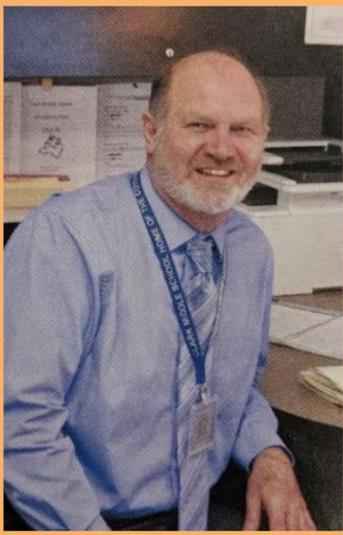




Clark Middle School
September
Newsletter





A MESSAGE FROM

Mr. Graber

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Wow! It's hard to believe that we have been in school for almost three weeks. The students and staff have been doing an amazing job with some of the changes that we implemented, so "Thank You" as parents, for assisting and helping out. I am excited about this school year and looking forward to some amazing things from your children and our staff members.

During the week of August 21, the administrative team met with all of the students and went over expectations for this year. Some of the changes we discussed were having water bottles, cell phones, air pods, and back packs to remain in the locker areas. For those students that need to have a cell phone or water bottle with them due to medical reasons, please make sure that we have proper documentation from your child's doctor in regard to any medical needs.

Communication is critical to our success at CMS. So, if as a parent, you have a concern or issue, please reach out to your child's teacher first (if classroom related), and then feel free to follow up with your child's counselor or one of the administrators. As a reminder: Mrs. Churilla, counselor, last names "A- Har"; Ms. Vail, counselor, last names "Has-Pio"; and Mr. Biscan, last names "Pio-Z." For administration, please feel free to contact one of the following: Mr. Stablein, ext. 7105, Mrs. Beach ext. 7103 and Mr. Graber, ext. 7104.

When dropping off in the car rider line, we try very hard to release at least 4-5 cars at a time. Please help us by having your child ready to be released from the car upon arrival. If you are picking your child up in the parking lot, we ask that all students, parents and staff members use the walkway that is identified. If driving in the lot, please be careful and observant of students and other parents.

Our school theme this year is "Have a Marvel-ous School Year!" Check out the announcements daily for information pertaining to activities for the year, club-group meetings, etc. Let's have some fun this year.

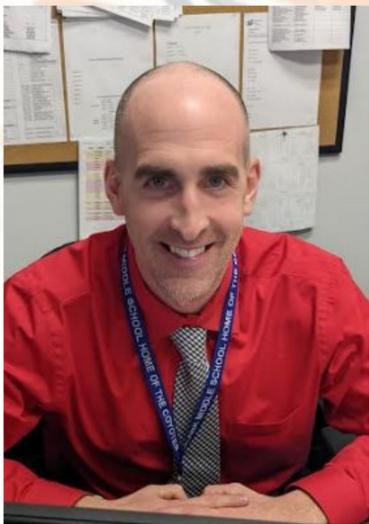
ILEARN scores were distributed to the students on the first day of school. Hopefully, you received my Alert Now message indicating a need to check for them from your child.

For those of you that are new to middle school, WELCOME! Please note that I do not send a Friday message via the Alert Now system but rather when there is something important that needs to be shared with you. If there is an emergency situation at CMS, you will receive an Alert Now message from one of the administrative staff. In addition, please check the CMS website for daily announcements, spirit wear sales, and any club or group meeting dates. Clubs and groups will begin meeting in early September so stay tuned.

Thanks for your continued support of CMS. Let's have a Marvel-ous school year.

Mr. Graber

Assistant Principal Mr. Stablein



Welcome back to the 2023-2024 school year! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! It has been great to see everyone back at school! I wanted to take this opportunity to talk about some programs we have available at Clark to help students who may be struggling with their classes. First, we do offer free tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tutoring will start after Labor Day. Students are free to use this time from 8:00-8:30 to get extra help from teachers in areas where they may struggle or need extra help.

