

The Red Review

2020/2021 February Vol. 6

From the Superintendent's Desk

By Rich Lemburg

On Wednesday, March 10th Clarkson Public School will be hosting our School Improvement (CIP which stands for Continual School Improvement) visit with an external team of four educators from other school districts and ESU's across the state. All public Nebraska schools are on a five-year cycle where a school district looks at data and picks a goal on an area of improvement for the next five years. During this five-year period the school district works to improve scores in the area they have picked and keeps track of data, trainings and their plan to improve on the selected goal. The external team will meet with our CIP Committee, school board members, students and community members along with walking around and observing us throughout the day and then give us a report on what they liked and recommendations for moving forward.

In our past two CIP cycles we have gone with Reading Comprehension and Math Computation. This cycle we chose increasing vocabulary across the curriculum. We picked this goal for two-fold reason. First it allowed us a goal that would work across all curricular areas, not just one area. Second, we felt by improving vocabulary we could improve student scores on MAPS and ACT and increase the student's ability to know and use the English language.

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, March 2nd from 5:00-8:00 pm. If you don't feel comfortable with the Covid scenario please reach out to your teachers and they will work with you either through email or some virtual form to discuss your child's progress.

February is the time of the year where school and activities get hectic, there aren't a lot of scheduled days off from school and activities are in maximum drive. Basketball and wrestling are going through the pressure filled time of conference meets/tournaments and district competition and add in Jr. Hi and Youth teams are winding up there seasons with their final tournaments families are kept on the run. To add more to the plate, February is a big month for the Speech team. Their season has begun and kids are missing school for meets and also having Saturday meets to attend. With the students being involved in so many activities and their busy schedules please remind your children to make sure they are getting the rest and nutrition they need with their active lives and keeping up on their grades.

February is also part of the year where the planning for next school year begins to pick up. We will be approving the 2021-22 school calendar at this month's school board meeting and will be posting it on the school website so families can plan accordingly.

It's a great day to be a Patriot!

Notes from the Principal

By Lee Schneider

What a fast January and so glad that we have been able to get back on track after break and keep plugging along! I want to say THANK YOU to the students and parents for helping us get to this point. There are a lot of variables at play for us to allow our students to succeed in and out of the classroom. It is so satisfying as an educator when you see that happening. The students have been focused and you can tell in the hallways that we have a fantastic group of students!

With that we start to enter into the tough stretch of the winter months where the students and staff are tired of the cold/snow and ready for sunshine. Then add in the Covid protocols and it takes a toll on the students. I can't stress enough about how this is a team effort and everybody has done a great job on working towards a common goal. So it is important that we keep that as our main focus as we navigate through February. We will be MAP testing again and we have also adjusted what Parent / Teacher conferences will look like, so be on the lookout for that information as it comes out.

As always, if there are questions or concerns my door and phone line is always open and I'm available!

GO
PATS!



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

The Board of Education

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English Notes

By Lynn Morfeld

The sophomores recently tried their hand at writing descriptive poetry. Derek Walcott's "36. In the late-afternoon light..." describes the changing light as afternoon turns to dusk in a Caribbean setting. The sophomores were asked to write a poem about dusk during their favorite season. While it was their choice to use a rhyme scheme or to write in free verse, personification (giving inanimate objects human characteristics) was to be illustrated in the poem as well. Here are a few of their pieces.

"A Slight Breeze"

by Ella Kappel

A slight breeze pirouettes around the lush, amber sunflowers
dancing to a silent ballad
crickets and frogs begin their evening chorus
the sun slowly dragging the heavenly canvas toward the horizon
sky alternating colors to a blush, magenta, and rose twilight
stars crawling through the sky, searching for their positions
the ensemble creates a lull in the dusky night.

