

# The Red Review

15-16 January Vol. 5

clarksonpublicschools.org

## From the Administrator's Desk

By Rich Lemburg

Hopefully everyone had a great holiday season and has all of their New Year's Resolutions ready for the 2016 year.

A couple of winter notes to pass along, with using Alert Now/Blackboard for school closing please make sure Amy Gurnsey has your updated phone number and contact information. If you change your cell phone numbers please notify us or you will not receive any information on school closings or late starts. If you have made changes please contact Amy at [agurnsey@clarkson.esu7.org](mailto:agurnsey@clarkson.esu7.org) or call her at 892-3454 so we can update our information. Also please make sure to have your students dressed properly for the winter months, make sure they have hats, gloves and warm coats for their transportation to school and for recess. As you know in Nebraska our weather changes on a minutes' notice so please make sure your kids are prepared.

In February's newsletter we will be including a calendar for our NeSA testing dates, which are from March 21st-May 6th. NeSA stands for Nebraska State Accountability and these tests measure the progress of Clarkson Public Schools students to other students across the state. The tests are based off of standards set up by the state for students across the curriculum. At this time we have state tests in the areas of Reading (grades 3-8), Math (grades 3-8 and 11), and Science in (grades 5, 8, and 11). As all public schools we must participate in the state writing test, which must be administered for grades 4, 8 and 11 from January 18th-February 5th.

We want to get you the schedule so as you start to make appointments, schedule trips, etc. for the spring, you can take a look at the testing schedule to see when your child/children a test so we can avoid students missing testing dates. With scheduling around the busy spring school calendar there are not a lot of days left where we have open in getting all of the grades tested and we appreciate your help in this area. We will continue to communicate with the students and parents on upcoming NeSA tests this spring.



## Music News

By Ryan Dusso

Wow what an amazing first semester! Thank you to every one who has come and supported the Arts Department here at Clarkson Public Schools! Everything from One Acts taking 5th at Districts to the Veterans Day Concert, to the Winter Concert this past weekend. As 2015 wraps up, 2016 is coming quickly with some amazing opportunities for your students in the coming months.

In January, the Clarkson-Leigh Music Department will be hosting The Young Americans for a 3-day performance workshop for grades 3rd-12th. Turn Up The Music is a campaign traveling the nation to help support performing arts programs. By participating in this workshop, you're helping fund arts programs in our community. This 3-day event has been successful for the last 20 years because of its promise to promote self-confidence and teamwork through the use of music. The cast of 45 staff, singers and dancers will present a 3-day workshop filled with music, dance and fun to help fund raise for our performing arts programs! Your students will take classes in singing, dancing and performing PLUS learn an hour-long show by the end of the second day!

Registration is still available until the day of the workshop on January 21st. Students who are in sports will not miss any practice or games. I hope you have a wonderful Holiday, and a Happy New Year!

The Red Review is a monthly publication of the  
Clarkson Public Schools,  
PO Box 140, Clarkson NE 68629

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## Industrial Technology News

### Health and Human Performance

By Jim Clarkson

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! It is a great time of the year and I hope all is well with all of Patriot Nation. Things are great up here at the school, as Semester 1 wraps up. We have finished pretty strong in a lot of areas, but of course we can always be better and we will certainly try heading into 2016. I hope that you and yours will also try to be active and live well in 2016. I preach to our students all the time to not be average. I also have to force myself not to fall into the simplicity of being average. It is easy to be average, it is easy to complain, but life is too good and too short not to try and be happier and better.

On another note, Jump Rope for Heart will be coming up in January. We really appreciate all the support we get for this each year. I know we get hit up for a lot of things in the community but we have done a really nice job with this over the years and I hope we will again. I know my daughter is pretty jacked to do it this year so I guess that is good.

Hopefully we will have more spirited competition, learn some more skills and new games, and get some good workouts in here in the spring of 2016. Be Good! Go Pats!

The Walk for the Cures event  
is set for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at the  
Clarkson High School.

Life is so different these days. Everything we see & own is some new form of technology. Where do we draw the line when it comes to technology. I don't see how we can keep up with it. It would be nice to have all the latest & newest innovative technology in all our classrooms but we know that will not happen. It seems like they want us to keep up with the Jones' but our hands are tied when it comes some of that because of money. Our Superintendent & Board of Education do a terrific job purchasing what they seem best for our students.

