

Clark

Middle School

February 2025

Dive into Learning



For more great photos, order a yearbook [HERE!](#)





FROM THE DESK OF
MR. GRABER

Happy February! Hang in there as we continue to endure this winter weather. It's been pretty cold but I am hopeful that you are doing well. Please make sure that you have plans for your children in case of an inclement weather day. While I might be speaking out of turn, I enjoy seeing your faces, as parents, when the kids get out of the car and it's 15 degrees with no jacket, wearing shorts and a t-shirt. Your facial expressions are priceless.... hang in there...it does get better. If your child needs a jacket or a hat, please let me know. Our PTO has donated several new jackets and hats for the students.

As we head into February, the students have been doing a great job with all of the testing that has been required. From the CFA's to the ILEARN checkpoint tests, super job by all. The students will take ILEARN checkpoint #3 test, prior to the regular ILEARN test which will take place in April-May. The testing window for the regular ILEARN test is from April 14-May 9. Once again, please try and have your child in attendance so that make-up testing is not necessary. Our testing schedule will be sent out on Parent Square as we get closer to the actual ILEARN tests. Students have been reminded that all cell phones, smart watches, and airpods are NOT allowed in the testing locations. The only exception is for students that have a medical condition and require their phones to be on them. In this situation, I have to notify Central Office and then Mrs. Castaneda, Asst. Superintendent, has to notify the Department of Education.

Upcoming dates to remember, February 11th —dismiss at 1:10 for early release day. Also, there is no school on February 17th due to President's Day.

Parents that drop off in the mornings or pick up in the afternoon, please be alert in line. Our goal is to dismiss 4-5 cars at a time so the line moves quickly for all parties. If you are picking your child up in the parking lot, all students need to use the crosswalk. Usually Officer Stamate or I am at that location. I don't want any child or staff member getting hit by a vehicle. Please help us out and be alert.

Winter sports are underway as well as practices for the theatre production, ISSMA, Jazz Festival, Future Problem Solvers, Academic Super bowl and math bowl. Good luck to all students as they participate in their respective activities.

Congratulations to approximately 300 students who were able to maintain an "A" average for the first semester. GREAT JOB! A celebratory breakfast was held on February 4th and 6th for those students. Keep up the hard work—as you can see, dedication and effort pay off! Continue to check out the daily announcements that are posted on the school website. There are a lot of activities going on during the upcoming months.

Until next month, stay safe and warm!
Mr. Graber

A message from Mrs. Beach



Happy February Clark families. While we are hoping for warmer weather soon, we still have to get through the rest of winter. With that being said, please make sure your [Parent Square](#) app is set to alert you with any school notices. Check your preferences within the app to ensure that you are notified of alerts as they are sent. We don't want anyone to miss out.

We are excited to announce that next school year, cheerleading will be offered to our 6th grade students. Tryouts will be held soon, so please watch the daily announcements for updates.

If you haven't already, you still have time to sign up for the 2025 Washington DC trip. This is a great opportunity for students to visit historical monuments, take in the sights, and spend time with friends. This is open to current 7th graders and will take place in October 2025.

Finally, yearbooks are still on sale for a limited time. Please don't wait! [ORDER HERE](#) to be sure your student doesn't miss out!



Congratulations to Mrs. Campagna's advisory for having the overall high score in the 2024 door decorating contest! Their "Holly Dolly" door was unbeatable. Coming in a close second was the "Wickedly" clever Hudi/Castle collab!





Counselor's

Mrs. Churilla



Ms. Vail



Corner

Mr. Biscan

Planning for High School

February brings exciting times for our 8th grade students as they begin to plan their transition to high school! The counselors will be meeting with all 8th graders on Friday, February 7th, to talk about high school expectations including diploma requirements, GPA, and choosing elective classes, to name a few. Information will be distributed to all 8th graders at this presentation. Part of those handouts will be the Freshman Year Scheduling Planner sheet, which will need to be completed, signed by a parent/guardian, and returned to school on Tuesday, February 18th, when the counselors will again meet with the 8th grade students to assist them as they enter their class requests for freshman year into Skyward.

We strongly encourage parents/guardians to talk with their child about best class choices for high school. If parents/guardians have questions about high school scheduling, please feel free to contact your child's school counselor.