"Midnight Summer"

By Sammy McEvoy

dusk approaches as the street lamps' luminous glow stimulates

the humid summer air starts to fade as the night falls

melted popsicle juice lies in puddles on the sidewalk

the smell of freshly mowed lawns lurk around the neighborhood

crickets and cicadas chirp while the fireflies glide through the air

a slight breeze rolls in, the trees slowly dance in the wind

the moon smiles at the stars in the sky as they glimmer and beam

the park patiently waits for the next day to transpire and for the children to come play

it seems as if there isn't a care in the world

all is well, peace is present.

"The Setting of the Evening Sun"

by Ashly Guillen

The setting of the evening sun gave a warm orange tint to the sky
Like a spray of orange zest
As it lowered itself down to the horizon
It was becoming time for the sun to rest

Colors came out to play
A blush of red painted the sky
But soon enough a warm golden yellow decided to come by

I looked into the garden
To catch one final glimpse
Before the sun decided to go to sleep

The beautiful violets had turned into a dark muscardin
Bushes of bright red roses had faded into a dark crimson red
Vibrant yellow tulips had transformed into a mustard looking yellow
Periwinkle hyacinths had changed to a deep violet

After having spent the day in the warm sun
My day was about done
As the evening breeze flew past me
The leaves started to dance on the nearby tree
It looked like a city of beautiful emerald green

Children began to frown
As they started to go inside
It was getting dark and temperatures had died down
The engines of cars roaring to life as they were being started
The sound of friends saying goodbye
Hugging each other one by one

As they got into the car I looked up at the navy sky
Everything was so dark
Suddenly there was a spark in the sky
As a shooting star dashed by
It was becoming the end of a day
But the evening was just getting started

"Season of Joy"
By Drew Beeson

As fresh cut grass is on the ground
The bright blue sky will start to bleed
Mowers are singing all around
Until the sun has done its deed
The stadium lights renew the sky
Buzzing like a stalk-eyed fly
The sky is no more red and grey
As every player says "good game"
The bloody spit is oh so sweet
When won is done and not defeat
And in the darkest hour of night
The moon emitting all its light
The trees balance in the wind
Until the teams will meet again
The leaves will gather on the ground
Creating quite a large brown mound
As no one sees the seeds unwind
The temperature is perfectly fine
As mother nature turns the page
To begin the night, end the day

News and Notes from the Social Science Department

By Mr. McEvoy

We are so grateful to have the students IN SCHOOL for the start of 2021! The school year has been flying by here in the Social Science Department of Clarkson Public School. Here are a few of our highlights so far:

-8th Grade American History- This class begins by looking at our Native American and European roots and how these two cultures interacted early on in U.S. history. Emphasis is given to European exploration, early British Colonies, and the ensuing development of our nation from its' War for Independence from Great Britain to its' own U.S. Civil War.

-10th Grade American History- This class has been exploring the events and the brave men and women who preserved our American way of life during WWII. The students will soon understand that the following "Cold War" period may turn out to be the most dangerous period of American History yet. We will then move through the conflicts and social change of the late 20th Century that helped shape America for the new millennium.

-7th Grade Civics- This group has been given an introductory look into our country, our government, and our uniquely American way of life. There is an emphasis on patriotism, civic duty, and the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen of the United States. Great focus is also given to the Constitution, the 27 Amendments, and the role of the Three Branches of Government.

-American Government- This upper level course is taught in conjunction with 7th Grade civics with a deeper look into the inner-workings of the three branches, the electoral process (a very interesting topic this year), and preparation for becoming an informed member of the voting population. The class just finished studying the judicial branch and the vast powers of the U.S. Supreme Court.

-World Geography- The expectation is for each student to carry with them a working knowledge of our U.S. Geography in relationship to the World Geography that surrounds us. In the end, we will cover the entire globe---with the goal being that they can compare and contrast our American geography to that of all the other countries of the world.

-Current Issues- The students have spent their year discussing the modern problems we face and the possible solutions to those issues. Through current events, documentaries, and their own reflections on the world we live in, they continue to work on building their own working knowledge of the world around them. The class continues to work on a time capsule project that will include all of the news stories, journal entries, and reflections that they have compiled to date. The goal is to someday look back and see what the world was like during 2020-2021 (and what a year it has been!).

