



Clarkston

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Experience. Learning. Together.

1294 Chestnut ♦ PO Box 70 ♦ Clarkston, WA 99403-0070
PH: 509.758.2531 ♦ www.csdk12.org

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✓ Dates to Remember:

May-June

- **May 2-4:** Highland & Parkway 6th Graders to Camp Wooten
- **May 4-6:** Heights & Grantham 6th Graders to Camp Wooten
- **May 6:** Highland 6th Grade Presidential Luncheon
- **May 9:** Grantham Book Fair / Carnival / Family Night, 5:30-7:30PM
- **May 10:** All district Kinder Karnival, 5:30-6:30PM at Grantham Elementary
- **May 17:** Grantham 6th Grade Presidential Scholars Luncheon, 12:00PM, Clarkston Country Club
- **May 19:** 6th Grade Massed Band Concert, CHS Auditorium, 7:00PM

- **May 19:** Grantham 3rd Grade Public Works Expo, 10:00AM - 2:00PM, Asotin County Fairgrounds
- **May 21:** Grantham Marimba Band plays for CHS 1951 Class Reunion, 5:00PM, Quality Inn
- **May 23:** Grantham to the Aquatic Center, 12:30-2:30PM
- **May 24:** All elementary track meet at CHS, 9:00AM
- **May 25:** Grantham All School Music Concert, 7:00PM, CHS Auditorium
- **May 26:** Grantham Elementary NAIA Team/School BBQ, Lunch time
- **May 30:** NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day
- **May 31:** Highland at Asotin County Aquatic Center, 12:30-2:30PM

- **Jun. 1:** Heights Fun Day, Aquatic Center
- **Jun. 1:** Grantham GAP Performance, 6:30PM, CHS Auditorium
- **Jun. 2:** Heights Elementary Family BBQ
- **Jun. 2:** Grantham Outdoor Film Night, Grantham Playground
- **Jun. 3:** Last day of school, Early release at 12:00 PM
- **Jun. 4:** Clarkston High School Graduation Ceremony at Lewis-Clark State College Activity Center, 7:30 PM
- **August 30th** is the first day of school for the 2016-17 year!



Clarkston calendar online

SCAN ME!

Make sure to visit the CSD website for a detailed calendar and a full listing of school and district events at www.csdk12.org.

Inside Clarkston Schools

with Superintendent Tim Winter

May 10th Kinder Karnival

Find out what is in store next year for your future kindergartener at the Clarkston Kinder Karnival.

Countdown to End of School

Each of our schools have TONS of activities taking place each week from now until the last day of school on June 3rd. Check out our online calendar or call your school office.

#theClarkstonStory

The final chapter of **#theClarkstonStory** in 2016-17 is "Beyond High School." Learn more and get involved at www.csdk12.org.

We

are quickly approaching the end of another school year. In 2015-2016, our schools have received state and national recognition in academics, activities and athletics. Great staff and great students working together to achieve great things!

As we prepare for another group of seniors to graduate on June 4th, we think about the influence the entire district has had on these seniors. The success of their journeys from kindergarten to high school graduation has a lot to do with the over 400 staff members in our district, who in one way or another, have impacted the lives of our students and our community in a positive way.

In this newsletter, we get the opportunity to hear from three of these graduating seniors who share with us their learning experiences as students in our district. There are many stories of our soon to be graduates who have grown together and as individuals, and will take what they have learned and apply it to the next adventure in their lives.



In the Headlines...

Want to read more? Visit our website at www.csdk12.org to view full stories, or contact our Communications Department at 509.544.5787 to request a copy of an article.

Experience. Learning. Together.



Experience.

Written by Ethan Smith

When I came to Clarkston High School my freshman year, I couldn't be more excited to be a part of the fantastic arts programs that I had heard so much about. I was received into Jazz Choir that year and Wind Ensemble my Sophomore year. I was so privileged to work with these experienced musicians who helped me from day one to become better. That is when I

realized: these kids are a family. They work so hard to prepare the art that they love, and they help each other to do the same. It is the same today, three years later.