While tutoring is not exclusively 1 on 1, it does provide an opportunity for students to work on skills, oftentimes with students who have the same questions. The only thing we ask is that students come prepared with questions or specific areas where they may need help. This will help teachers narrow their focus.

Secondly, we do offer a program called RTI. RTI is another way to support students who may struggle in math or reading. For example, some students struggle with reading comprehension. Mrs. Losito, our reading specialist, works with students in small groups 1-2 times per week to enhance reading skills. For math, we do offer a math lab class for grades 6-8. Math lab provides a smaller setting to work on supplemental math skills.

Finally, during Advisory from 8:47-9:12, we offer academic assistance. This is like tutoring, only during the school day. Students can get a pass from their teacher to go another teacher's room to work on areas they may need help in.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me so we can help your student.



School SRO Officer Stamate

Hello Clark Coyote Parents!! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. It is so nice to see all of our students' smiling faces back and we welcome our new students. I have already heard so many fun summer vacation stories from the students. As we get started for the 2023/2024 school year, I just wanted to provide some safety information to all of you. First, remember if dropping off your students by door J, please let your child out all the way down to door K. This makes the car rider line go much smoother and in a timely manner. For those who drop off in the parking lot for other reasons, remind your student to always use the crosswalk when crossing through the very busy parking lot area. We encourage everyone to use the car rider line for student safety. Also, parents cannot stop in the middle of the crosswalk area and must allow traffic and pedestrians to keep flowing. Parents must STOP at all of the crosswalks here at Clark Middle School to yield to pedestrians. I provided the students with safety information for walkers, bicycle riders, bus and car riders. We also encourage them not to have their earbuds or headphones on during arrival and drop off for their safety. So far things are going great!! I want to thank all of you for helping keep our Clark students safe!! Lastly, if you have any questions or concerns you can find my contact information on the Clark website and email me anytime. Enjoy the warm weather and thank you for your time!



| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Mrs. Churilla echurill@lcscmail.com Last names (A-Har) | Ms. Vail svail@lcscmail.com Last names (Has-Pin) | Mr. Biscan jbiscan@lcscmail.com Last names (Poi-Z) |
|---|--|--|

Counselor Duties and Assignments

The Clark School Counseling Department is excited for another school year! We are happy to answer any questions you or your child may have about anything, whether it be schedules, tips on how to improve academically, conflict resolution, or anything in between. We are also more than willing to speak with students about any personal social-emotional issues that may be going on. Our job is to help, so please do not hesitate to reach out if you or your child need anything at all!

Our assignments are as follows:

Erica Churilla: Last names A - Har

Sharon Vail: Last names Has - Pin

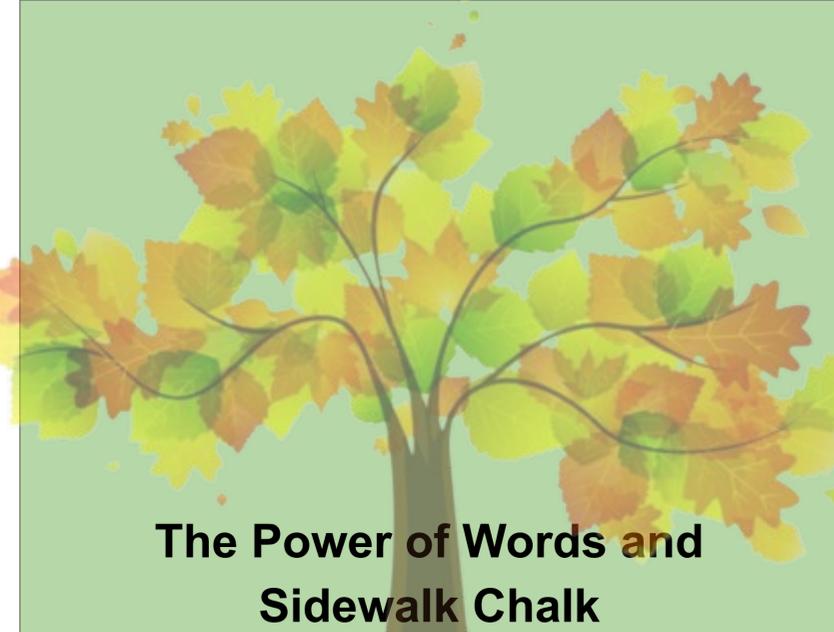
Jacob Biscan: Last names Pio - Z

5th Grade Presentations

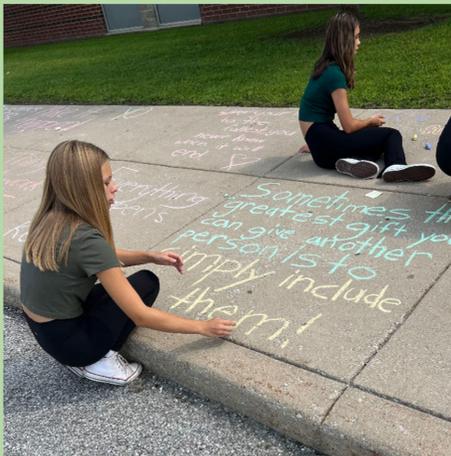
The counselors went into 5th grade Advisory classes this week to give a short presentation on what their job duties are and how students can contact their counselor if they need any assistance.

New Student Breakfast

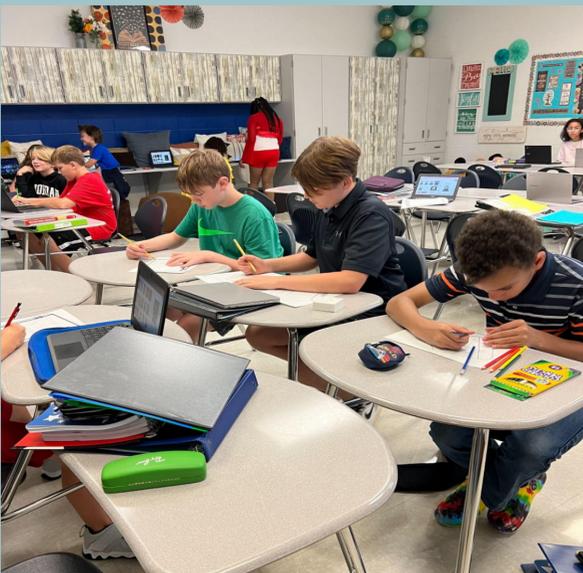
The counseling team is currently planning the annual New Student Breakfast for all new students to Clark. The breakfast will take place on Wednesday, September 6th. Students will enjoy some delicious food and play a few fun games to give them a warm welcome to CMS! We look forward to welcoming all new students to the building!



The Power of Words and Sidewalk Chalk
Mrs. Castle's eighth graders examine the power of words through various quotes.
"Words have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate, and to humble." -Yehunda Berg
Let's use ours to make a difference this year!



We LOVE Reading!
Mrs. Castle and Mrs. Hudi's sixth graders reimagine and design book covers for their favorite book.



STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Swing choir auditions will be held on Thursday, Sept. 7th and Tuesday, Sept. 12th before school at 7:50am in the choir room. Swing choir is available for any 6th-8th grade student interested in singing and dancing. No preparation is needed for the audition, but students MUST attend BOTH audition dates in order to be considered for the group. Previous singing and dancing experience is beneficial but not required. Students in band and rotation are also encouraged to audition. Rehearsals will be every Tuesday and Thursday before school throughout the fall and spring months. Please contact Mrs. Arroyo via email (carroyo@lcscmail.com) if you have any questions.

5th Grade Choir begins in September! We will have a call-out meeting on Friday, September 22nd during advisory where students will receive all the rehearsal information and concert dates for the school year. Rehearsals will be every Wednesday morning before school at 8am beginning on September 27th. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Arroyo at carroyo@lcscmail.com.