Thank you for taking a look into our corner of the building, and here's hoping for continued success in 2021 for all of our students and athletes here at CPS- Go Patriots!!!

Reminder of the COVID Protocols:

If your child shows a combination of any of the following priority symptoms, please keep them home. Monitor your child and they may return to school once they are symptom-free for 72 hours without the aid of medication. Parents have been doing a fantastic job communicating with the school up to this point about student illnesses. Please help us continue this trend.

- **Fever (100.3 or higher) and chills**
- **Shortness of Breath**
- **New onset of dry, persistent cough that leaves you short of breath**
- **New onset of a loss of taste or smell**
- **Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea**

EducationQuest Foundation -College Planning Bulletin

Seniors...make sure you complete the FAFSA process

Getting financial aid for college involves more than completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete each step of the process so that you don't miss out on money for college.

1. **If you haven't already, complete your 2021-22 FAFSA** at studentaid.gov using 2019 income tax data. Before you start, you and a parent must each create a [Student Aid account](#). If you need help with your FAFSA, [contact EducationQuest](#) to set up a free virtual appointment.
2. **Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) via an email link.** The SAR acknowledges that your FAFSA was received and lets you know if you need to take further action before the form can be processed.
3. **You might receive a verification notice** from the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA requesting documents to verify your FAFSA information. The college will not process your financial aid until you provide required documents.
4. **Watch for financial aid award notifications.** Once you're accepted for admission to the colleges you listed on your FAFSA, they will notify you of the types and amounts of financial aid they're offering.

Watch your email and student portal carefully for important details from colleges about admission and financial aid.

What you need to know about scholarships

Most scholarships are based on academics, but others are based on community service, school involvement, or talent. Some are based on financial need as determined by the results of your FAFSA.

Here's where to look for scholarships:

1. [ScholarshipQuest](#) at EducationQuest.org houses over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. After you create a profile, you'll be matched with scholarships that fit your criteria. You'll also find links to national sites that EducationQuest recommends.
2. **Your school counselor's office.** Visit regularly to check on local and national awards.
3. **The college you plan to attend.** Contact the school for a list of scholarships they provide and the application procedures.
4. **Other resources** could include your coach, clubs and organizations, and your parents' employers and civic organizations.

[Click here](#) for more details about scholarships and tips to help you complete a successful application.

Two easy-to-apply-for scholarships from EducationQuest

Don't miss out on these scholarships for Nebraska students in grades 9-12:

Get Social Scholarship – By following EducationQuest on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), you can enter into a drawing for a \$500 scholarship each time we hit another 250 followers. [Click here](#) for details.

Scavenger Hunt Scholarship – To apply for this scholarship, create a *ScholarshipQuest* profile at EducationQuest.org and then scavenge around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions on a survey. The deadline to apply is **March 31**. We'll draw two winners from those who answer all questions correctly. [Click here](#) for details.

Save the Date...Virtual College Fair is March 2-3

EducationQuest will host a Virtual College Fair Tuesday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m.-noon and Wednesday, March 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. During this event, you can chat with college representatives and watch live college-prep presentations. Watch for details!

Seniors:

- ___ If you haven't already, complete the [FAFSA](#).
- ___ Expect financial aid award notifications from the colleges you listed on your FAFSA.
- ___ Apply for scholarships

Juniors:

- ___ Start preparing for the ACT. Here are [test-prep resources](#) to consider.
- ___ [Register](#) by February 12 for the March 13 SAT.
- ___ [Register](#) by March 12 for the April 17 ACT.

