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THE CLINTON CITY CHRONICLES



CCS RANKINGS ARE ON TOP

CCS Ranked in the Top
Five Districts in The State

On Thursday, July 19, the Tennessee State Department of Education announced achievement results for the 2018 TN Ready test. As part of the accountability system, students are grouped into three grade bands: 3rd-5th grade, 6th-8th grade and 9th-12th grade. Clinton City is a Pre-K through 6th grade system, so the school system attains rankings in the 3rd-5th grade band and 6th-8th grade band. Clinton City Schools was one of six districts across the state who ranked in the top five in a grade band cohort in both achievement and student growth. CCS' 6th grade attained top five rankings in two different testing areas: ELA (English/Language Arts) and Math. Clinton City was the only system to meet these expectations in two academic subjects. Williamson County was the only state district to attain top ranks in all three grade bands.

There are 144 districts across the state of TN. In terms of achievement, the 6th grade cohort in Clinton City Schools ranked 3rd in Math and 2nd in ELA. Clinton City Schools also ranked in the top 5 districts across the state in terms of academic growth.

Director Kelly Johnson stated, "Districts across the state of TN worked very hard this year on behalf of their students. I am extremely pleased with the results that have been released so far as it affirms the dedication, professionalism, and growth mindset in our Clinton City teachers and students. We firmly believe in high expectations with an abundance of support. We expect a great deal from our students, and they consistently rise to the challenge. These results could not be possible without our high-quality teachers, supportive parents, strong partnerships with the city of Clinton, and pride in the community."

Mayor Scott Burton is also pleased with the progress of the school system. "We have a great deal in which to be proud in the city of Clinton. Our school system has a unique, personalized learning environment that has demonstrated success over many years. As their funding body, we have developed a very collaborative relationship where the school system and City Council work together toward the same goals. We are very proud of our students and teachers."

What's Summer Like At CCS?

It is a question that is asked by many, but understood by few. What happens during the summer with schools and staff? The truth of the matter is that teachers and schools are busy in the summer as well! "Summer vacation" is not what many may think.

At the building level, you will find a wonderful team of maintenance professionals working diligently to clean the buildings for the upcoming year. This process starts as soon as the school year ends and continues until the minute students walk through the doors. All classrooms are emptied of furniture for floor waxing and intense cleaning. Capital projects are completed including new construction, carpet installation, HVAC work, painting, remodeling, classroom upgrades, technology networking, etc. If you see a custodian, make sure to thank them! They have worked hard this summer preparing for a clean, healthy learning environment for students!

What do teachers do? Several Clinton City Schools staff members used their summer to provide additional learning opportunities to students: summer academic camps, art camp, BizTown, and Blaze Reading Society. Teachers have been very busy this summer participating in professional learning opportunities. Mrs. Kimberly O'Dell and Mr. Jason Glashauser served as state department trainers for Science and Music respectively. Our CCS Science Lead Teachers attended state training on the new Science standards and worked collaboratively to plan pacing, resources, and plans for implementation of new standards this year. Social Studies Lead Teachers have also met to prepare for implementation of new standards and integration plans. New teachers have attended New Teacher Academy and met individually with CCS Math

and ELA Coaches to ensure that they have the necessary content knowledge and familiarity of the CCS instructional framework to provide differentiated, personalized instruction to students. Several teachers used the summer to work towards completion of advanced degrees, and we even had a staff member write a children's book!

What about school/district administrators and summer? They have attended various trainings this summer including autism, TEAM, science, school culture, and restorative practices. All administrators attended a 2 day Leadership Retreat where plans were made to continue to the "Tradition of Excellence" at Clinton City Schools. When not participating in professional development, there were many other things to do to prepare for the school year: create classes, hire and orient new teachers, analyze data, create school improvement and schools safety plans, create school schedules, parent meetings, purchase resources, create budgets, oversee facilities, and the list goes on and on.

