



## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Clarke County School District is preparing for the official end to our school year, celebrating the Class of 2020, and beginning an untraditional start to summer vacation. Once again, I wish to thank our staff and our community for their extraordinary efforts in supporting our students – academically, emotionally, and physically. The efforts of a multitude of volunteers helped to make it all possible.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for us all, continually requiring us to evaluate our efforts and adjust our strategies. I recognize students, families, and staff are anxious to know our plans for the 20-21 school year. We all want to resume normal activities, but we must do so in a cautious manner.

The district has formed a Return to School Taskforce, which will address all of the areas we must consider to ensure our reopening is safe. We are also collaborating with area school districts as we plan a date to begin school. Although we would like to adhere to the previously published calendar for the next school year, adjustments may be made to the start date and school breaks. We promise to keep the community updated as details are confirmed.

In a letter sent to our senior classes, I quoted famous attorney Elizabeth Edwards, who stated, "Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good." These last three months have challenged us to find a new way to create something that's good. Our team is committed to resiliency for our children. We will work to ensure every student is supported as we return to our "new" normal.

Throughout the summer, in addition to school-related updates, our district website will continue to provide information regarding resources and food distribution for students and the community. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Although we don't know how the pandemic will affect the next several months, I wish students, families, and staff a safe and enjoyable summer.



## SCHOOL CALENDAR INFORMATION



### 20-21 School Calendar

The district is working on several plans regarding how/when staff and students return to school. In every step in this pandemic, we have been guided by information provided by local, state, and national health agencies. [Click here to access the current 2020-21 school calendar](#), but please note it is subject to change.

### Spring Break Survey

The district is requesting feedback on the school calendars for 2021-22 and 2022-23, specifically regarding the time frame for Spring Break. In recent years, the district's Spring Break has been aligned with the University of Georgia and occurred earlier in the calendar year (early March). Please [click here to complete a short survey](#) regarding dates for Spring Break.

## CELEBRATING 2020 SENIORS

### Virtual Graduation

Links to each school's virtual graduation ceremony will be available on Friday, May 22, 2020 (the originally scheduled date for graduation). [Click here to view the links.](#)

The events are not "live," and so they can be viewed by the community at any time.

Depending on guidance provided by governmental and health agencies, in-person graduation ceremonies are tentatively scheduled for July.

Class of 2020



Cedar Shoals High



Clarke Central High



Classic City High

## JOB WELL DONE

### CCSD Honored as One of the "Best Communities for Music Education"

The district has again been honored (the eighth year in a row) with the *Best Communities for Music Education* designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. [Click here to read the full release.](#)



### Spring 2020 Exemplary ESOL Teacher/Student in Georgia

The GA Department of Education EL Language Programs recognized **Cori Pringle of Clarke Central High School** as a *Spring 2020 Exemplary ESOL Teacher in Georgia*. Also honored was **Erika Ruballos-Salazar of Cedar Shoals High School** as a *Spring 2020 Exemplary English Learner*. Congratulations to Ms. Pringle and Erika!



### 2020 Governor's Honors Program Finalists

Congratulations to the following students for being named finalists for the [2020 Governor's Honors Program \(GHP\)](#): Lorelai Crook (Dance/Cedar Shoals), Kurali Grantham (Social Studies/Clarke Central), William Harden (Mathematics/Clarke Central), Ludwig Lechtreck (Science/Clarke Central), and Jacqueline Wright (Social Studies/Cedar Shoals). Michael Benjamin (Mathematics/Cedar Shoals) and Letta Veeder (World Languages/Clarke Central) are designated as alternates. GHP is a residential summer program for gifted and talented rising juniors and seniors, designed to provide enrichment in the student's area of talent so they can become the next generation of global critical thinkers, innovators, and leaders. Special thanks to Jodi Bogla at Clarke Central High and Stephen Castile at Cedar Shoals High for their work in coaching these students through the intensive GHP application and interview process.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ACC COVID-19 Resources

The [Athens-Clarke County Unified Government's website](#) contains complete information about COVID-19 in our community.



### 2020 Census - Everyone Counts

The census count has a considerable impact on the ACC community – the distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants, and other programs, help support schools, hospitals, roads, public works, and other vital programs – and is based on census data. Please [click here](#) to view important information about the census and complete the form for your household.



The Clarke County School District has 21 schools and over 13,000 students. We have 2,288 days to make a difference that will last a lifetime. We do not just count the days — we make the days count. Every student. Every classroom. Every day.

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