



Empowering learners to embrace and influence the future with courage and compassion.

CLINTON BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES & INFORMATION *BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION*

WELCOME BACK!

We are excited to welcome students back for the 2019-2020 school year! Our staff has been diligently working all summer to prepare our schools for students. Please see information below for important back to school information.

NEW PROCESS: ELIOT PARENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

This year, the parent drop-off and pick-up at Eliot has been adjusted. Working with Chief DeMaio of the Clinton Police Department, Director of Public Works Todd Hajek, and our administrators to address existing traffic and student safety issues, we have developed a new location and plan for parent drop-off and pick-up. The following changes have been made:

- ◇ Parent drop-off and pick-up has been moved to the gymnasium side parking lot.
- ◇ Entrance to the parent drop-off and pick-up will be from Ninety-Rod Road and is a one-way traffic pattern.
- ◇ Parents should drive through the lot to the designated drop off area and the student should exit on the passenger side of the vehicle.
- ◇ All buses will be separated from parent vehicles. The bus loop at the front of the school will also be a one-way traffic pattern.
- ◇ The former parent drop-off and pick-up lot with entry off of Fairy Dell will not be accessible to parents and students. This lot will be for staff parking only.

Eliot Middle School administration will be sending a School Messenger email with more detailed information about this important change. Please review the information carefully prior to the first day of school. During the first week of school, Eliot personnel and the Clinton Police Department will be present and assisting the implementation of our new procedures.

WELLNESS POLICY CHANGES

The Board of Education Wellness Subcommittee has revised the [Wellness Policy](#) (#5140). This required policy meets all federal and state requirements and aligns with the Clinton Board of Education's commitment to providing a healthy and safe learning environment. Key components of the policy address the district's beliefs about the importance of physical activity and healthy food choices available to students in our schools.

The new policy prohibits food items to be brought into our schools from outside, and ensures that the food that is offered to students during the school day meets the CT Healthy Food Guidelines. This new approach will limit student exposure to uncontrolled food items brought in from outside the school that may cause safety or health concerns. Celebrations of special occasions and student accomplishments will remain, but will occur with non-food alternatives. Any school-based celebration that includes food must have the approval of the Principal.

As we implement this new policy change, each school will develop a variety of approaches to recognize and celebrate important class and school events, birthdays, and holidays. While this is a change in practice, we strongly believe that promoting a healthy and safe environment for all is an important responsibility of the Board of Education.

REVISED SCHOOL CALENDAR: FIXED GRADUATION DATE

The Board of Education approved a [revised calendar](#) that takes advantage of new legislation passed in the June 2019 CT Legislative Session that establishes the ***Graduation Date for the Class of 2020 on June 10, 2020***. All other established dates on the school calendar remain the same.

POLICY ADOPTION & ANNUAL NOTICES

The Board of Education has revised and updated district policies related to Students (Series 5000). These policies were approved at the August 19, 2019 Board of Education meeting as part of a Board initiative to review, revise, and update all Board of Education policies. Many of these policies must be shared with parents and students on an annual basis. Please [click here](#) to view those.