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
K	152.5	154.8	148.3	151.9
1	172.8	169.6	171.9	171.8
2	187.7	183.5	187.5	188.4
3	197.8	202.8	194.3	195
4	204.4	202.6	199.7	204
5	209.1	209.6	207.4	206.3
6	217.4	215.6	213.8	216.6
7	226.1	219.6	220.2	215.7
8	221.3	227.8	218.9	223.6
9	221.8	225	229.3	224.4
10	221.9	223.8	220.9	231

Guaranteed Vocabulary for Teachers

Guaranteed vocabulary tests were created in the Fall of 2018, and pilot tests were administered in the Spring of 2019. Each teacher enters their data into the following spreadsheet. Currently, the teachers have three official data points (one of which was obtained during the COVID-19 pandemic in Spring 2020). We will continue to gather data each fall and spring to track the growth of our students' vocabulary knowledge.

[Link to K-12 Pre/Post-Test Data](#)

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Summative Testing Schedule

Data Source	Students Assessed	Time of Year	Data Format Collected
NWEA-MAP	Grades K-11	Fall Testing Spring Testing	Percentile Scores
NSCAS Math, Science, Reading	Grades 3-8	Spring Testing	Met / Not Met / Exceeds
ACT	Grade 11	Spring Testing	College & Career Readiness
STAR Math & Reading - Renaissance Learning	Grades 1-11	Fall Testing Mid-Year Testing Spring Testing	Percentile Scores
FastBridge Reading and Math	K-6	Fall/ per decision rules/ periodic progress monitoring	Criterion-based test
FastBridge SAEBRS	K-12	Fall / Winter	Is our SEBL screener to help identify potential SEL needs of students

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Extracurricular Programs

Program Offered	Grade Levels Included	Times of Year Offered
Football	7-12	Fall
Softball	9-12	Fall
Volleyball	7-12	Fall
Girls' and Boys' Basketball	7-12	Winter
Track	7-12	Spring
Wrestling	7-12	Winter
FCCLA	7-12	Year-Long
FBLA	9-12	Year-Long
FFA	7-12	Year-Long
Chorus	7-12	Year-Long
Speech	9-12	Winter/Spring
Band	5-12	Year-Long
One Act	9-12	Fall
Quiz Bowl	9-12	Spring
Girls' and Boys' Golf	9-12	Fall/Spring
Journalism	9-12	Year-Long

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Student Support Programs

Program	Grade Levels Included	Regulations
9th Period	Grades 7-12	Student grade below 70%— instruction from teachers to improve performance.
Title 1	K-6	Student Summative Scores are below the District Cut Off.
Patriot Enrichment Period (PEP)	4th-6th grade	A middle school enrichment and intervention period scheduled into the day. It allows for tier 1-4 instruction.
Patriot Period	Grades 7-12	Junior high and high school students spend 20 minutes daily with the same supervising teacher and peers. This time is available for homework help, interventions and club meetings.

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Action Plan for Vocabulary Goal

School Improvement Goal: Clarkson Public students will improve in the area of **vocabulary** across all curriculum areas.

Qualitative Data to Support Goal Selection: After struggling with finding math improvement support in the last CIP cycle, the team selected a goal that allowed for more comfort and familiarity with the content. Our exposure to Marzano's training reinforced that vocabulary is central to the learning process and must be prioritized for our next cycle. Vocabulary is cross-curricular, allowing all teachers to participate in the process.

Quantitative Data to Support Goal Selection: STAR Reading, MAP/NWEA, Classroom Pre/Post Vocabulary Tests

Action	Reasoning	Human Resources	Time Frame	Professional Development & Resource Needs
Identify Vocabulary as CIP Goal	Beginning of new CIP cycle. Vocabulary impacts all areas	Steering Committee	Fall 2016	
Create Portfolio	Beginning of new CIP cycle	Morfeld	Fall 2016 to Spring 2021	
Align Language Arts Curriculum	Old alignment was out of date	Language Arts Staff	Fall 2016	ESU Staff (B. Koliha & L. Plas)
Identify Guaranteed Vocabulary	Need for essential vocabulary	All Certified Staff	2016-2019	Marzano (Dr. Phil Warrick)
Form AQUESTT Teams	State Mandated	Lemburg	Fall 2016	Tenant Document: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/179h3EWWVMFkUAMXaDzs37iJeJ7t_vVLgPjgmNsXWdkl/edit#gid=48655117
Reframe Third Grade Schedule	Opened up LA positions, creating more	Lemburg	2016-2017 School Year	

