

# Clark Middle School

*May 2024  
Newsletter*



For daily announcements and additional school information, visit us at: <https://clark.lcsc.us/>



A MESSAGE FROM

*Mr. Graber*

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Happy May! As we enter the last month of school, there are a lot of emotions that are going through my mind. Wow! This year seemed to fly right by. Even though we only have a few weeks left, the CMS staff will continue to educate your son/daughter until we are out for the summer.

As we enter the last month, please take time to review the daily announcements as there are several end of the year activities that will be taking place. If you have time, please stop by and enjoy the final concerts in band and choir. The sports teams will be wrapping up their season as well. It's always great to see parents and family come out and support the students at an event.

For our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, we want to take this opportunity to wish them well as they embark on a new adventure in high school. For those going to Lake Central, good luck and take advantage of the opportunities that are available for you. For those students leaving the Lake Central School Corporation and venturing on to other high schools, good luck as well. Take pride in where you have received your education and take the initiative to strive for your goals. The staff at CMS is proud of you!

For our students who will be returning in grades 6-8, we are excited and happy that you will be returning and moving up a grade level. With each grade level move, there is more and more responsibility that is placed upon you as students. Be prepared for the challenges ahead. Parents, please check the LC Corporation calendar for next year's schedule. If possible, please try and plan your vacations accordingly. We understand that things may not work out perfectly but appreciate any effort to have students in school.

For our parents... thank you once again for your continued support throughout the year. From the onset of this year, your support with fundraisers, daily attendance, communication, and so many other facets of the school year has been amazing, we cannot do it without you!

In my daily reading, I came across this quote from Walter Edward Williams and it sums up my feelings as principal:

*"For somebody to do well in school, somebody needs to make him go to bed on time and get a good 10 hours of sleep. Someone must make him do his homework. Somebody must feed him breakfast in the morning and somebody must make him mind the teacher. If those things are not done, I don't care how much money you put in the school system, educations will not occur."*

And finally, have a great summer. If you are traveling or vacationing, please enjoy your time away from school, spend time with family, relax, and return in August ready for another year of learning. Take care and see you in August.

Stay safe,  
Mr. Graber

# Assistant Principal Mrs. Beach



As the year winds down, I am looking ahead to all the events that the end of the school year brings. Below are some notes on the upcoming award ceremony and dance. I am so excited to be a part of these memorable moments for our 8th graders.

\*The date for the **8th grade awards ceremony is Tuesday, May 28th.**

\*The ceremony begins at 10:00 a.m. and doors open at 9:15 a.m. for parents and family. If you need handicapped seating, please contact the main office.

\*If a **sibling** is being signed out to attend the ceremony, a **WRITTEN NOTE** must be sent in the morning with **pick-up time** and passes will be given to those students.

\*The dance is that evening from 7:00 to 9:00. Doors open at 6:30 and will be locked at 7:15. Once they enter they will not be allowed to leave until it's over. Dress code will be enforced.

Keep an eye on Parent Square for pictures from our upcoming Unified Games activity. Our special education students will travel to the high school to participate in various track and field events showcasing their skills. I can guarantee that you will see smiling faces and great achievements!

On May 13, current Kolling and Peifer 4th graders will come to Clark for a visit. We cannot wait to meet the next group of students who will attend Clark.

May 14 is our final early release day of the school year. Please remember to make arrangements for transportation and/or child care in advance. School is released at 1:10 PM.

I would like to take a moment to congratulate Mr. Gustas on his nomination for *Teacher of the Year*. Mr. Gustas has been a teacher here at LCSC for 35 years. His dedication and passion for teaching extends beyond the classroom. Mr. Gustas has been involved in countless extracurricular activities, most recently, theater director here at Clark. Congratulations, Mr. Gustas, on this achievement. We are lucky to have him at Clark.

Finally, If your child is talking about the upcoming Cheeseball Challenge to benefit the American Heart Association, please consider donating. This event is a whole school event where the students join a teacher in a contest to see who can stick the most cheeseballs on the teacher's head. This is a great opportunity for kids and teachers to have some fun and help a great cause! The event takes place on May 8th.

Please reach out with any questions,,  
Mrs. Beach



## Library News

By: Tina Genovese

The end of the year is here and the library anxiously awaits the return of all library books! Student accounts will be checked over the next two weeks of visiting classes, and students will be notified if they have any late/missing library books. They will be given an "invoice" with the book information and the cost to replace the book. Like any library, books that are borrowed, must be returned or replaced. Parents have the option of purchasing a new book to replace the lost book, or paying the replacement cost listed on the invoice. These funds will be used to purchase a replacement book. All books must be returned by the end of the year to allow us to put them back on the shelves for future students to read.