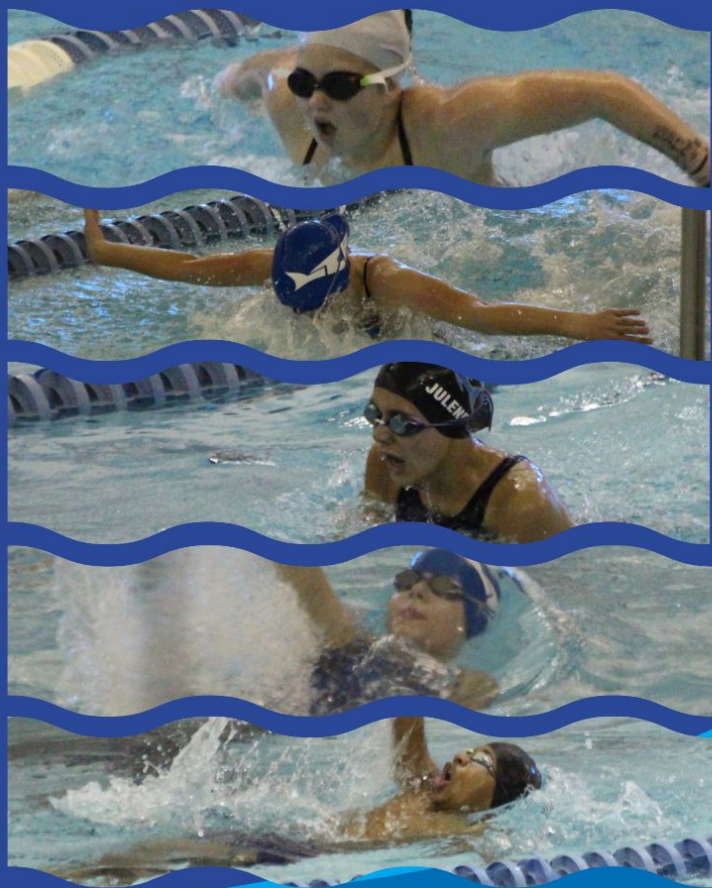
Straight A Breakfast

On Tuesday, February 4th, a breakfast was served for 5th and 6th grade students with straight A's from the first semester. On Thursday, February 6th, a breakfast was served for 7th and 8th grade students with straight A's from the first semester. All students were awarded with a certificate for their accomplishment.

Kindness Week

From January 27th-31st, Clark Middle School held the Great Kindness Challenge. During the week of the Great Kindness Challenge, Clark staff were on the lookout for students going above and beyond to be kind to others, or simply do a kind act. Students who are "caught" showing kindness will be recognized and awarded small prizes.





LC Barracudas

Clark's Barracudas

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Camila Alvear | Alina Rodriguez |
| Kailey Barbosa | Janelle Rokita |
| Arwen Cahill | Harper Ruffner |
| Dee Castle | Mabel Salmen |
| Leah Castle | Kaylie Schaffenberger |
| Marlowe Castle | Connor Smith |
| Cole Evans | Emily Solorio |
| Julene Haigh | Allie Tiljak |
| Taylor Jacobs | Keely Tiljak |
| Niko Nikolovski | Kennedy Tiljak |
| Phoebe Pramuk | Henry Vollink |

Clark Student Spotlight



Clark would like to recognize the 22 students who participate in the LC Barracudas swim club. This club works to give athletes the training and confidence needed to break their own personal records, state cuts, and beyond. These students are from all grades and work tirelessly to build skills and relationships that will last through high school and beyond. These coyotes are just another reason we are #clarkproud!



Hard work



Dedication



Passion



Friends

Science Olympiad



A special shout out to our Science Olympiad team for an outstanding competition this past weekend. Elliot Failor and Daniel Flora performed with "laser focus" in the Optics category, taking second place medals in the event. Owen Graber and Freddy Leonard took 6th in the "Write it, Do it" category out of 22 teams. The MVP of the night was Harper Ruffner, running from building to building to fill in categories that we needed a team member for. Congratulations to the whole team for a great season!

Clark Theatre Presents...



Annie.....	Gwen Hankins
Miss Hannigan.....	Maggie White
Oliver Warbucks.....	Anthony Roppolo
Rooster.....	Ke”mari Goss
Lily.....	Lena Neth
Molly.....	Sheri Grimler
Kate	Harper Schilling
Tessie.....	Alina Rodriguez
Pepper	Emma Hogan
July.....	Emmaline Turley
Duffy	Taylor Jacobs
Orphan.....	Natalie Schneider
Orphan.....	Emily Mikula
Grace Farrell.....	Sophia Bennett
Drake.....	Phoebe Pramuk
Sandy.....	Falynn Larson
Bert Healy.....	Christopher Keith

Annie Jr. will be live, here at Clark, on April 3-6, 2025. More information to come.

