

The Red Review

2024-2025 October Vol. 2

clarksonpublicschools.org

From the Superintendent's Desk

By Rich Lemburg

In October, I always like to talk about our Clarkson Public Schools Career Academy. Our Career Academy is set up with the goal of getting our junior and senior students out in the work world to look at different career fields to explore professions they are interested in after high school or college.

During the student's junior year, the goal is to provide job shadowing opportunities. The students do shorter more wide-ranging visits to different jobs to gauge their interest and learn information on different fields and professions. This helps us to narrow down the preferences for their senior year.

During the student's senior year, the goal is to have the students build connections and get opportunities to set up possible paid internships for their 2nd semester. Seniors also have the option to go to "Fridays at Northeast" where they take classes through NECC on Fridays and work on their certifications in the area of their interests.

This is the 6th year of the Career Academy program and it continues to grow and give our CPS students some great and unique opportunities. We have been fortunate to have Brandy Thompson, an ESU 7 Professional Staff Developer, to help us to continue to build our program.

While a principal, Brandy ran a similar program at Sutton Public Schools which she developed to be one of the premier Career Academy programs in the state of Nebraska. She has been a great resource as we continue to build our Career Academy Program.

There are three main goals of the Clarkson Public Schools Career Academy, the first is to allow students to get hands-on-experiences in different career fields so they have an idea on the career path before starting college. It helps students to find a program of study and not pay for unneeded classes while finding a major/career path in college.

Second, the students are also getting the opportunities to develop relationships with people in their prospective field and to gain knowledge and skills which will set them ahead in the chosen profession down the line.

The third goal is to show students there are careers which will allow them to stay in Clarkson and raise their family in a small family-oriented community. We need to work to keep young families in our community and help maintain the Clarkson community.

News from the Principal

By Lee Schneider

As we move into the heart of fall, it's been an exciting and busy time at Clarkson Public Schools! Our fall sports teams have been working hard and showing great determination on the field, court, and course. The athletes and coaches have displayed incredible teamwork, and we've seen our students give their best effort in every game and competition. Whether it's football, volleyball, softball, or girls' golf, our athletes are making us proud, and the school spirit of students, parents, and the community has made it great to be a part of PATS NATION!

In addition to our athletic successes, we've had some fantastic opportunities for our students through work-based learning experiences. The highlight of the fall so far is that on September 25th, we got our entire 7th-12th grade students out to different work-based experiences, totaling over 580 different experiences in ONE DAY!! Our 10th-12th grades went to the Hwy 91 career fair, which rotates, and was at Humphrey High School this year. Shout out to Mrs. Kappel as she helps spearhead this incredible event!! We also took 7th-8th graders to Wayne State College for a campus visit, and Freshmen traveled around Columbus to various business tours!! What a day!!!!

As we reflect on the first part of the school year, I want to express my gratitude for the positive energy that has filled our hallways. The enthusiasm and hard work of our students, staff, and community have set a positive tone for what's to come, and we look forward to continuing this great momentum throughout the rest of the school year!

Go Pats!!

The Red Review is a monthly publication of the
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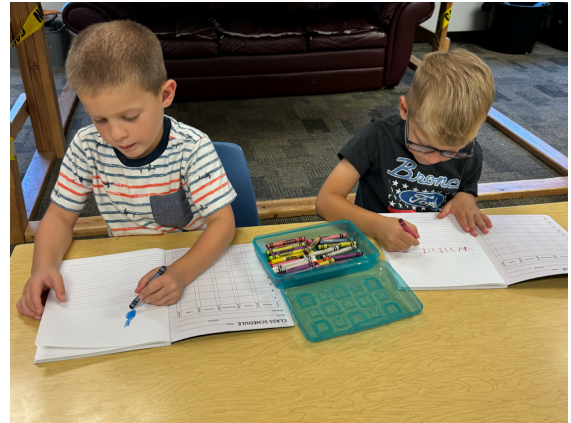
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Kindergarten News

By Breanna Ruwe

It's been a wonderful start to our school year, filled with exciting explorations in kindergarten! The class has loved spending time on the hill and in the garden, where we've shared fun adventures—and snack time in the garden is always a highlight! The kindergartners have been eagerly building their reading skills by focusing on letters and sounds. In math, we've been practicing counting, recognizing numbers, and even subitizing—quickly recognizing numbers at a glance. Along the way, we've also been learning essential social skills like sharing, taking turns, and following classroom rules, all helping us create a positive and joyful learning environment! I'm eager to see all the growth and learning we'll experience together throughout the year!