	staffing opportunities			
Split 7th and 8th Grade Language Arts into Reading & English	Allow more intensive instruction in Language Arts	Lomburg	2016-2017 School Year	
Create Patriot Enrichment Period for Middle School (PEP)	Creates options for SPED interventions and HAL	Lomburg	2016-2017 School Year	
Align Math Curriculum	Old alignment was out of date	Math Staff	2017-2018	ESU Staff (M. Ostmeyer)
Update Reading Series (from Treasures to Wonders)	Newest series with a strong vocabulary emphasis	Elementary Staff	Summer 2018	
Implement Canvas for Grades 7-12	Increase student accountability. Prepare students for college learning management platforms.	High School Staff	Fall 2018	
Implement Wonderworks and FastBridge		Elementary Staff	Fall 2018	
Attend CIP Workshop at Northeast Community College		Steering Committee	September 24 & 25, 2018	
Update Math Series for grades 3-5 (from GoMath to Expressions)	K-2 has done Expressions since 2012-2013	Elementary Staff	2018-2019	
Document Guaranteed Vocabulary Lists	Have a central location for all vocabulary	All Certified Staff	2018-2019	By Grade: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zykzgNfF6sXq4ZtCwZM7ZVz8tDEFa

				3CuaqvRDfUbf9l/edit#gid=46340028 By Class: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jYrno1QhKml_o-3dv5ducP4oGoqIKFN7bGxx7R/edit#gid=46340028
Send Online Parent Survey	Gather data regarding AQUESTT tenets.	Steering Committee	February 2019	https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Rzj5QOmhrur4TW1bOBf2zUk3W73fbIhkUYFf1VPj2oE/edit#response=ACYDBNicAcPYTPd4mYoM7vJu4n6qa7dAT3pY5xf5MmaZSZzD
Pilot Vocabulary Pre/Post Test	Identify areas for revision before first test	All Certified Staff	Spring 2019	
Implement StudySync for Junior High Language Arts	Integrate technology to the junior high classroom as a transition from Wonders;	Sayers	Spring 2019	
Administer Vocabulary Pre-test	Get a baseline for data for growth	All Certified Staff	Fall 2019	
Create Vocabulary Pre/Post Test Spreadsheet	House vocabulary data in one document	Schneider	Fall 2019	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Z5ANmfjORqwmkLQeRHSJAmMfmHWk8UWraElL2arH0/edit#gid=1252813107

Enter Pre-Test Data	Document baseline data	All Certified Staff	Fall 2019	
Create MTSS Data Document	Document individual behavioral, academic, & RTI data in one document	MTSS Team	Fall 2019	
"Holy Grail" Data Document	House all vocabulary, MAP, NCSAS data as a collective data space.	MTSS Team	Fall 2019	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_8LMvHU3Z9YcQQty4x-MNTJMpXAEaLbgL1AD3ncSECs/edit#gid=0
NNNC Balance Assessment	Review MAP & NSCAS data	Sayers, Nemecek, Faltys, Schneider	October 7, 2019	
Revamp Reading Groups in Elementary		Elementary Staff	Fall 2019	Visit to Cross-County
Implement Patriot Period for Grades 7-12	Create relationships & more intentional advising opportunities	Lemburg	Fall 2019	
Align Social Studies	Out of date curriculum	Social Sciences Staff	January 2020	
Plan for Career Academy	Prepare students for careers with job shadowing	Kappel, Lemburg, Murren, Baumert	January 2020	Visit at Boone Central

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Professional Development

Action	Reasoning	Human Resources	Time Frame
AQuESTT Committees Formed	State Mandated	Clarkson Staff	2016-2017 School Year
Align Language Arts Curriculum	Old Alignment is Out of Date	Clarkson Staff	2016-2017 School Year
Marzano Vocabulary Workshop with Phil Warrick	To improve vocabulary instruction.	Certified Staff	January 8, 2016
Anita Archer vocabulary training	Strategies for Vocabulary Instruction	H. Clarkson, M. Nemecek	October 25, 2016
Align Math Curriculum	Old Alignment is Out of Date	Clarkson Staff	2017-2018 School Year
Teach Like a Pirate	Training for Student Engagement	All Certified Staff	August 14, 2018
Marzano Vocabulary Vocabulary with Phil Warrick	Continued Staff Support	All Certified Staff	August 2, 2018
Marzano Vocabulary Vocabulary with Phil Warrick	Continued Staff Support	All Certified Staff	August 28, 2018
Updating Reading series (from Treasures to Wonders) Training provided	Newest series, strong vocabulary emphasis	K-6 certified staff	Summer of 2018 January 17, 2019
Kagan Cooperative Learning	Increase student engagement and improve classroom discipline	L. Morfeld, T. Sayers, M. Nemecek, S. Becker, A. Dolezal, B. Cropp, A. Gall, S. Rolf	June 2018 June 2019
StudySync	Update 7th and 8th grade LA curriculum	Tami Sayers	August 2018
CIP Workshop at NECC	Collaboration and teamwork on current CIP updates	CIP Team	September 24 & 25, 2018
Kagan Win-Win Discipline (1 day)	Improve classroom discipline	L. Morfeld, M. Nemecek, A. Dolezal	October 2018