School doesn't just happen. There is an abundance of work that is involved in creating a quality learning environment for our students. Staff members work endless hours on behalf of our children. Teachers and staff members never really "leave" for the summer in public education. Their minds are always working on how they can improve the educational experience for their students, and their hearts are always reaching out to how we can change the trajectory of a child's life. Next time you see a custodian, teacher, support staff, or school administrator for any system, thank them. Education is not a job, it is a lifestyle.....and we love every minute of it! Welcome back! We look forward to a great year!

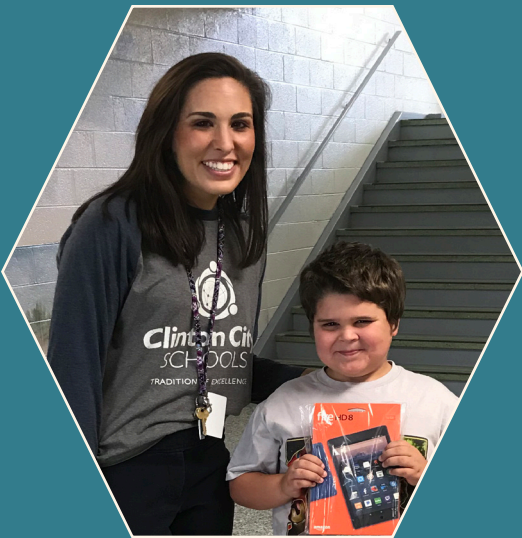
Read 20 Winners

This summer, CCS presented students with a challenge to read for at least 20 minutes every day. Students were given a multitude of resources to help them achieve this goal including three electronic libraries: MyOn, Big Universe, and READS. In addition to the electronic libraries, CCS also partnered with the Clinton Public Library and Clinton Community Center to provide more opportunities for students to read.

CCS students rose to the challenge and conquered some wonderful books this summer! On MyOn, students read approximately 11,417 books totaling over 2,646 hours of reading. For only one out of the three programs, this is exceptional! As an incentive and encouragement, MyOn donated a Kindle Fire HD to the student at each school who read the most with the program. CCS is thrilled to announce the winners from each school:

- Clinton Elementary School: Blake Leverknight**
- North Clinton Elementary School: Wesley Gomez**
- South Clinton Elementary School: Bryson Breeden**

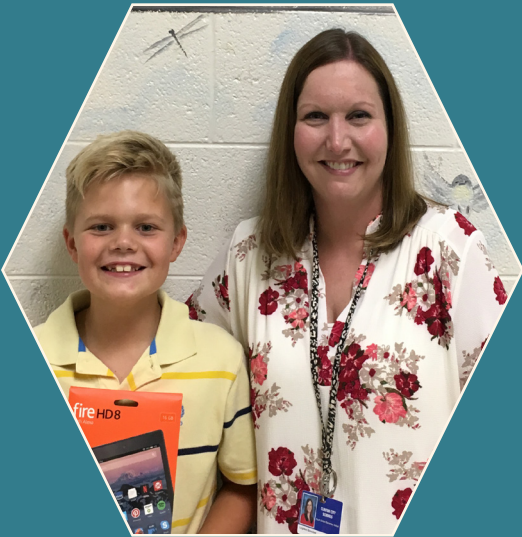
Other prizes will be awarded to students for their reading accomplishments at the first student assembly! The first step in becoming a good reader is simple – READ! There is no doubt that the students who made an effort to Read 20 this summer will see huge benefits from their hard work this school year! CCS encourages all of their students to keep reading, because readers are winners!



**CES READ 20 Winner:
Blake Leverknight**



**NCES READ 20 Winner:
Wesley Gomez**



**SCES READ 20 Winner:
Bryson Breeden**

CLINTON CITY SCHOOLS

2018-2019 CALENDAR

August 3	First Day for Students (Student Dismissal 11:30)
August 31	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
September 3	Labor Day Holiday
October 5	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
October 8-12	Fall Break
November 6	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
November 21-23	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 21	Last Day Before Winter Break (Student Dismissal 11:30)
December 24 – Jan. 4	Winter Break
January 7	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
January 8	First Day for Students
January 21	Martin Luther King, Jr. (Student Holiday)
February 15	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
February 18	Presidents Day (Student Holiday)
March 15	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
March 18-22	Spring Break
April 19	Good Friday (Student Holiday)
April 22	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
May 13	In-service Day (Student Holiday)
May 24	Last Day for Students (Dismissal at 11:30)