August/September Math

By Tony Horacek

We had to get a lot of testing done in August and September and we are glad to be done with that until the next round. Many of the students will probably not admit it, but I am sure they are glad to be done with testing and settled into getting to do math every day. Algebra I is learning to solve algebraic equations, Geometry just finished learning about polygons, polyhedrons and transformations, Algebra II is working on solving 2 and 3 variable systems.

Third Grade

By Abby Gall

Since we have dove into the first full month of school, I'm excited to share some important updates regarding the most important Patriots in all of Clarkson. :)

This month, the 3rd graders participated in the Measures of Academic Progress (MAPS) testing. This assessment helps me gauge each child's current knowledge and skills in reading, math, language arts, and science. The results helped me guide our instruction. We were ready to dive into multiplication! They were super excited to learn how to use different strategies to multiply. Some of their favorites include creating equal groups, using a number line, skip counting and drawing arrays.

In science, we learned about how fossil dinosaur tracks reveal how quickly a dinosaur could run. In the activity, Can You Outrun a Dinosaur?, students figure out if they could have won a race with a dinosaur that was just about their size. To determine the winner, the third graders had to compare the length of eight of their running steps with eight of the dinosaur's steps. We had a blast and let it be known, these kiddos are fast!

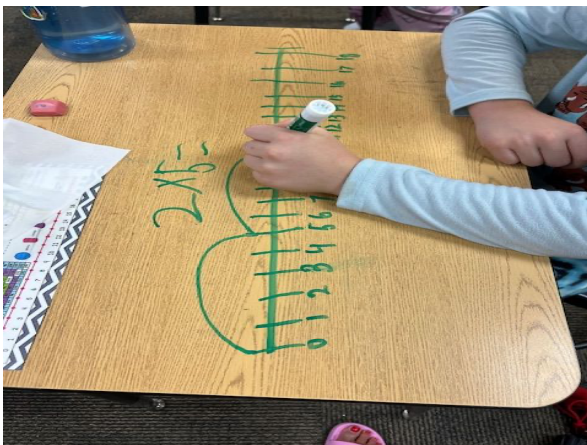
In 3rd Grade Social Studies, we have been focusing on our community. Our Essential Question is "Where is my community and what is it like?" We have discussed the characteristics of what makes Clarkson a rural community and a fantastic place for us to be raised. However, we would like to hear from YOU!!

-Why do you think people choose to live in Clarkson/Clarkson area?

-How do the features of Clarkson affect life in our community?

I, of course, have gone over some ideas with them but I am hoping we could get some more perspectives from other people.

Why do YOU live in Clarkson? Let us know! Email me at agall@clarkson.esu7.org



September is College Savings Month - Consider a 529 Plan - EducationQuest blog

Written by Rachel Biar, Director, NEST 529 Education Savings, Nebraska State Treasurer's Office, and Donna Crownover, Vice President 529 Relationship Management, Union Bank and Trust.

Did you know that students with savings accounts are three times more likely to go to college? Have you often thought about how you will pay for your child's higher education? Together, we can help you plan for a loved one's future success!

As we celebrate College Savings Month, we hope you will take the opportunity to sit down with your children to discuss how a 529 education savings plan can help in reaching your goals.

Why Invest in a 529 Education Savings Plan?

529 plans were created to help parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends save for a child's future education costs. 529 plans are tax-advantaged savings plans for higher education and can be used at accredited colleges and universities across the nation. Funds are eligible at most private and public two-year or four-year technical, trade, vocational, graduate, or professional schools as well as qualified apprenticeship programs.

529 plans are one of the few savings options specifically dedicated to helping families achieve their higher education goals. While you may not know what your child's future has in store, a little planning today goes a long way toward future success. Invest in your child's future today so they can soar toward their goals tomorrow.

What are the benefits of the NEST 529 Education Savings Plans?

NEST 529 Education Savings Plans are Nebraska's 529 Plans. With a NEST 529 Education Savings account, families can invest in their loved ones' education and have the benefit of tax advantages, flexible contribution options, and a wide range of investment choices.

