

CLINTON BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES & INFORMATION

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CPS Community Partnership in Advanced Manufacturing Grant Award

The Board of Education is pleased to announce that the Clinton Public Schools was awarded the Carl T. Perkins Career and Technical Education Secondary Supplemental Enhancement Grant to support community partnerships and initiatives in advanced manufacturing. This grant in the amount of \$44,000 will support our commitment to providing quality STEM experiences to our students through the following avenues:

- Supporting awareness training for students and families about the myriad of high-paying, in-demand careers in advanced manufacturing that are available locally and regionally
- Providing opportunities for students to visit local advanced manufacturing facilities
- Introducing students to the use of tools and equipment currently in use at local advanced manufacturers
- Providing experiences to high school students that mirror entry-level jobs and internships available in advanced manufacturing
- Developing student understanding and experiences in the fields of robotics, programming, engineering, and manufacturing
- Purchase of drones, precision measuring tools, industry software, CNC router ShopBot, and a Dobot robotic arm to enhance the high school engineering curriculum pathway

The grant award was based on the merit of the request and strength of the application. School District Administration led by Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, in partnership with local manufacturers and the town's Economic Development Commission, began discussions to determine methods to share career opportunities in advanced manufacturing with Clinton

students. Key to the discussion was the need to develop an approach that would provide our students with opportunities and experiences that would enhance their STEM backgrounds and explore paths to exciting careers in advanced manufacturing, engineering, and other associated fields. Grant funding will allow for the purchase of equipment, software, and precision measurement tools that are currently used in the advanced manufacturing sector and give students enhanced classroom-based experience in the area of robotics, coding, 3D printing, and drone construction. Students will be mentored by representatives of local area companies and will have the opportunity to visit various facilities based in Clinton.

Budget Information & Process

The Board of Education approved its budget on February 3, 2020 and submitted its request to the Town Council and Town Manager. On March 3, 2020, the Town Council unanimously approved the proposed budget and it was anticipated that the Public Hearing on the Budget would be held on April 8, 2020. Due to COVID-19 impacts and the Executive Order of the Governor, the Town Council was required to alter the budget process and has made adjustments to the process for budget review and adoption. Click on the links below for budget information:

[BOE Approved 2020-2021 Budget](#)

[Adopting and Managing the Town Budget During COVID-19-FAQ](#)

With the understanding that the impacts of COVID-19 will have far-reaching effects on the State and the Town, the Board of Education and Superintendent are committed to communicating and collaborating with the Town Manager and Town Council to ensure that the final adopted budget is responsive to community expectations and the need to maintain a financially strong Clinton. All efforts to undertake an analysis of the current budget and proposed budget are underway, and we are identifying potential savings while still maintaining the charge to provide a quality education to the students in Clinton.

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We hope that you will participate in supporting the efforts of the Town Council and Town Manager and advocating for collaborative decision-making in finalizing a budget that meets the needs of the community.

The Town Council Budget Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 6:00 PM. You can join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone by going to: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/938572013>. You can also dial in using your phone by calling 571-317-3122 and entering Access Code 938-572-013.

Public comment can also be submitted in writing to the Town Council. Please mail your comments to the Town Hall, 54 East Main Street, Clinton, CT 06413 or you can email written comments to Budget@clintonct.org. All correspondence needs to be submitted by 3:00 PM on May 5, 2020. The Governor's Executive Order 7B describes that materials submitted to the town's board or commission need to be available at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. All emails will be provided to the Council and will appear online with the agenda for the Town Council's Public Hearing.

ONLINE LEARNING & SCHOOL INFORMATION

Extension of School Closure

The Governor has formally ordered that all schools remain closed through May 20, 2020. Established social distancing and safety measures will remain in place through this time as well. Online Learning will continue during this timeframe and school staff, including teachers, administrators, and counselors, will continue to be available by email. The District Office staff are available daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and can be reached by calling 860-664-6500. We anticipate further guidance and a decision from the Governor soon on whether schools will be able to reopen this school year.

Student Attendance

Online schooling is fully established and we are pleased that our students are engaged and participating. During these difficult times, we understand that some students and families may not be able to participate fully in the online learning for a number of reasons. If students are experiencing difficulties that prevent participation, parents should communicate with the appropriate school staff. Each school has an established protocol for checking in with students and their families on a regular basis. Please know that teachers and support staff will continue to reach out in an effort to ensure all students are participating in online learning and to support students and families where needed.

Grading

The State Department of Education has provided recommendations regarding grading during online learning. The administration and the Board of Education will be reviewing the guidance and making determinations about a variety of grading components. In grades 6-12, this includes considerations for 4th quarter grading for online learning, final and semester grade calculations, grades for high school transcripts, and GPA calculations at the high school. In grades PK-5, the work entails a focus on providing feedback to parents regarding achievement of grade-level standards in grades PK-5 and identifying adjustments to standards-based report cards.

Graduation Planning

As of now, we are planning to hold a graduation ceremony on June 10th. End-of-year events will be monitored and we will make decisions to adjust our planning as we receive more information and guidance about the end of the school year.

DISTRICT OPPORTUNITIES

Food Service

Meals continue to be provided at Pierson School and The Morgan School from 11:00-12:30 each day for ALL children under the age of 18 in Clinton. Please click [here](#) for additional information regarding additional food resources for children.

Clinton Education Foundation Extends Deadline for Grant Applications

As you may know, the Clinton Education Foundation (CEF) offers grants and scholarships to students and teachers in the Clinton Public Schools. The purpose of the *Calvert Student Grant* is to provide funds for students in grades three through twelve to pursue their passion for the arts, academics, or athletics. The *Renfrew Memorial Scholarship* provides funds for Morgan School students to pursue educational leadership and academic experiences. The *Coviello Teacher Grant* is awarded to teachers who apply for funds to enhance their programs. Applications for these grants can be found on the [Clinton Education Foundation website](#). This year, due to extraordinary circumstances, the CEF is extending the application deadline to May 15th. Please mail all completed applications to: Clinton Education Foundation, P.O. Box 684, Clinton, CT 06413.