Congratulations to the talented students who make up the cast and crew of this, sure to be a hit, performance!

Extras (New Yorkers/servants/President/dog catcher/etc.)

Cecilia Flores
 Ivy Belicek
 Grace Karlen
 Sophia Prichard
 Imogen Shoemaker
 Kennedy Tiljak
 Sidra Salah
 K.G Daly
 Christopher Keith
 Falynn Larson
 Phoebe Pramuk
 Student Directors.....K.G Daly

Library News

Scholastic Book Fair

The Library would like to thank all of the students who shopped at this year's Scholastic Book Fair held the first week in December. It was a great success with over \$11,000 in merchandise sold. A percentage of sales comes back to the Library to purchase books and other materials for the Clark student body. The Book Fair remains very popular with students and it was great to see them shopping and making decisions on what to buy. It was also heartwarming to see students pick out items to give as gifts to family members.

The Book Fair could not be as successful without the help of our volunteer parents, who were so giving of their time! This year, our dedicated volunteer staff included: **Mrs. Salmen** (Mabel Salmen's mom - 8th grade); **Mrs. Szafasz** (Ben and Jack Szafasz's mom - 8th grade); **Mrs. Olayyan** (Sidra and Ibrahim Salah's mom - 8th and 5th grade); **Mrs. Manolojlovic** (Emilia Manolojlovic's mom); **Mrs. Newtoff** (Blake and Owen Newtoff's mom - 8th and 6th grade); **Mrs. Thrasher** (Clayton Thrasher's mom - 7th grade). Thank you so much!

Special thanks to the 8th grade moms who I will greatly miss next year as their students will be moving on to high school. Mrs. Salmen and Mrs. Szafasz have worked the book fair every year of their student's Clark career – a debt of gratitude to both of you and much luck to you as your students move on to the High School!

Other Library News

The Library invited our Applied Skills class in for a craft afternoon prior to Winter Break. A fun and creative time was had by all making Christmas ornaments to decorate their trees. Students got to choose the ornament they wanted to make and they had fun creating with glue, sparkly stickers and pipe cleaners. The students were treated to holiday donuts the next morning when their creations were delivered and dry enough to take home.

The school year seems to be flying by! Looking forward to the second semester in the Library – No time better than winter to cozy up with a good book!

Washington D.C.-2025

Exciting news! There's still space available on our upcoming Washington, D.C. trip. Don't miss out! You can find all the trip details and sign-up information here: [Clark 2025 DC Trip](#)

To register, use our **Trip ID: 220125**:

- Online: worldstrides.com/signup
- By phone: **800-468-5899**

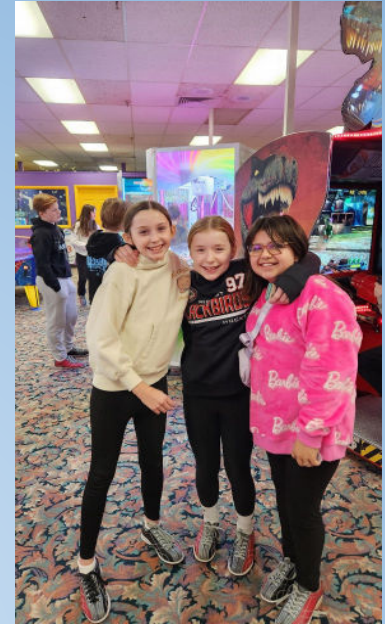


If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to email me. I'm thrilled about this incredible opportunity and hope your child can join us!

