



CTMS NEWS

Community & Teamwork Motivate Success
September 11, 2020



UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS:

- 9/16 BOE Working Meeting
9/17 **Grade 6 - Back-to-School Night, 6:00-7:15 PM**
***Please note that the prior date published was incorrect**
- 9/21 BOE Meeting 7:30 PM
9/22 **Grade 7 - Back-to-School Night, 6:00-7:15 PM**
***Please note that the prior date published was incorrect**
- Grade 8 - Back-to-School Night, 7:30-8:45 PM
9/28 School Closed: Observance of Yom Kippur
10/03 PTA Tricky Tray Auction CTMS

We were so excited to see our CTMS family this week both in person and via the computer screen. The happiness of being back at school was clearly visible even behind the masks and in the online conversation. It is amazing how resilient and adaptable our children are.

The arrival and dismissal procedures have provided a smooth and safe transition into and out of the school. Thank you for working with us in partnership to create a successful first week of school.

Virtual Academy Students

Text books and supplemental materials have been collected and bagged ready for collection. You can collect these items Tuesday -Friday between 8:30 and 11:00 or 1:00-3:00. If you're unable to collect the items at the designated time, please call the office and we will make alternative arrangements.

Enrichment News

Anyone student who is interested in joining the Poetry Club should email Ms. Cormican as soon as possible. The first meeting will be on Monday, September 14th, and former Poetry Club students will be automatically invited. Watch for an email invitation.

Applications are being accepted for the Law Fair and Law Adventure enrichment programs! Please find the application (attached PDF) or go to the Enrichment Website to learn more. Contact the Enrichment Teacher, Diane Cormican at dcormican@ctsdnj.org if you have any questions!



Back to School Night

We look forward to working with you as your child either begins or continues his/her educational journey at Clinton Township Middle School! Please mark your calendar for a Virtual Back to School Night on September 17th for Sixth Grades and September 22nd for Seventh and Eighth Grade. Additional details will follow.

Chromebooks

Student chromebooks have been distributed, along with chargers. Students should fully charge their chromebooks each night and bring chargers with them daily.

CTMS Schedules

Please refer to the attached daily schedule Powerschool may not accurately reflect the activities and expectations for our afternoon sessions or on Virtual Mondays.

			ALL GRADES
Homeroom	7:55-8:10	15	SUBJECTS: ELA MATH SCIENCE SOCIAL STUDIES
Period 1	8:10- 8:50	40	
Movement Break	8:50-8:55	5	
Period 2	8:55- 9:35	40	
Movement Break	9:35-9:40	5	One Unified Art focus for one marking period Art Tech Apps General Music Physical Education/ Health 21st Century Skills
Period 3	9:40-10:20	40	
Movement Break	10:20 -10:25	5	
Period 4	10:25-11:05	40	
Movement Break	11:05 - 11:10	5	
Period 5	11:10-11:50	40	
Ending Period and Dismissal	11:50-12:05	15	
Travel and Lunch	12:05-1:30	85	
Afternoon Session	1:30-2:20	Virtual	The afternoon is designed for UA extension work. There will be two 30 minute sessions, 1:30-2:00 and 2:00-2:30. These periods will extend from the UA classes children participate in during the morning. Additionally, Enrichment, Literacy and Math Support, World Language, and Choral and Instrumental Music will occur.

CTMS Virtual Monday

This is an opportunity for teachers to formatively assess the class, provide support or extra practice as needed and answer questions. Additionally, extension activities or project work may be completed at this time.

Students will be expected to login at the start of each period, but if they are given independent practice or are working on projects, they may do so offline for the remainder of the period or on camera per teacher discretion.