In the library, we stress the importance of being responsible, taking care of the books that are **borrowed** and returning them for future use.

### UNI - The Summer Mobile Library

Don't forget to visit LCSC libraries in a park near you this summer! The UNI mobile library schedule is listed below and is a great way to continue reading throughout the summer months! New this year, the UNI will contain games and activities for students! Books and items that are checked out from the UNI can be returned to the UNI on any of the dates/places listed on the schedule. These books and items can also be returned to any Lake County Public Library who will return the items to Lake Central Schools. Come visit us this summer as we spread the joy of reading and fun to our students!

Wishes for a fun and relaxing summer to all!



**2024 SUMMER DATES**

- 📍 **June 6 & July 23**  
Stephens Park
- 📍 **June 11 & July 25**  
Northgate Community Park
- 📍 **June 18 & July 16**  
Prairie West Park
- 📍 **June 20 & July 30**  
Redar Park
- 📍 **July 9**  
Lake Hills
- 📍 **July 18**  
Heron Lake Splash Pad

All dates are 9:00 a.m. to Noon.  
Rain will cancel any event.

UNI is a free community event



Mrs. Churilla  
[echurill@lcscmail.com](mailto:echurill@lcscmail.com)  
Last names (A-Har)

Ms. Vail  
[svail@lcscmail.com](mailto:svail@lcscmail.com)  
Last names (Has-Pin)

Mr. Biscan  
[jbiscan@lcscmail.com](mailto:jbiscan@lcscmail.com)  
Last names (Poi-Z)

We are in the home stretch of the school year! That is how it often feels after spring break during the final grading period. However, we do not want our students to lose momentum - we are still working toward the same goal of having a successful year. It is important to continue to put in a full effort until the finish line is reached!

When parents or students are concerned over academic progress, motivation, scheduling, or emotional concerns, Clark counselors are always glad to offer support. Students can request to see their counselor through online request, via email, or by completing a form in the office.

#### **The Role of the School Counselor**

If you would like to better understand our role as counselors in the school, please check out this digital presentation: [Role of a School Counselor](#)

# *DANCE* **DANCE** *DANCE*

Clark would like to congratulate the following students on being selected to join the LC Centralettes!

Hailey Danielson

Quinn Hooker

Ava McQuillan

Samantha Smith

Peyton Halajcsik

Evelyn Kaminski

Oivia Richard

Mia Snoreck

Maro Xidias



# Disney Alice in Wonderland JR.



The Clark Theatre brought the house down with three sold out shows! The timeless story of Alice In Wonderland was brought to life in this Disney adaptation and Clark students did not disappoint. Alice and a full cast of characters gave family and friends an amazing show. Clark is so proud of the hard work and dedication this group put forth. We can't wait to see what they do next!





**Congratulations to the Clark Academic Super bowl team on their performance at the local competition that was held at Pierce Middle School on April 27.**

**In English, the team of Austin French, Mabel Salmen, Conner Smith, and Hadleigh Smith received 3rd place.**

**In Science, the team of Austin French, Mabel Salmen, and Hadleigh Smith received 3rd place at the competition and also placed 10th in the state.**

**In the Social Studies category, the team of Conner Smith, Luca Storino, Ben Szafasz, and Jack Szafasz placed 2nd at the competition and also placed 3rd in the state.**

**In Interdisciplinary (all subject areas), the team of Austin French, Mabel Salmen, Hadleigh Smith, Ben Szafasz, and Jack Szafasz placed 1st at the competition and also placed 2nd in the state.**

