



Clinton Gifted and Talented News  
October 2021

Dear TAG Families,

I hope that this letter finds you healthy and doing well overall. I have started, stopped and restarted this letter multiple times over the course of September. Now, it is October. My purpose for this letter is to update you on all things TAG and reintroduce myself. For those who don't know me, I have been a teacher since 1995, and working in Clinton since 2006. I am the coordinator of the Talented and Gifted program (TAG) for all of the Clinton Public Schools. This means that I have the Herculean feat of keeping track of 80+ students in three schools! You can bet that I have been sleeping quite well at night. I tell you this not because I am whining, but because I made a vow not to beat myself up when I can't do everything. We all need to remember to give ourselves (and our kids) a break and take care of our emotional well being.

As your child's case manager, I spent the bulk of September sorting out student schedules and front loading staff with what they need to be successful while working with gifted students. At Eliot and Joel, your children have been placed in cohorts with other gifted/talented students to make differentiating a tad easier for them. Eliot After-Hours began at the end of the month with some great enrichment activities for those not participating in team sports. Our Morgan teachers have been given lists of those gifted students within their classes along with some tips that might help them understand what giftedness is and isn't. So, we are off to the races.

Systematically, our school year is off to a great start with all the pieces working like a well-oiled machine. But we need to remember that we are growing people not machines. For some of your children, they need more than a consistent, predictable schedule to be successful. Therefore, instead of sharing enrichment opportunities this month, I want to make you aware of the emotional supports Clinton has as well as a few other bits of Social-Emotional health news. Please check out the information on next page, and contact me if you have questions or need help.

Sincerely, Emily



School Based Counselors:

Each school has at least one Social Worker, School Counselor or School Psychologist that is always available to talk with your child. Please reach out to someone from this department and they can set something up with your child. If you need assistance, I can help set something up.

Joel	School Psychologist	<a href="#">Mrs. Bonner</a> (2-4)	<a href="#">Mrs. Hicks</a> (PK-1)
	Social Worker	<a href="#">Ms. Sam</a> (PK-5)	
Eliot	School Psychologist	<a href="#">Mrs. Tavares</a>	<a href="#">Mr. Mendelssohn</a>
	Social Worker	<a href="#">Ms. Sam</a> (Gr 5)	<a href="#">Mrs. Didiano</a>
	School Counselor	<a href="#">Mrs. Lanzoni</a> (5,7)	<a href="#">Mrs. Fusaro</a> (6,8)
Morgan	School Psychologist	<a href="#">Mrs. Thomas</a>	<a href="#">Mr. Mendelssohn</a>
	Social Worker	<a href="#">Ms. Tranquilli</a>	
	School Counselor	<a href="#">Mrs. Rodowicz</a> (11, 12 A-K)	<a href="#">Ms. Sayed</a> (11, 12 L-Z)
		<a href="#">Mrs. Zdunczyk</a> (9-10 A-K)	<a href="#">Mrs. Williams-Kahn</a> L-Z

Community Health Center (CHC):

The Community Health Center has partnered with our school system to provide behavioral health sessions (therapy) on our campuses. The students can have sessions during the school day or even via telehealth.

<https://www.chc1.com/what-we-do/our-services/school-based-health/>

Other INFO:

["Taking your child to a therapist" informative article](#)

["Children's Mental Health"](#)

[Social Emotional Health](#)

[General Resources for Parents of Gifted Children](#)