Whether it's for college, trade school, or vocational programs, a NEST 529 account can help. There is no minimum deposit to get started, and opening an account is simple and can be completed online in just 10 minutes! Once you've set up your account, you can manage your account transactions online and invite friends and family to easily contribute to your account through the gifting platform.

Who qualifies for the tax benefit?

The money in a 529 plan grows free from federal income tax, and withdrawals remain tax-free when used for qualified expenses. Additionally, Account Owners in Nebraska may be eligible for an annual state income tax deduction of up to \$10,000 for NEST 529 contributions or \$5,000 if married filing separately.

What is the Meadowlark Savings Pledge?

The State of Nebraska is also helping to support college savings goals with the Meadowlark Savings Pledge which gives eligible Nebraska newborns a one-time \$50 contribution to a NEST account for education expenses when the time comes.

Do You Have 529 Questions? We Have Answers

Meet Penny, NEST 529's very own college savings advocate! She's here to answer all your savings questions, explain 529 plans, and help you set your loved ones up for bright, successful futures. Check out the [Ask Penny video series!](#)

Visit [NEST529.com](https://www.nest529.com) to read more about the benefits of a NEST 529 Education Savings Plan.

FAFSA: New High School Graduation Requirement

What is the new state law?

Starting with the class of 2025, Nebraska law requires all public high school students to complete and submit a FAFSA (or actively opt out) as a graduation requirement. This is known as Universal FAFSA.

Why does this law exist?

Universal FAFSA ensures that all Nebraska seniors complete the FAFSA, unlocking federal financial aid and encouraging them to consider further education beyond high school.

Why is completing the FAFSA a graduation requirement?

Completing the FAFSA informs students about their financial aid options, enabling them to make smarter decisions about their post-secondary education.

How will this benefit Nebraska students?

In 2022, half of Nebraska graduates didn't file the FAFSA, missing out on an estimated \$23 million in aid. This initiative helps reach the goal of 70% of Nebraskans earning a diploma, degree, or industry credential by 2030.

Where can I direct questions about Universal FAFSA?

Contact the Nebraska Department of Education:
<https://www.education.ne.gov/fafsa>

How to Create a Federal Student Aid Account (FSA ID)

Before you complete the FAFSA, you and the parent(s) who provided the most financial support will need to create FSA IDs. They must be verified by the Social Security Administration, which can take up to 3 days.

Follow these steps:

1. Go to studentaid.gov and click on Create Account.
2. Enter personal information.
 - Legal name, date of birth, Social Security Number.
 - Email address, mailing address, mobile phone number.
 - Both you and a parent will need individual email accounts. Don't use a high school email account.
3. Answer challenge questions. Select answers that are easy to remember and won't change over time.
4. Enter validation codes to confirm your mobile number and email, or set up the Authenticator App.
5. Save your information.

Student Username: _____

Password: _____

Backup Code: _____

Parent Username: _____

Password: _____

Backup Code: _____


EducationQuest
FOUNDATION
[EducationQuest.org](https://www.educationquest.org)

Omaha
402.391.4033

Kearney
308.234.6310

Lincoln
402.475.5222

Scottsbluff
308.708.7199

ATTENTION SENIORS PARENTS!

Honor your high school graduate with a Senior Tribute in the yearbook. The 1/8 page size will be \$15 and the 1/4 page size will be \$20. If you want a certain layout for your child please let me know.

Samples:



Families have until Thanksgiving break to buy a senior tribute in the back of the yearbook. Please send the following if interested:

1. \$15 or \$20 (payable to CLARKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL).
2. Baby picture of your child.
3. A short message of congratulations and encouragement.
4. 1-4 senior pictures (can be the same ones submitted for the papers)

Again, we must have all the pictures BEFORE THANKSGIVING BREAK! Thank you for your cooperation! If you have any questions, feel free to email me at ssedlacek@clarkson.esu7.org or call me at the school at (402) 892-3454.

ATTENTION SENIORS!

We need your senior pictures

The journalism staff is responsible for collecting photos for the yearbook and newspapers. (If we do not receive your pictures, digital solutions will be used.)

WE NEED THE FOLLOWING:

1. Headshot for the senior page of the yearbook.
2. Baby picture for the senior page of the yearbook.
3. Headshot for Colfax County Press.
4. Headshot to be used for BOTH the Columbus Telegram and the alumni board in the lobby.