We do have a great deal of new hands-on innovative equipment. I applaud them for the job they have done since I have been here. They are definitely trying to keep it as current as possible. I write a grant every year trying to upgrade my classroom. So far, I have truly been extremely lucky that educators have the opportunity to write a RFP grant to get new equipment. Presently our students have the opportunity in Industrial Tech to use some of this new equipment. Not all students like it but one thing is for sure, they are definitely missing out on a chance to grow and enhance their future.

I really would like you parents to come see what your kids can achieve if they set their minds to it. As a parent, which I am, I know first-hand that my kids could have done more. I plan on pushing your kids to their limit so they understand what our society has to offer. If you want to get involved just give me a call. It's not what we did yesterday or the day before that, it is what we do tomorrow that counts. Don't look back and use your opportunities wisely to get ahead of the game. Thank you for your time & letting me teach your children. I have the best job in the world.

Hope to talk to you soon,  
Mr. Bailey, IT Instructor





## School Lunch Week

January 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> is Nebraska School Lunch Week. We would like to invite parents, grandparents, and friends to come and join the children for lunch that week. Please let us know if you plan on having lunch by calling the Clarkson High School at 892-3454 by 8:30 the morning you plan to attend. The cost for an adult guest meal is \$3.50 and a child's guest meal is \$2.50. The meals planned for that week are as follows:

- Monday—chicken patty/bun
  - Tuesday—chili
  - Wednesday—sub sandwich
  - Thursday—tacos
  - Friday—chicken fried steak/bun
- We hope to see you there!**

## Counselor's Corner

By Jennifer Kappel

### Seniors . . . it's time to prepare for the FAFSA!

By: EducationQuest

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the application for state, federal and college-specific financial aid. Follow these steps to prepare for the FAFSA and the financial aid process:

- Contact the college(s) you applied to and ask for their FAFSA priority filing date (typically March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>).
- Complete your 2015 taxes early as the FAFSA requires current tax information.
- Create an FSA ID for you and one for a parent at fsaid.ed.gov You'll need the FSA ID to access your FAFSA and other Federal Student Aid websites. For instructions, review the detailed process below\*
- Gather these student and parent items:
  - o 2015 federal income tax forms and if applicable, Schedule K-1(Form 1065)
  - o 2015 W-2 forms
  - o Student's driver's license number
  - o Social Security numbers
  - o Birth dates
  - o Date parents were married, separated, divorced or widowed
  - o Current cash, savings and checking account balances
  - o Current investment values (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, CDs, etc.) excluding your home and retirement accounts

- o Value of business (if more than 100 employees)
- o Value of investment farm (Do not include the value of a family farm that you or your parents live on and operate)
- o 2015 child support (paid and/or received)
- o 2015 Workers' Compensation
- o Other untaxed income in 2015 such as housing/food/living allowances for military and clergy
- o Alien Registration Number for eligible non-citizens

Be prepared to indicate on the form if anyone in your household received federal benefits such as Supplemental Security Income, SNAP, TANF, Free or Reduced Price Lunch, or WIC.

Complete the FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) before your college's priority date.

Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) acknowledging that your form was processed.

Expect Financial Aid Award Notifications in the spring from the colleges you listed on your FAFSA. The notifications will detail the financial aid assistance the colleges are offering (could be a combination of scholarships, grants, work-study, and student loans).

Check out free FAFSA tools and resources on the EducationQuest website:

- FAFSA Checklist – provides a list of items you need to gather before you complete the FAFSA
- FAFSA tutorial – explains each FAFSA question
- FAFSA demo and IRS Data Retrieval videos – walks you through the FAFSA process
- College Funding Estimator – estimates your FAFSA results

If you are filing a FAFSA for the first time and want free personal help, call the EducationQuest location nearest you to make an appointment. Kearney 308-234-6310 or 800-666-3721; Lincoln 402-475-5222 or 800-303-3745; Omaha 402-391-4033 or 888-357-6300 or Scottsbluff 800-303-3745.

### \*How to create an FSA ID

The FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID) is a username and password you create to access the FAFSA and federal student loan websites. This ID replaces the PIN previously used by students and parents. Follow these steps to get your FSA ID. If you're a dependent student, you and a parent will each need one.