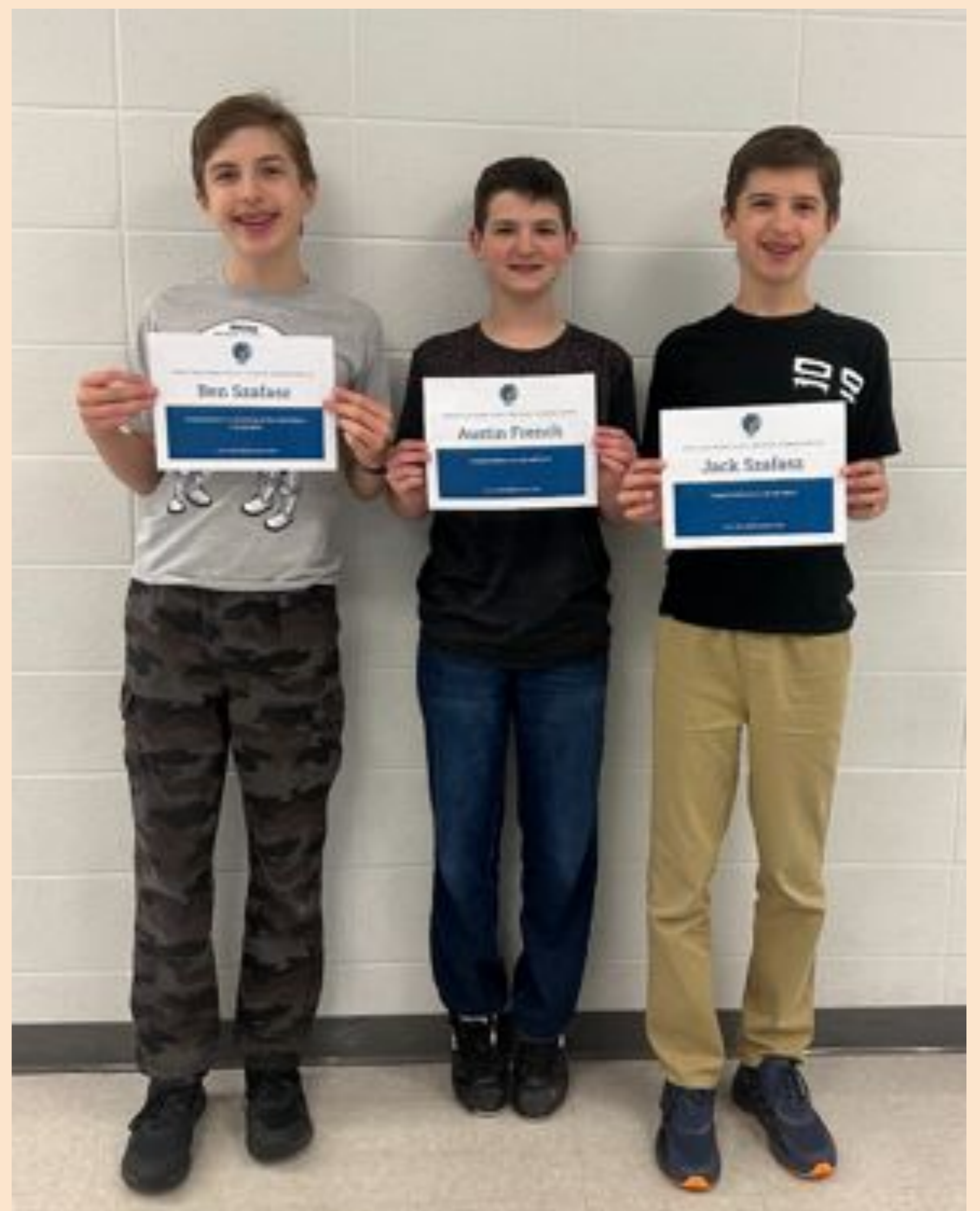
**Other team members included Clare Szubka, Sophia Velazquez, and Jovan Uzelac.**

**The entire team did an AMAZING job this season! Congratulations to all that participated!**

**Students across the state competed in the Indiana Future Problem Solvers scenario writing competition. Three of our own Clark Coyotes place in the top three spots in the Middle Division!**

**1st place- Ben Szafasz (Ben also qualified for the International competition that is being held at Indiana University in June)  
2nd place- Austin French  
3rd place- Jack Szafasz**

**Congratulations to all of these students and GOOD LUCK to Ben at the International competition this summer!**



# Student SPOTLIGHT

## Meet Abby and Ashley



Abby B. and Ashley P., 5th grade, worked hard for over a year to make bracelets which they sold at school, at soccer games, and by going door to door in their neighborhood. They also raised money through lemonade stands. They recently were able to donate \$250 in cash and much needed supplies to the Humane Indiana Shelter in Munster. Thanks to all who supported Ashley and Abby! They truly make Clark proud!

*"It is important to support animals in shelters because so many animals don't have homes. Animal shelters do very well at taking care of them, but it is always good to help them out with supplies or by adopting an animal. Animals have a life just like us so it's important to treat them with respect and treat them how we would want to be treated."* - Ashley P.

*"We donated money, food, and supplies to the Humane Indiana Shelter because we wanted to help animals that didn't have a home. The money that we raised went to help with the operational cost of the organization. The staff was very grateful and took pictures with us that will soon be on their website. We are looking forward to donating more to the organization in the future."* Abby B.



# Coyote pride





# Staff Birthdays

MAY

**Nancy Monroe**  
**Mark Medved**  
**Sharon Lindow**  
**Agnes Kaeb**  
**Jodee Krespo**  
**Laurie Danielson**

# MAY Birthdays

Clark Middle School would like to wish the following students a very Happy May Birthday!