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Clinton City Schools



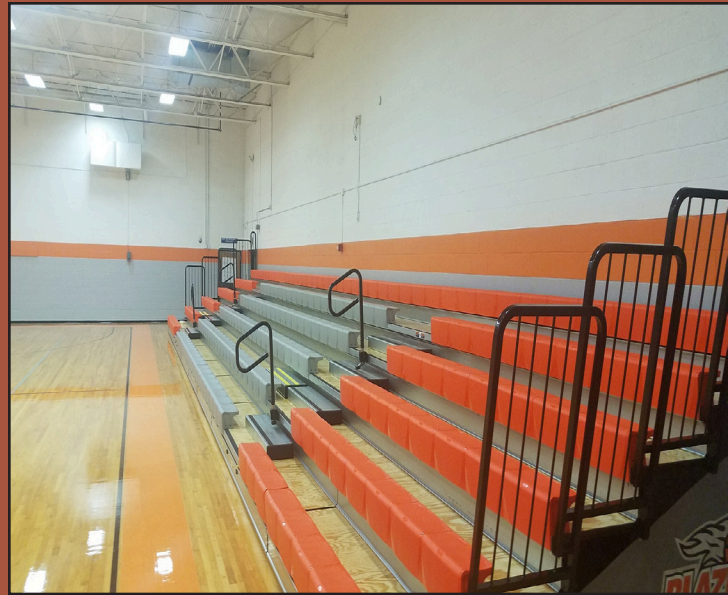
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CES Gym Renovations Almost Complete

When CES students entered the school building on August 3, they noticed that the gym had a complete facelift! Over the summer, the walls were painted, the original wooden floors were refinished, and new electric bleachers were installed. In the center of the court, students saw a large basketball with flames shooting out the back, symbolizing the CCS well-rounded mascot – “The BLAZE.” Two new scoreboards will be placed on the walls as the final component of the renovations.

The new gym would not have been possible without the generosity of many local businesses and community members! Director Kelly Johnson stated, “It is through strong partnerships that we are able to offer a variety of well-rounded opportunities that develop and build on students’ interests and talents. Clinton City Schools is appreciative of all the individuals and organizations that made the gym renovations possible. This facility will provide a positive space for learning for many years to come.”

Blaze well-rounded activities will expand this year to include: Basketball, Cross Country, Dance, Swim, Reading Society, and Science Society. Clinton City Schools plans to hold an official ribbon cutting of the new gym in early Fall.



Are You Following Along?



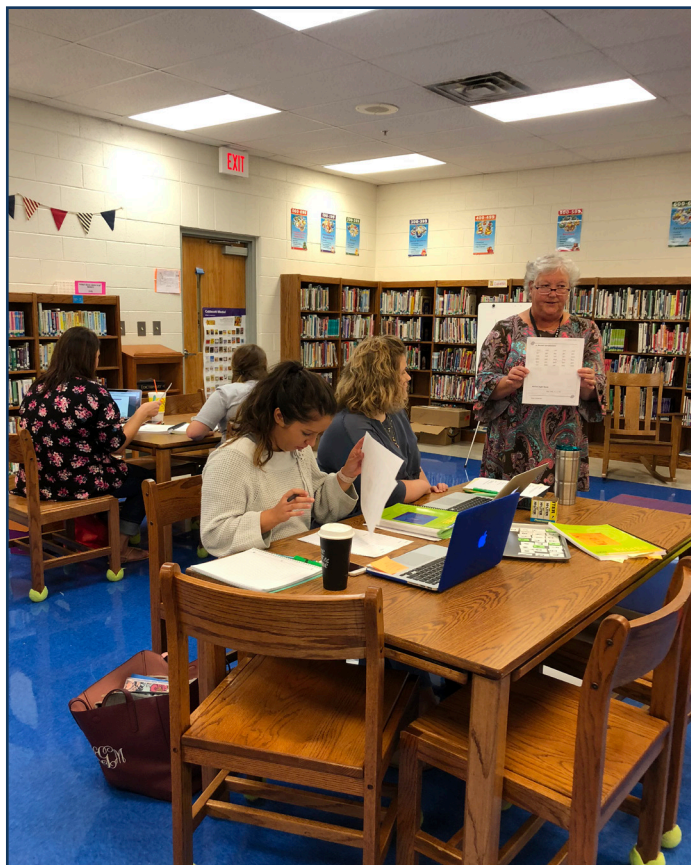
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CLINTON CITY SCHOOLS