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Omaha

402-391-4033
888-357-6300

Lincoln

402-475-5222
800-303-3745

Kearney

308-234-6310
800-666-3721

Scottsbluff

308-708-7199
800-303-3745, ext. 6654

CLARKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

(Schedule Subject to Change)

- Monday, February 1st – FBLA meeting during Patriot Period
JH Boys BB vs. St. Edward at Leigh 2:30 pm
Conference Girls BB tournament TBD
- Tuesday, February 2nd – FCCLA Chapter meeting during Patriot Period
JH Boys BB at Schuyler 4:30 pm
Conference Boys BB tournament TBD
- Thursday, February 4th – JH Boys BB at Wayne 6:00 pm
Conference Girls BB tournament TBD
- Friday, February 5th – NO School – Teacher In-Service
Conference Boys BB tournament TBD
- Saturday, February 6th – FFA Proficiency Review and State Degree interview in David City
Conference Girls and Boys BB tournament finals at Midlands College
Speech meet at Schuyler
Wrestling Sub-districts at Shelby
- Monday, February 8th – Conference Honor Band at Stanton.
JH Boys BB vs. Humphrey St. Francis at Leigh 3:30 pm
Girls/Boys C team BB at Madison 6:00/7:00 pm
- Tuesday, February 9th – Marathon BB at Pierce 4:30 pm
- Wednesday, February 10th – School Board meeting 6:00 pm
- Thursday, February 11th – JH Boys BB vs. Madison at Leigh 4:30 pm
Marathon BB at Stanton 4:30 pm (Games with stream live on the NFHS Network)
- Friday, February 12th – Speech meet at Lindsay
JV/Varsity Boys BB at East Butler 6:00/7:30 pm (Games to broadcast live on 93.5 the Hawk)
- Saturday, February 13th – Speech meet at Humphrey
WR Districts at Weeping Water
- Monday, February 15th - Girls BB Sub-districts
- Tuesday, February 16th – Girls BB Sub-districts
- Wednesday, February 17th – NHS Blood drive
WR State Championships in Omaha
- Thursday, February 18th – WR State Championships in Omaha
Girls BB Sub-districts
- Friday, February 19th – JV/Varsity Boys BB vs. David City at Clarkson 6:00 pm
- Saturday, February 20th – Speech meet at GACC
C team Boys BB tournament at Tekamah-Herman 9:00 am
JH Boys BB Triangular vs Howells-Dodge and Humphrey-Lindsay HF in Clarkson 9:00 am
- Monday, February 22nd – National FFA week to begin
FCCLA Peer Education Conference
Boys BB Sub-districts
- Tuesday, February 23rd – Boys BB Sub-districts
- Wednesday, February 24th – Conference Speech meet at North Bend
- Thursday, February 25th – Boys BB Sub-districts
- Friday, February 26th – Girls BB Sub-State
FFA Leadership Conference in Kearney
- Saturday, February 27th – Boys BB Sub-State
FFA Leadership Conference in Kearney



	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
February 1	roller dog	chicken drummies
February 2	omelet and ham	lasagna roll up
February 3	breakfast combos	ham sandwich or chicken salad
February 4	egg, ham, and cheese on a biscuit	cheddar brat on a bun
February 5	no school	no school
February 8	breakfast tornado	hamburger on a bun
February 9	egg, sausage, and cheese on a bagel	meatloaf sandwich
February 10	breakfast cookie	fajitas
February 11	breakfast sausage	chicken fried steak sandwich
February 12	muffin	burrito
February 15	breakfast pizza	pulled pork on fries
February 16	French toast and sausage	Philly steak on flatbread
February 17	cereal	fish sticks
February 18	egg, sausage, and cheese on a bakery croissant	spaghetti and meatballs
February 19	Clarkson bakery rolls	pizza (cheese or meat)
February 22	breakfast hot pocket	sloppy joes
February 23	pancake sausage on a stick	sub sandwich
February 24	breakfast empanadas	tacos
February 25	egg, ham, cheese on an English muffin	chicken and gravy on a biscuit
February 26	yogurt parfait	chili or broccoli and cheese soup

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

This institution is an equal opportunity employer.

Clarkson Public Schools
PO Box 140
Clarkson NE 68629

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