CTMS Virtual Monday Schedule

Time	Period	Activity
8:00-8:30	Advisory	Character Ed/Community Building
8:40-9:10	Period 1	Check In
9:20-9:50	Period 2	Check In
10:00-10:30	Period 3	Check In
10:40-11:10	Period 4	Check In
11:20-11:50	Period 5	Check In
11:50 -12:30	Lunch	Lunch
12:30-2:20	9/14 Independent Study: Membeam, No Red Ink, Moby Max, reading logs or project work	Starting the week of 9/21: World Language, Performance Based Music lessons, Enrichment, and Literacy and Math Support will happen throughout the day

Health and Safety:

- **Qualtrics:** Thank you for taking the time to complete this screener each morning. This is a vital piece of information that allows your child(ren) to participate in person, denotes participation/attendance, and reminds both families and staff that it is important to stay at home if you are unwell, for the health and safety of everyone. Screeners arrive at 5 AM and a reminder with the link is also sent at 7 AM.
 - Remember that anyone that does not have certification to enter the building on their in person days, will be held in a respectful, isolated area until their parent/guardian can be reached to complete the screener, or to be picked up and remain virtual for the day.
 - CTMS screener needs to be completed by 7 AM Screening not completed by this time does not appear on our lists for clearance and your child will be held in respectful isolation until certification can be confirmed.

ALL STUDENTS in the A and B Cohorts should bring the following items to school each day:

- Headphones
- A face covering worn into school.
- A spare face covering stored in a plastic bag, and shield if desired
- A small **paper** bag to put their face covering inside during mask break.
- A small bottle of hand sanitizer
- A small package of tissues
- Appropriate layers of clothing for outdoors
- Individual supplies. Students will not share equipment or supplies
- A water bottle

Bus Information: Transportation issues may be directed to Ms. Carmella Shaw at 908.236.7235 ext. 521 - cshaw@ctsdnj.org



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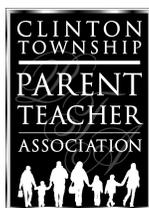
Communication: In the event of an emergency school closing or unexpected situation, parents will be notified via phone and email through the Clinton Township School District (CTSD) alert system. Valuable information is shared on the CTSD website at www.ctsdnj.org.

CTMS: Main Office Number 908 238 9141

The District weekly update can be found at the following link: [CTSD Weekly Update](#)

Parent Portal: Parent Portal is live for the 2020-2021 school year. If you already have a Parent Portal account, you can access it at <https://ctsd.powerschool.com/public>.

Additional information regarding the Parent Portal can be found on the district's website at http://ctsdnj.org/resources/parent_resources/parent_portal.



What's New with the PTA!

Hello families! We hope everyone has settled into new routines, and is happy to be back at school. Many thanks to the parents and faculty who have already renewed their PTA membership, and welcome to those of you joining us for the first time. Your [PTA membership](#) supports our programming all year long, and gains you exclusive access to our online directory. We've also had many families take advantage of our Community Discount Card, which can be purchased online in the [PTA store](#).

Our wonderful staff appreciation coordinators treated the staff at all four buildings to an assortment of "Welcome Back" grab & go snacks and beverages throughout our first week back. Many thanks to Tracy Schwierk, Angela Pearly & Jen Cefalo for organizing this gesture of appreciation on behalf of the PTA.

Our coordinators are hard at work figuring out the logistics of this year's PTA Back To School socials. We plan to offer virtual/alternative versions of our typical BTS socials, so please stay tuned for further details and dates!

The best way to stay informed of the latest PTA news is to ensure you are registered on [our website](#), where you can find our calendar, family directory, event & fundraising flyers, PTA store, and much more! **Remember, as our flyers will not be back-packed home this year, registering is the only way to ensure you receive all of our important communications throughout the year.** If you're a returning family, please log on and take a moment to ensure your family information and directory preferences are both up to date. If you're a new family, please take the time to register. And of course, you can always find us on [Facebook](#)!

Finally, please note that our first PTA meeting, originally scheduled for September 16, will now take place on September 23 at 7pm (via Zoom), in order to avoid a conflict with the rescheduled Board of

Education meeting.

What is a Membership Toolkit?

Membership Toolkit (MTK) is the [online home of Clinton Township PTA](#). Registering with MTK is not the same as joining the PTA. MTK is the platform the PTA utilizes to provide valuable information on our events and activities; to offer updates on our fundraisers; to communicate with our families; and to offer PTA membership and other purchases - all with the convenience of a single online home.