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Chase Adams			Khloe Lehman
Dee Castle			Owen Pieters
Keila Mayfield			Delaney Condit
Jaxon Lehman			Sonya Gomez
Layna Redus		Layla Williams	Anthony Peterson
Jase Kickert		Eva Gonzalez	Alexandra Schilling
Paige Oszust		Draven Poremba	Penelope Velazquez
Harper Ruffner	Mya Ruff	Allison Yott	Christopher Wartman
Eloise Smith	Connor Silvas	Brayden Lynch	Kendall Luchene
Samantha Steele	Lucy Kruit	Jonah Hardesty	Katelyn Rybak
Charles Dicks	Hailey Canty	Andrew Jordan	Jett Vlastic
Ian Glinski	Finn Schoon	Jack Messmer	Luke Rodriguez
Evelyn Graton	Ella De Young	Sidra Salah	Caleb Scott
Isabel Silvas	Elijah Lopez	Cole Evans	Natalia Peglow
Elizabeth Toso	Owen Clark	Noah Call	Brooklyn Scott
Evan Dornseif	Drew Sensor	Ava Naddy	Sofia Ungureanu
Isabelle Lenart	Ava Stringer	Samantha Bandyk	Heidi Wright
Zarall Manhani	William Nellemann	Hayden Schmidt	Makenzie Van Vossen
Brooklyn Chmielewski	Georgia Urban	Jayda Truitt	Jack Spila
Lucia Huertas	Alexandra Banis	Raven Preusser	Joseph Spila
Niko Huertas	Yousef Shatat	Sophia Truong	Hailie Sanchez
Arianne Dickerson	Luca Storino	De'Andre Marteen	Krystian Mietus
Hanna Lane		Megan Karl	Gianna Clarke
Andrew Valois		Rylan Tatum	Declan Messmer
Brayden Matlon		Ryan Sensor	Anthony Williams
Autumn Prince			Alayna Nevarez
Carter Prince			Peyton Halajcsik
Camila Munoz			Braeden Sullivan
			Hailey Danielson
			Gabriel Ruano
			Matthew Smith

# MARCH STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students for being selected as a March student of the month! Students are selected based on being prepared, respectful, showing discipline, integrity, and engagement.

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Leonardo Rodriguez Jase Fuller Carlo Rodriguez Kinga Rusin Brody Smith Robert Ciurkot	Bradley Luchene Lukas Neese Yousef Shatat William Nellemann Lena Neth Charlie Shimala	Allison Ramirez Arianna Martinez Cole Evans, Brayden Lynch Camryn Lavery Megan Miles Adrian Sanchez Tyler Prospal	Skylynn Lessentine Hannah Sikora Kaden Puskarich Jenna Parks Connor Durkin Sofia Ungureanu

# APRIL STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students for being selected as a April student of the month! Students are selected based on being prepared, respectful, showing discipline, integrity, and engagement.

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Abel Krauklis Caleb Ostryzniuk Jackson Bogacki Cater Guillory Taylor Wagner Samantha Steele Novalee Devine Arya Barrios Niko Huertas Hector Alveraz Gianna Diaz Caleb Ostryzniuk Harper Schilling Layna Redus Hieu Nguyen Nathan Swing Jaxson Sessa Caden Niermeyer	Kyla Koedyker Keely Tiljak Haven Wilcox Lucy Kruit Kevin Villalvazo Leo Martinez Emma Hogan Sofia Munoz Giana Bukvich Charlie Shimala Declan O'Shaughnessy Kara Bley Leo Bruggeman Grace Gutierrez Adalyn Miller Adalynn Carroll Cam Cook Bryce Beitler Lenyx Bell Haven Wilcox Kevin Villalvazo Annalise Amaya Violet Hanson Grace Gutierrez Leo Bruggeman Jacob Hill	Allison Ramirez Sophia Truong Emma Friesema Avery Mrzlock Allison Yott Sara Filippo Madison Alexander Tyler Rybicki William Urban Grady O'Shea Payton Silvas Cole Evans Arwen Cahill Sitota Hunt Olivia Pewitt Nathan Holmquist Sitota Hunt Makenna Fazio	Brooklynn Reynoso Anna Brumm Brooke Sarcinella Kylee Onik Noah Goeringer Alyssa Stosich Alexa Neal Sawyer Schoon Harper Whiteman Laruen Lambert Gavin Guillory Jaxon Glinski Katelyn Smith Michael Gerritsen Madison Daniels

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

# GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM TRYOUTS

2024-2025 Season



**OPEN GYM (OPTIONAL):**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8TH 9-11AM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9TH FROM 9-11AM