Best regards,
Michael Brandner

Student of the Month Celebration

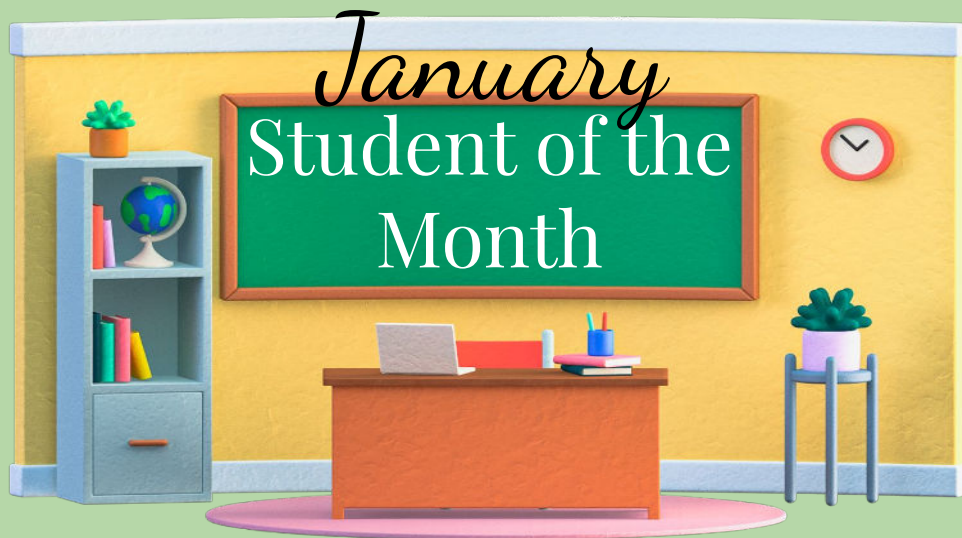
The Clark students of the month had a great time at Stardust Bowling Alley celebrating their achievements. Congratulations to all of our outstanding students!



Paws for a Cause

A special THANK YOU goes out to all students, staff, and community members who helped supply the Humane Society with much needed supplies this holiday season. Paws for a Cause is so grateful!





5TH GRADE

6TH GRADE

7TH GRADE

8TH GRADE

BRENDAN RAMIREZ
 BEAU MILLER
 ELIZABETH GEHRT
 NOAH MANNING
 NORA BLEY
 BREANN GIBSON
 PEYTON FAZIO
 JOEY SHAPIRO
 MARLOWE CASTLE
 EMMA GERMERAAD
 HUDSON CHEEK
 LONDYN HENDERSON
 AMYIAH ROBERTS
 LONDYN HENDERSON
 PIPER NARJES

MAX HALL
 NIKO NIKOLOVSKI
 JAZARIS CONWAY
 SAMANTHA PEREZ
 JASE FULLER
 CARLO RODRIGUEZ
 TAYLOR WAGNER
 JAXON PAGOREK
 CARTER GUILLORY
 EMILY SOLORIO
 LEONARDO RODRIGUEZ
 DOMINIC TAFFORA
 RAYMOND KAPPEL
 MIA BARSICH
 ALINA RODRIGUEZ
 JACE AHRENS
 HIEU NGUYEN
 NATALIA CORDOVA
 BRADY STOMING
 ARIANNA ESPINOZA
 HIEU NGUYEN
 OWEN NEWTOFF

LYLA CERKOSKE
 BRITTANY USHER
 JACOB PAAT
 EVA BRUMM
 CONNOR SMITH
 WILLOW BRUGGEMAN
 REAGAN COX
 AUBREY HATFIELD
 HAVEN WILCOX
 LEO MARTINEZ
 NATHAN ELLIS

ROBERTO RODRIGUEZ
 CAMILA ALVEAR
 TYLER PROSPAL
 JOHN BLEY
 PEYTON SILVAS
 AVA HUTTON
 SOPHIE TRUONG
 JET KHARCHAF
 ALLISON YOTT
 SAMA MUSLEH
 DAVEY MAJEWSKI
 ALEXANDRA CABRALES

LCSC SPECIAL EDUCATION
PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nominations due
February 17, 2025
Nominations
due by
February 17, 2025

SPECIAL EDUCATION

IMPACT AWARDS

Is there a
Teacher who
celebrates
your child's
unique
abilities?

A
Service
Provider
that has played
a huge roll
in your
child's
progress?

An
Administrator
who encourages
communication
&
collaboration?

A para who
provides
unparalleled
support?

<https://tinyurl.com/2025ImpactAwardNomination>

Nominate Them Today

The Special Education Impact Award recognizes and shows appreciation for those who go above and beyond for our students receiving specialized services.





Attention athletes:

Do you want to join the Track and Field team? Any interested 6th, 7th, or 8th graders are invited to a call out meeting on February 19th, during advisory.

All Track participants are required to have an athletic physical on file dated after April 2024. Parents must have an up to date Final Forms account also. More information to come.

SAFETY FIRST

Parents/Guardians

When picking up your child early from school, they must have a note in the morning notifying the office of what time and who will be picking them up. Your child's safety is very important to us. Have your child bring the note to the office before going to class in the morning.