A headshot is a **vertical** photograph of just the **head and shoulders**. Pictures of the entire body are too far away to be used. Please make sure they are school appropriate as well.



Please **LABEL** your photos with your name and what you want them to be used for. Pictures can be mailed, hand-delivered, or emailed to me at ssedlacek@clarkson.esu7.org.

Emailed is preferred.

Physical Education

By Jim Clarkson

September has been a fantastic month in the Physical Education world. Our Freshmen are getting ready to play for a class Volleyball Championship, intense stuff! Our Seniors had a great unit on yard games. Korbin Lemburg and Nile Jones took down the rest in a great tournament of Bocce Ball and Korbin also flexed his tailgate muscle by winning, along with Emma Gall, the cornhole tournament. Lots of competitive matches, it was some really good stuff.

We have seen some good gains in the strength classes, would love to see more students in those classes but the ones we have are really getting swole! In the Elementary we did some volleyball skills which is always fun, I tried to emphasize that volleyball is a really good life long sport. Judging by all the adult leagues in the area I am pretty sure I am right. Have a great Fall and always remember life is a bracket, you just have to survive and advance!





September

2024

What is JAG Nebraska?

In 2019, Nebraska became one of 39 states affiliated with the national organization Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG). Supported by United Way of the Midlands in collaboration with state agencies and participating school districts, JAG Nebraska helps students overcome challenges to achieve personal and career success after high school.

Mission and Vision

JAG MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering Nebraska's young people with the skills and support to succeed in education, employment and life.

THE JAG VISION

We believe that students can accomplish extraordinary accomplishments once they realize the future relevance of what they're learning and that young people will exceed expectations when challenged.

September Happenings

Clarkson JAG students have been busy finishing up unit 1 learning all about what is JAG Nebraska and have started on unit 2, focusing on leadership. This unit includes campaigning for officer positions within our JAG program, learning the proper way to debate, and introduced civic engagement. Students have been attending local board meetings, have taken a college visit to UNK and had guest speakers Sgt. Dawley from the Air Force and Carter Hanel from the NMC CAT program in to share about the opportunities they offer students post high school.



Carter Hanel
NMC CAT Program



Sgt. Dawley
Air Force



UNK College Visit



Rural Fire Board Meeting



CPS School Board Meeting



Clarkson Future Fund Meeting

Clarkson Public School Happenings

(Schedule Subject to Change)

Tuesday, October 1st – Girls Golf dual at Leigh 1:30 pm

SB at Fort Calhoun 3:30 pm

C/JV/V VB vs. Archbishop Bergan at Clarkson, 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm Parent's night for VB, Girls Golf, & Cheerleading (Game on 107.9 The Bull)

JAG Wayne State College visit

Wednesday, October 2nd – 10:00 late start (Teacher In-Service) No morning preschool classes

Thursday, October 3rd – C/JV VB triangular vs. H-D & Archbishop Bergan at Clarkson 5:30 pm

Friday, October 4th – Var. FB vs. Humphrey/LHF at Humphrey 7:00 pm (Game on KKOT 93.5)

Saturday, October 5th – Girls Golf tournament at Oakland 9:00 am

Var. VB Patriot tournament at Leigh 9:00 am

Monday, October 7th – SB Sub districts, TBA

JH/JV FB vs. Howells-Dodge at Howells 4:30/6:00 pm

JH VB vs. Howells-Dodge at Clarkson 6:00 pm

C/JV VB quad at Wisner-Pilger 6:00 pm

Tuesday, October 8th – Girls Golf districts in Oakland 9:00 am

JAG UNO visit

Var. VB triangular vs LHNE & Plainview at Lutheran High NE 5:00 pm

Wednesday, October 9th – FFA Livestock judging contest in Leigh

NHS Blood Drive 10:30-4:30 pm

School board meeting in school library 6:00 pm

Thursday, October 10th – C/JV/V VB vs. Humphrey Archangels at Leigh 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm (Game on KKOT 93.5)

Friday, October 11th – FCCLA Leadership conference at Columbus

Var. FB at St. Edward 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 12th – FFA Feed the Farmer 10:00 am