**Educators & Staff
Prepare for Another
Great Year!**



CCS Hosts Meet the Teachers Night

And we are off! The new school year has officially begun! On Monday, July 30, Clinton City Schools' staff eagerly entered the school buildings to prepare for a successful school year. The week was filled with an abundance of activities including professional development, classroom preparations, and planning. By Thursday evening, staff members were ready to welcome smiling children back into the shiny school buildings.

This year, Clinton City Schools held a "Meet the Teacher Night" prior to the first day of school. On Thursday, August 2, parents and students were invited to meet their teacher, pick up school information, and drop off school supplies prior to the first day of school. School buildings were beaming with excitement as students eagerly entered the classroom to see their teacher, catch up with friends, and see their new academic home for the 2018-19 school year. Director Kelly Johnson stated, "Having Meet the Teacher Night prior to the school year beginning was a tremendous success. Parents and students are always eager, and a little anxious, to meet the teacher and see the classroom. Being able to spend time together as a family in the new learning environment helps the first day of school go smoothly. Having an informal gathering prior to the school year allows parents to communicate

necessary information to classroom teachers prior to the first day. Parents also receive essential information regarding school and classroom logistics that get the year started on a positive note."

The school year is now up and running! Playgrounds are filled with laughter, straight lines are seen in the hallways, and classrooms are encompassed with collaborative learning! CCS welcomes a new year of high expectations with an abundance of support! Welcome back, teachers and students to a wonderful school year!

Welcome
BACK TO
SCHOOL

Starting The School Year on the “Right Foot!”

The beginning of school is always a time of excitement! Students eagerly get up, put on new outfits, grab shiny backpacks, pack school supplies and head off to school. Starting off a new year can be quite expensive! So while it is a time of excitement for most, there are a few students who find this time of the year to be stressful because they are not able to obtain all the items needed for a successful school year.

Fortunately, there is no need to worry when attending Clinton City Schools because the residents and various organizations in Clinton are always ready to support our students. This year, ADFAC, in collaboration with the Clinton Fire Department, provided each school with an abundance of brand new backpacks for students. These bags were filled with the necessary school supplies for each grade level. Families who needed a little extra assistance were able to come to school and get a backpack for their child prior to the school year beginning. These students had what they needed on the first day of school! Additional backpacks/school supplies were provided from the Apostolic Church, Dominos, First Wesleyan Church, and Enrichment Federal Credit Union.

This year, in addition to backpacks and supplies, NCES implemented another layer of support. Community members were encouraged to bring in a new or slightly used pair of tennis shoes to Central Office. Families at NCES were able to fill out a request form during Meet the Teacher Night for a new pair of shoes for their child. It has been a heartwarming experience to see students get excited when receiving their new pair of tennis shoes to start the school year. The response from our community members has been amazing! Through the generosity of many,

we will be able to meet the needs of our students at North Clinton for months to come. A special thanks to Water Angels Ministries, Ron and Carolyn Honeycutt, Windrock Trucks Parts and Equipment, Beverly Clark, and Nancy Denton.

CCS often makes the comment that it “takes a village to raise a child.” It is such an amazing experience to be a part of a community that embraces the idea that it takes all of us working together to have a highly effective school system. Academic success starts with meeting basic needs for our students. Due to amazing, supportive community collaboration this year, our students are stepping into a new school year on the right foot! We appreciate all that you do on behalf of our terrific students!