**TRY OUT DATES:**

MUST HAVE A COMPLETED PHYSICAL TO TRY OUT!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14TH 4-6PM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15TH 4-5PM

**REQUIRED PRACTICES**

**ONCE YOU'VE MADE THE TEAM:**

MONDAY-THURSDAY 4-5:30PM

MOST FRIDAYS 4-5PM

**IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: [LORI.SMITH@LCSCMAIL.COM](mailto:LORI.SMITH@LCSCMAIL.COM)

COACH HUDI 8TH GRADE: [SHUDI@LCSCMAIL.COM](mailto:SHUDI@LCSCMAIL.COM)

# THINGS TO KNOW

## WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE IN ORDER TO TRY OUT

FINAL FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED.  
LINK CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE UNDER ATHLETICS

- THIS INCLUDES A PHYSICAL.  
ACCOUNT WILL BE GREEN WHEN YOU ARE GOOD TO TRY OUT!

## FEES TO BE PAID ONCE YOU HAVE MADE THE TEAM

### \$60 ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEE

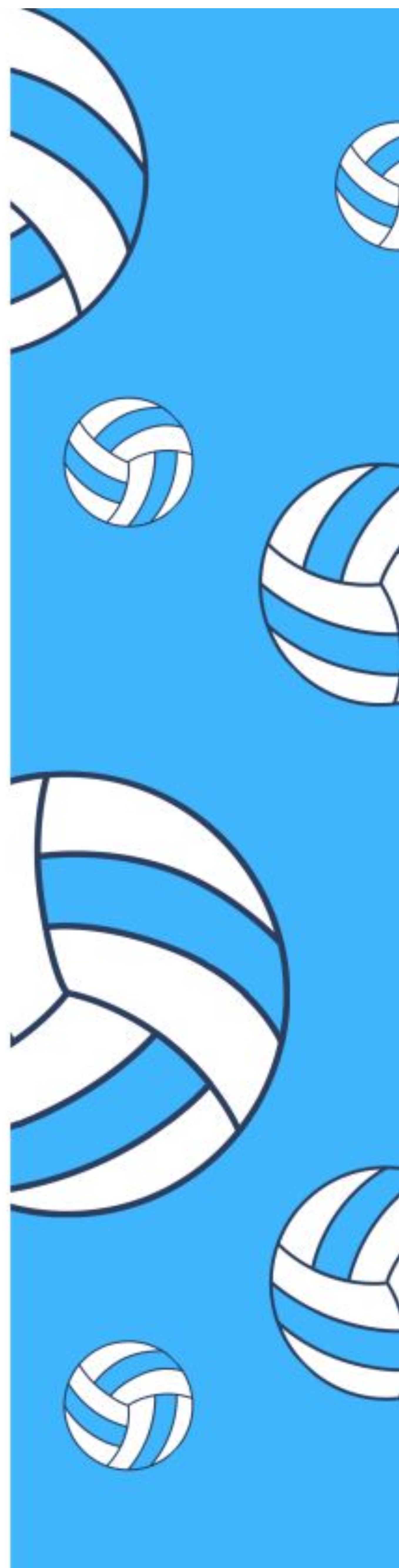
- THIS IS A ONE TIME SPORTS FEE FOR THE YEAR
- THIS FEE WILL BE ADDED APPROX. 2 WEEKS AFTER THE SEASON STARTS

### \$20 TRANSPORTATION FEE

- THIS FEE WILL BE ADDED APPROX. 2 WEEKS AFTER THE SEASON STARTS

### \$35 VOLLEYBALL FEE

- PAID ON FINAL FORMS
- COVERS THE COST OF EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS, AND OTHER ITEMS



# PARENT INFO

Does your child need to leave school early? In an effort to keep Clark safe for our students and staff, please send them to school with a note stating the time of departure. Please note, students without a note will not be released to anyone outside of the emergency contact list without prior approval from the parent.

Are you looking for daily information about Clark? Visit the Clark website at

<https://clark.lcsc.us/>

The announcements, which are read to the students daily, are also posted here.

*The Lake Central Education Foundation was recently awarded a matching grant in order to employ a part time Administrator who will be responsible for leading fundraising efforts, developing strong community relations, and maintaining compliance among other duties. If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more about this opportunity, please visit the Lake Central Education Foundation website at [lakecentralef.org](http://lakecentralef.org)*



Parents/Guardians,  
As a reminder, please pick up all your child's medications and/or medical supplies by the last day of school otherwise they will all have to be discarded. Thank you and have a wonderful summer from the nurse's office!



Mrs.  
Gonzalez



Mrs.  
Danielson