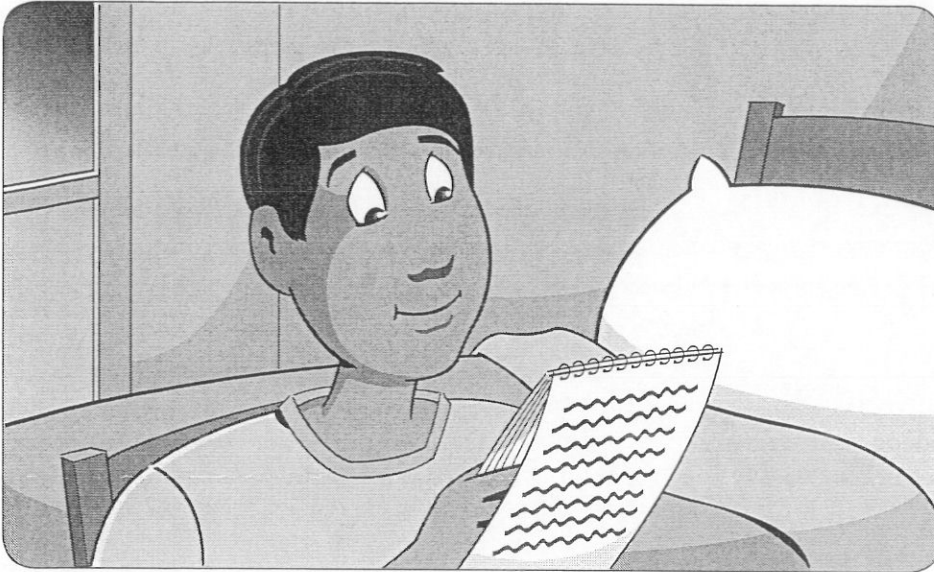
1. Go to [fsaid.ed.gov](http://fsaid.ed.gov) before you start your FAFSA.
  - Provide your email address and create a username and password. Print this page. Both you and a parent will need active email accounts. Don't use a high school email account.
2. Enter personal information.
  - Name, Social Security number, date of birth
  - Mailing address, email address, phone number
3. Answer challenge questions. Select answers easy to remember, that won't change over time.
4. Submit your FSA ID information and verify your email address with the assigned security code.

# High School Parents<sup>®</sup>

January 2016  
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Title I Program  
Educational Service Unit #7

***still make the difference!***



## Encourage your teen to make specific learning resolutions

Every time the first of January rolls around, you and your family probably make resolutions for the new year that you give up on just a few weeks later. This year, help your teen make some learning resolutions that will actually stick!

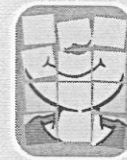
The more specific his goals are, the more likely your teen is to attain them. Instead of a broad resolution of “Do better in school,” help him come up with specific ways to improve. For example:

- **I will ask at least one question** in every class. In order to ask an informed question, your teen will need to pay attention to the lecture. By paying closer attention, chances are that he’ll be more engaged and confident

about what he’s learning—and that will likely lead him to ask more questions in class.

- **I will create a note-taking system.** The way your teen takes notes in history may be different from the way he does it in chemistry. Encourage him to talk with his teachers to figure out the best way to record information they discuss.
- **I will review class notes** every night before bed. Studies show that the last thing a person reads before going to bed remains embedded in the person’s brain.
- **I will read for 30 minutes** every day. Very few teens make time to read for pleasure. But the best way to build a strong vocabulary is to read widely and read often.

## Confidence can lead to school success



Confident teens often do better in school because they believe they can accomplish goals and overcome problems.

To give your teen a strong sense of her abilities, show her that you think she is a capable person. Be sure to:

- **Praise accomplishments.** So your teen didn’t get an A on her last test—she got a B instead. That still means she mastered a majority of the material! Mention how proud you are that her studying paid off. And remind her that the mistakes she made are great learning opportunities.
- **Give her chores** and other responsibilities at home.
- **Avoid negative comments.** Instead, focus on what you admire about your teen.
- **Let her make** as many decisions for herself as your family is comfortable with.
- **Ask her to help a friend** or sibling with something, such as homework. Helping another person will give your child a sense of pride.



# It Matters: Discipline

## Use positive discipline for positive results



The discipline strategies you use at home can increase your child's likelihood of succeeding in school.