Once registered, you may:

- access additional content just for our families
- complete your database information and designate your directory publishing preferences
- join our PTA (and pay annual dues), if desired
- access our online directory (*for current PTA members only*)

How to register with Membership Toolkit?

To register as a new user:

1. Click [here](#).
2. Register with your preferred email address.
3. Proceed to "My Account" > "My PTA".
4. Add your Family Information.
5. Select your Directory Publishing Preferences.

For existing users:

1. Click [here](#).
2. Sign in with your existing email & password.
3. Proceed to "My Account" > "My PTA".
4. Update your Family Information.
5. Select your Directory Publishing Preferences.

Questions? Contact ctptamembers@gmail.com.

PTA Community Discount Card

Typically, your PTA raises funds throughout the school year to support our events, activities, assemblies, staff appreciation, enrichment opportunities, and more. The Executive Board has given a great deal of thought to this year's fundraising program, and has decided to proceed with fundraisers that provide a service to our families and/or support the local community. We recognize that many families may have experienced economic hardship during the pandemic, and we fully understand that not all are currently in a position to participate. We balance that knowledge with our responsibility to ensure that the PTA remains adequately funded, both for this year and for future years.

With this in mind, we are delighted to announce our first 2020/21 fundraiser is the relaunch of our Community Discount Card, designed to support local businesses in their recovery, as well as our families, by providing specific discounts and deals to popular local merchants. Full details can be found [here](#), and cards may be purchased through the [PTA store](#) on MTK, and will be distributed via US Postal Service. We are grateful to the local participating businesses for their support, and we ask that our families consider patronizing them whenever possible.

How can you get involved?

There are a variety of ways in which you can get involved with Clinton Township PTA. Most importantly, [please consider joining the PTA](#) to support our activities and events all year long. Your \$10 annual membership dues help support educational enrichment assemblies, a variety of student and family virtual activities, as well as Science Night and Gallery Time (our parent-led art enrichment program), and our annual Staff Appreciation Week activities.

An even easier way to financially support our PTA is to shop through the AmazonSmile program. Simply select Clinton Township PTA (21234) as your charitable organization when you shop at www.smile.amazon.com for the same product selection and same prices you would see at www.amazon.com. At no cost to you, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to our organization. Click [here](#) to select Clinton Township PTA as your default charitable organization.

You can also support the PTA simply by showing up, to whatever extent you are comfortable with, and your personal schedule dictates:

- encourage your children to participate in PTA virtual events
- attend a (virtual) PTA meeting
- volunteer to help with a PTA-sponsored event or activity
- coordinate class celebrations as a homeroom parent
- chair an event, program or fundraiser
- become a PTA Executive Board member

Contact Trish Eosso, VP of Volunteers, at pamo_10@hotmail.com to find the right fit for you.

Finally, we invite you to participate in our fundraisers. Offered throughout the year, we work hard to bring you appealing and useful fundraisers that benefit the PTA with a portion of proceeds - from our Community Discount Card, to our Scholastic Book Fair; from Charleston Wrap paper & gifts to Gertrude Hawk spring chocolate; from our clothing drives to our annual Tricky Tray.

For all the ways in which our families, teachers and community support Clinton Township PTA, we thank you!
We couldn't do it without you.

Upcoming events:

Wednesday, September 23, 7:00pm - PTA meeting (via Zoom) * **Note the change in date from September 16!**

Saturday, October 3, time TBD - Class of 2021 Tricky Tray

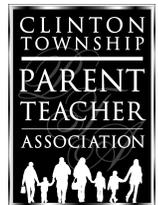
Wednesday, October 21, 7:00pm - PTA meeting (via Zoom)

Monday, October 26 - Fall homeroom celebrations (virtual)

Wednesday, November 18, 7:00pm - PTA meeting (via Zoom)

Wednesday, December 16, 7:00pm - PTA meeting (via Zoom)

Monday, December 21 - Winter homeroom celebrations (virtual)



*** Check our [calendar](#) often, as more events will be added as logistics are finalized!**