Monday, October 14th – FCCLA leadership workshop at WSC

JH/JV FB at David City 4:30/6:00 pm

JH VB triangular vs. Stanton & Humphrey Archangels at Stanton 5:00 pm

Tuesday, October 15th – Career day for sophomores at WSC

Wednesday, October 16th – SB State Championships in Hastings

Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:30-7:30 pm

Thursday, October 17th – ASVAB testing for Juniors

Var. VB Conference Tournament, TBA

SB State Championships in Hastings

Friday, October 18th – SB State Championships in Hastings

Var. FB vs David City at Clarkson 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 19th – Var. VB Conference Tournament at Lyons

Monday, October 21st – SB State Championship Final in Omaha

Public bond meeting 7:00 pm in new gym

Tuesday, October 22nd – JV/V VB at Oakland 6:00/7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 23rd – National FFA Convention begins

JAG Northeast Community College visit

Thursday, October 24th – JAG officers leadership development day

FB Playoffs 1st round

Friday, October 25th – NO School

Monday, October 28th – Wednesday, October 30th - Var. VB Subdistricts, TBA

News from the Cafeteria

By Sarah Koliha

We have finished our first 6-week menu cycle!!! Some meals are a keeper and some not so much. As we continue to add new items to the menu and try new things we would like to let families know that we have started a "Smart Snack Cart". It has items like fruit snacks, cereal bars, Grandma Cookies & potato chips. Every item has to be approved by the state in order for us to sell to students. The price ranges from 50¢ to \$1.50. If you do not want your child/children charging please remind them that it is their responsibility to remember that. Staff do not have the access to remember who can & cannot charge off their account. Students are more than welcome to purchase the items with cash if they choose to. Any questions feel free to contact skoliha@clarkson.esu7.org

October 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 1	1st B-Biscuits & Gravy L-Tater Tot Casserole Green Beans, Cinnamon Roll Peaches	2nd B-10:00 Late Start NO BREAKFAST L- Sub Sandwich Chips & Cheese, Cookie & Fruit Cup	3rd B-Ham, Egg & Cheese Croissant L-Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Broccoli, Garlic Bread Mandarin Oranges	4th B- Clarkson Bakery L-BBQ Pork Sandwich Tri Tater Watermelon
	7th B-Tornado L- Fish Sticks Mac & Cheese Pineapple & Pudding	8th B-Yogurt parfait L-Breaded Chicken Patty on a Bun Tri Taters Rosy Applesauce	9th B-Breakfast Pizza L-Meatball Subs Carrots Peaches	10th B-Scrambled Eggs & Sausage Links L-Oriental Chicken, Brown Rice Mixed Veggies Corn Bread & Banana
WEEK 2	11th B-Uncrustable L- Chicken Salad or Deli Wrap Potato Chips Cake w/ Frosting Tropical Fruit	14th B-French Toast Sticks & Ham L-Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Biscuit & Applesauce	15th B-Clarkson Bakery L-Crispitos Cheese Sauce, Corn Cinnamon Churro & Fruit Cup	16th B-Muffins L-Hot Dog on a Bun Smiley Fries, Jello & Fruit Cocktail
WEEK 3	17th B-Bagel & Cream Cheese L- Ham & Cheese Sandwich Potato Chips Cookie & Pears	18th B-Breakfast Round L-Chicken Alfredo Casserole, Mixed Veggies, Garlic Bread, Orange Slices	21st B-Omelet & Tri Tater L- Chicken Nuggets, Green Beans, Donut & Mandarin Oranges	22nd B- Combos L-Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Circle Hashbrowns Applesauce
WEEK 4	23rd B-Cereal L-Brat on a Bun Baked Beans Bar & Pineapple	24th B-Breakfast Burrito L- Grilled Cheese or Tuna Salad Sandwich Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup Jello & Fruit Cup	25th NO SCHOOL!!	
WEEK 5	28th B-Donut L- Chicken Fried Steak, Baked Potato, Dinner Roll & Peaches	29th B-Muffins L-Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Curly Fries Pudding Tropical Fruit	30th B-Biscuits & Gravy L-Soft Tacos, Refried Beans, Cinnamon Churro Strawberry & Bananas	31st B-Pancakes & Sausage L-Personal Pan Pizza Corn Orange Applesauce & Fruit Cup

Menu is subject to change

Fruit Bar & Milk Served with Lunch Meal

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Clarkson Public Schools
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Clarkson NE 68629

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