And experts agree that the best discipline methods are positive, not harsh. According to the research, harsh physical punishments may actually increase your child's risk for mental health problems.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that parents:

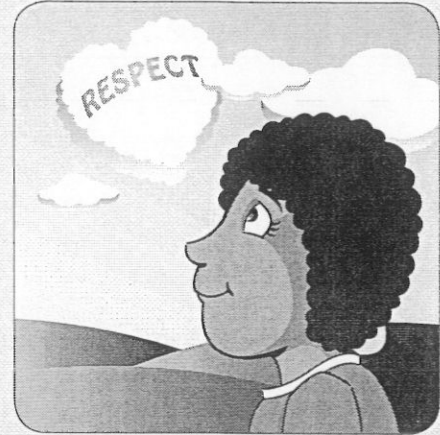
- **Develop loving, supportive relationships with their kids.** This gives children a strong foundation and motivates them to behave well. A child who is respected by his parents is more likely to cooperate at home and at school.
- **Focus on the positive.** Compliment what your child does right. Be specific. "You started your homework without my reminding you. Great job!"
- **Use time-outs and other non-physical consequences when needed.** A child who speaks disrespectfully may need some time alone in his room. A child who puts off homework may miss other fun activities.
- **Let natural consequences do the work.** If your child forgets to bring his homework to school *again*, don't bring it to school for him. Instead, allow him to get a zero. He will be more likely to remember his homework tomorrow!

**Source:** R. Jaslow, "Spanking, physical punishment may raise risk for mental health woes in adult years," CBS News, [nswc.com/elem\\_harsh](http://nswc.com/elem_harsh).

## Respect is an important ingredient for school success

**W**hen students have respect for teachers and classmates, they help create the positive academic environment all children need in order to be successful. To encourage respectful behavior in your child:

- **Be a role model.** Do what you want your child to do. If you want her to say *please* when asking for something, remember to say *please* yourself.
- **Discuss respect.** What is it? Why is it important? How does it feel to be treated with respect or disrespect?
- **Criticize constructively.** When you need to correct your child, do it helpfully and respectfully. "Next time, please hold the door for Grandpa. That will make life easier for him."



- **Praise success.** Notice times when your child is respectful. "You listened to the coach even when other kids were joking around. I was impressed."

**Source:** R.J.A. Silverman, Ph.D., "10 Tips on Teaching Respect to Children: You can't get it if you don't give it!" [nswc.com/elem\\_giverespect](http://nswc.com/elem_giverespect).

## Self-control can improve your child's academic achievement



Research shows that self-control is twice as important as intelligence in predicting your child's academic achievement. According to experts, kids who struggle with self-control are more likely to face criminal, financial and other problems later in life.

What can parents do? Focus on promoting self-control skills, such as working hard, behaving well and thinking before acting. Give your child opportunities to:

- **Take responsibility.** Think about what jobs your child

can master, such as putting clothes in the hamper at night or setting the table for family meals. To help your child take responsibility for a routine, such as getting ready for school in the morning, post a reminder chart to help her through the steps.

- **Practice patience.** Make and enforce simple rules that encourage self-control. "Finish your homework before watching TV." "Save dessert for after dinner."

**Source:** T.E. Moffitt and others, "A gradient of childhood self-control predicts health, wealth, and public safety," *PNAS*, National Academy of Sciences.