Vocabulary Engagement, Integration, and Differentiation Strategies with Amber Douhit	Strategies for Vocabulary Instruction	Elementary Staff	February 8, 2019
Marzano Vocabulary Workshop with Phil Warrick	To acclimate new staff to CPS vocabulary standards	New Staff	August 4, 2019
NNNC Balance Assessment	Reviewing MAP / NSCAS assessment data	L. Schneider., T. Sayers, M. Nemecek, A. Faltys	October 7, 2019
Align Social Studies Curriculum	Old Alignment is Out of Date	A. Faltys, B. McEvoy	January 2020
ESU Advanced Canvas Course (online)	Assistance with using Canvas	L. Morfeld, T. Sayers, J. Clarkson, T. Cooper, A. Dolezal	May 8, 2020

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Student Opportunities

Action (Activities)	Reasoning	Human Resources (Who)	Time Frame (Target Dates of Completion)	Professional Development & Resource needs	(When/How Progress will be measured/eva luated)
ACT Writing Pilot school	Student writing preparation	L. Morfeld, A. Dolezal, B. McEvoy, J. Kappel, L. Schneider, K. Heimann	Fall 2018 results received Spring 2019		
Implement Patriot Period for Grades 7-12	Create relationships and more intentional advising opportunities	R. Lemburg	Fall 2019		
Life Skills House	Offer additional support for high needs students	K. Heimann	Fall 2019	Continued support of daily life skills with incorporation of math and reading skills	
Patriot Academy summer school program	1st-6th grade students provide additional academic support and enrichment	M. Nemecek, B. Becker, S. Becker, T. Sayers, A. Faltys, C. Greene, B. Cropp, B. Kudera, T. Baumert, J. Stodola, N. Holoubek	3 week window, Monday-Thursday in July - 2018, 2019		Informal parent feedback, attendance and participation numbers
Career Academy	Career exposure and immersion experiences	Career ed teachers, administration, counselor, all staff	Begin roll-out 4th quarter 2020; ongoing process	Boone Central, Sutton Public Schools, NDE, Otis	Student, parent, staff survey
Reid's Story - Mark & Joni Adler presentation for	Suicide Awareness and Social Media	Lenburg, Schneider, Stanton Public School	Fall	Mark & Joni Adler	

7th-12th grade					
Karen Hasse	Digital Citizenship	Lemburg, Schneider	November 1, 2018	Karen Hasse	
Career Day Health Care	Provide career exposure based on student interests	J. Kappel, 9th-12th students	October 10, 2017	CCC instructors, Health Career businesses & employees	Student post surveys
Career Day Manufacturing	Provide career exposure based on student interests	J. Kappel, D. Bailey, 9th-12th students	October 9, 2018	CCC instructors, Manufacturing businesses & employees	Student post surveys
Building Healthy Relationship Groups	Preventative measures for relationship building	Tlali from Center for Survivors	2019-2020 school year	Tlali meets with students 1 time a week for 10 weeks	Session reflection
Patriot of Valor	Positive recognition	Staff nominates a student	Monthly 2019-2020		Documented on Google Sheets
Patriot Pals	Mentoring opportunities provided by high school students to younger students	Students	2017-present		
Create Patriot Enrichment Period for Middle School (PEP)	Creates options for SPED interventions and HAL	Lemburg	2016-2017 School Year		
College Representatives & experiences	college awareness activities	8th - 12th grade; J. Kappel, administration	On-going yearly experiences		
Financial Aid meeting	Educating students on aid available for post secondary education	Education Quest	Yearly		

Real World Money		4-H extension; M. Murren, J. Kappel			
Connecting the Dots		J. Kappel			

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Next Steps

Action	Reasoning	Human Resources	Time Frame	Results	Next Steps
Continue Vocabulary Goal	Staff are now comfortable with the goal and data gathering; continue to gather data	CIP team and all staff	2021-2026		Continue vocabulary professional development and review data
Improve communication with staff and stakeholders through Google site	Improve continuous communication with staff about CIP progress and actions	CIP team	2021-2026		Continued development and updating of site
Continue to strengthen MTSS	Examine merging components of CIP and MTSS	CIP and MTSS teams	Continue into next CIP cycle		Continue data collection, behavior plan usage and social emotional efforts

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