I joined CHS Drama Club the minute I stepped into the school halls, ecstatic to start on the first production of the year. But to my dismay, I was told the bad news: long time Theatre Director, Peter Torgerson, had retired, and there still was no replacement, so there may not be any productions this year. 2013 Senior, Becci Tank, and I convinced substitute Janessa Klaveano to take over the program that year, and Alumni Kyle Rustebakke the year after that. The Spring Musical that year was Monty Python's *Spamalot*, and we filled the auditorium. (A feat not seen since Fred Dole put on Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*.) Larry Goodwin replaced Kyle the next year, when he moved to follow this dreams. He is now our current director, and Alumni Becci Tank is our Assistant Director and Choreographer.



Through those transitions between directors, I have been placed in leadership positions I never would have had in high school. I watched as students came together to fight for the art they breathe and share that passion with others. The Drama Club has grown immensely and it is only going to get bigger. So, if you want to see dedication and true art, go watch these kids rehearse every day after school, spending three hours in a dance or vocal rehearsal to bring something to life for their community. That's why the arts in school is so essential. It is about giving back while still doing what you love. Learning life skills and lessons for a truly remarkable experience. CHS Drama's next production, *Big Fish*, runs April 28-May 7.



Learning.

Written By Pierce Claassen

prepare students for their life after high school. This style of teaching with a positive attitude and an integrated life-lesson is a precedent respected by all district employees.

My knowledge base began with a foundation constructed by many of my teachers. The knowledge they have of their particular subjects is outstanding, but nothing can compare to the value of the real-world advice they have to share. It is their advice and support that has further strengthened the foundation they helped build in me, making me a well-rounded young adult. The personal relationships that many teachers seek to create with their students aid in this process. I know that a personal connection between teachers and students leads to a better education. Thankfully, the Clarkston School District has an array

of teachers who love to spend time with their classes to share their thoughts, and become the valuable resource that every student needs to succeed.

My future has been brightened due to the mentorship and opportunities I have had during my public education. I would like to show appreciation to my teachers. With their confidence in me as a student, I am grateful to say that I am one of the Clarkston High School Valedictorians for the class of 2016. Next year I will be studying biochemistry through the Washington State University Honors College. The knowledge and skillset that I have acquired throughout my education in the Clarkston School District have assured me that I can achieve anything I set my mind to.

Opportunities are never scarce for someone who is privileged enough to have grown up in the Clarkston School District. The teachers and all other faculty members have one goal in mind, and that is to teach students to be the best that they can be, and have confidence that the best they can be is enough. Academically speaking, students learn at an accelerated and in-depth level each and every day. Teachers regularly go above and beyond when presenting their daily lessons, however, their main goal is to

“These kids are a family.”

Clarkston High School 2016-2017 Registration:

- Seniors - Monday, August 22
- Juniors - Tuesday, August 23
- Sophomores - Wednesday, August 24
- Freshmen - Thursday, August 25

All students who were unable to make their registration date can register on Friday, August 26th.

New students must contact the Guidance Office at 509.769.5566 to register for school. The Guidance Office will open on August 16th. The registration dates listed above are only for students who are currently "active" and have already been enrolled at CHS or who are coming in as freshmen from Lincoln Middle School.

This year I experienced many of what they call, "the first of the lasts," each of them different: the last first day of school, the last first day of try-outs, the last home game, the last Golden Throne. However, they all had one common theme: I never seemed to go through them alone. At Clarkston High School, there is a unique feel that I can say I've never experienced anywhere else. It feels like home. You walk down the hall, or go to practice and never find yourself alone, but surrounded by the smiles of the teachers and the laughs of your friends.

Playing three varsity sports, I felt the pressure of winning the games and still being prepared for class the next day, all while trying to eat, sleep, and stay hydrated. The teachers and coaches at CHS are nothing less than extraordinary. They push kids to do their best and help them in every way they can. There was never a moment when I walked off the court feeling like I had let my coach down, or left a test feeling as though my teachers would be disappointed. Because around here, everyone is on your team and only here to pick you up when you fall. I've played on many volleyball and basketball teams, and spent endless hours in the gym, but my greatest team and memories will always be with Bantam Nation.

Together.

Written By Jaclyn Meyers