# Calendar Events January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1 NO SCHOOL - Winter Break	2 JV Wrestling Tourney 9:00 a.m. at Wisner-Pilger  Dance Team Youth Camp K-8th Grade 8:30-10:00 a.m., 7th 8th Grade 10:00-1:00
3 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest 11:30	4 Dance Team Youth Camp 7th-8th Grade 5:00-6:00  School Resumes	5 Wrestling Dual 7:00 Scotus at Schuyler (JV/Varsity)  Dance Team Youth Camp to dance at halftime  Marathon BB 4:30 North Bend at Clarkson	6	7	8 High Plains Wrestling Tourney 10:30 at CCC in Columbus  NO SCHOOL - Marzano Training for Teachers	9 High Plains Wrestling Tourney 10:00 at CCC in Columbus  JV Wrestling Tourney 10:00 at Aquinas  C Team BB Tournament 9:00 at Leigh
10	11 JV Wrestling Tourney 4:00 at Oakland-Craig  C Team BB 6:00 at David City  School Board Meeting	12 Winter activity pictures starting at 1:30.  Marathon BB 4:00 Tekamah-Herman at Clarkson (Parent's Night) Game to broadcast on 107.9 The Bull	13 Superintendents Meeting at West Point-Beemer	14 Wrestling Dual 6:30 at Logan View (JV/Varsity)  JH Girls BB 3:30 Shelby/RS at Shelby  C Team BB 6:30 at Columbus Lakeview  JH Boys BB 3:30 Shelby/RC at Shelby	15 PreK-12 teacher meeting 7:45 a.m.  Marathon BB 4:00 HSF at Humphrey	16 Wrestling Tourney 9:00 a.m. at Schuyler  JH Girls BB 9:00 Howells/Dodge at Dodge  JH Boys BB 9:00 Humphrey/LHF at Leigh  Marathon BB 3:00 Shelby/RC at Clarkson
17	18 C Team BB 6:00 Lutheran High NE at Norfolk	19 Wrestling Dual 7:00 at West Point Beemer  Marathon BB 4:00 Elgin/Pope John at Elgin Public	20 Fire Drill  Young Americans Camp	21 Wrestling Dual 6:30 Platteview at Schuyler (JV/Varsity)  Marathon BB 4:30 Twin River at Clarkson  Young Americans Camp	22 Marathon BB 4:30 Lutheran High NE at Clarkson  Young Americans Camp	23 JH BB Tournament 9:00 in Bancroft  C Team BB Wisner Tournament 9:00 at West Point  Young Americans Camp
24 Young Americans Camp	25 1:00 Dismissal (Teacher in-service)  JH Boys BB 6:00 Howell/Dodge at Leigh  C Team BB 6:30 West Point/Beemer at Leigh	26 Newsletter article deadline  Marathon BB 4:30 Wisner-Pilger at Clarkson	27 Howells/Dodge Speech Meet	28 FFA District Livestock Selection in Norfolk  Wrestling Dual 6:30 at Pierce (JV/Varsity)  JH Girls BB 6:00 Stanton at Leigh  JH Boys BB 3:45 at Madison  C Team BB 6:00 at Battle Creek	29 Conference BB Tournament, TBA  Elementary Teacher Meeting 7:45 a.m.	30 Wrestling Tourney 9:00 a.m. at Raymond Central (JV/Varsity)  Conference BB Tournament, TBA  Osceola Speech Meet
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# JANUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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	Breakfast - pancake sausage stick Lunch - roasted chicken	Breakfast - ham egg croissant Lunch - hamburgers/bun	Breakfast - homemade burrito Lunch - chicken fajita	Breakfast - bkf chicken patty Lunch - BBQ pork/bun	NO SCHOOL																																																																																					
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	Breakfast - ham egg bagel Lunch - pizza	Breakfast - biscuit and gravy Lunch - grilled cheese or tuna	Breakfast - bkf bagel pizza Lunch - spaghetti	Breakfast - bacon pizza Lunch - meatball sub	Breakfast - Clarkson Bakery rolls Lunch - pork patty																																																																																					
17	18 ML King Day	19	20	21	22	23																																																																																				
	Breakfast - bkf pizza Lunch - chicken patty	Breakfast - combo Lunch - chili	Breakfast - omelet and sausage Lunch - sub sandwich	Breakfast - tomates Lunch - tacos	Breakfast - hot pockets Lunch - chicken fried steak																																																																																					
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	Breakfast - muffin Lunch - hotdog and bun 1:00 dismissal	Breakfast - egg sausage biscuit Lunch - Salisbury steak and bun	Breakfast - French toast and sausage Lunch - sloppy joes	Breakfast - roller dog and bun Lunch - chicken and gravy	Breakfast - Clarkson Bakery rolls Lunch - ribique and bun																																																																																					
31	1	<p style="text-align: center;">December 2015</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<p style="text-align: center;">February 2016</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29						
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Clarkson Public Schools  
PO Box 140  
Clarkson NE 68629



**SCHOOL RESUMES ON MONDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>.**

**THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> FOR TEACHER IN-SERVICE.**

The Clarkson Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, sex, marital status, age or disabilities in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, it's programs or activities.