Project LIT

First Semester Calendar

| Date | Purpose | Location |
|-------------|---|---------------------|
| August 30 | Call-Out Go over bylaws | Library 8:00 AM |
| September 6 | Bylaws must be in Choose book 1 Book Tasting | Library 8:00 AM |
| October 11 | Discuss book 1 Choose book 2 (mystery) Pick parts for Murder Mystery Dinner | Library 8:00 AM |
| October 25 | Murder Mystery Dinner | Library 3:50 - 5:00 |
| November 8 | Discuss Mysteries Choose book 3 | Library 8:00 AM |
| November 29 | Holiday croft Choose Secret Santa | Library 8:00 AM |
| December 13 | Discuss book 3 Choose book 4 Holiday party | Library 8:00 AM |
| January 31 | Discuss book 4 New Year's party | Library 8:00 AM |

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Brianna Jacobs

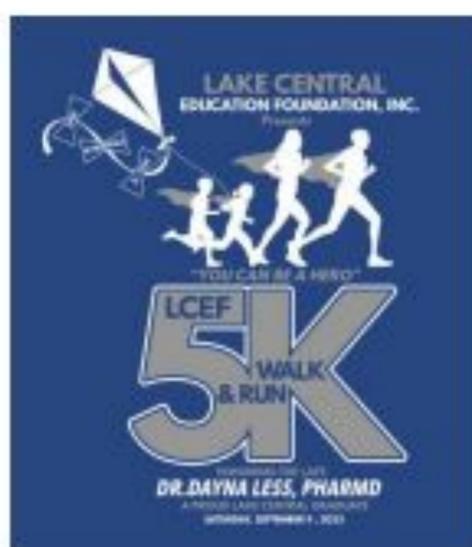
7th Grade



Brie Jacobs, a 7th grader at Clark, competes in A-rated equestrian competitions for show jumping. She currently is jumping around one meter. She competes against men and women alike, all ages, adult amateurs and even professionals in some open classes. Show jumping is one of the equestrian events still held in the Olympics. Prior to focusing solely on show jumping, Brie competed for a national title when she was 9 years old in a hunt seat division. Brie has been riding horses since she was about 6 years old. She now has her own horse, a grey mare, named Kinetic. Kinetic is a six year old Hanoverian and Brie calls her Kinley. Brie rides five to six days a week all year long. Rain, snow, or shine, her horse needs exercise! She usually takes lessons three times a week with her Hunter/jumper trainer Gianna Gierczyk and her dressage trainer, a silver-medalist, named Diane Boeninger. She competes on the show team for West Gate Equestrian out of Beecher, IL and owned by Gianna Gierczyk. Brianna's goal is to ride Division 1 in college for Stanford and study business and finance. Clark is so proud of Brie and all of her accomplishments!



Clark 5th grader, Emily Solorio, was awarded a Kindle Fire Tablet courtesy of NIPSCO. Emily won the contest by creating an amazing poster for NIPSCO's "Call Before You Dig" promotion. Way to go Emily!



YOU CAN BE A HERO!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023, 9:00 A.M.

Join the Lake Central Education Foundation and the Lake Central School Community for a 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. This year's 5K theme is "You Can be a Hero!" Wear your favorite superhero gear! Capes and your fastest superhero gym shoes are encouraged!

This event is extra special because we will be honoring the late Dr. Dayna Less, PharmD, a proud Lake Central Graduate. If you have participated in the 5K previously, we encourage participants to wear their "Dayna Less Memorial Pin" during the race as a sign of strength and courage, in memory of Dayna.

This year we welcome James Tarka, founder of the Northwest Indiana Calumet Region Striders, Gold Cup Road Race Series and United States Veteran.

runsignup.com/lcef5k



If registering after August 18th, a shirt is NOT guaranteed.

**Registration/Package
Pick-Up Begins at
7:00 a.m., 9:00 am
start time**

**Race Starts/Ends at
Lake Central High
School**

**Registration Fee \$35
(T-shirt included)
Staff/Student Fee \$25
(T-Shirt included)**

**Music and
Giveaways**

Follow us on social!



**LAKE CENTRAL
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

8260 Wicker Avenue
St. John, IN. 46373

*Logo Design by Magsdad Studios

Lake Central Parent Instructions for Student Logins

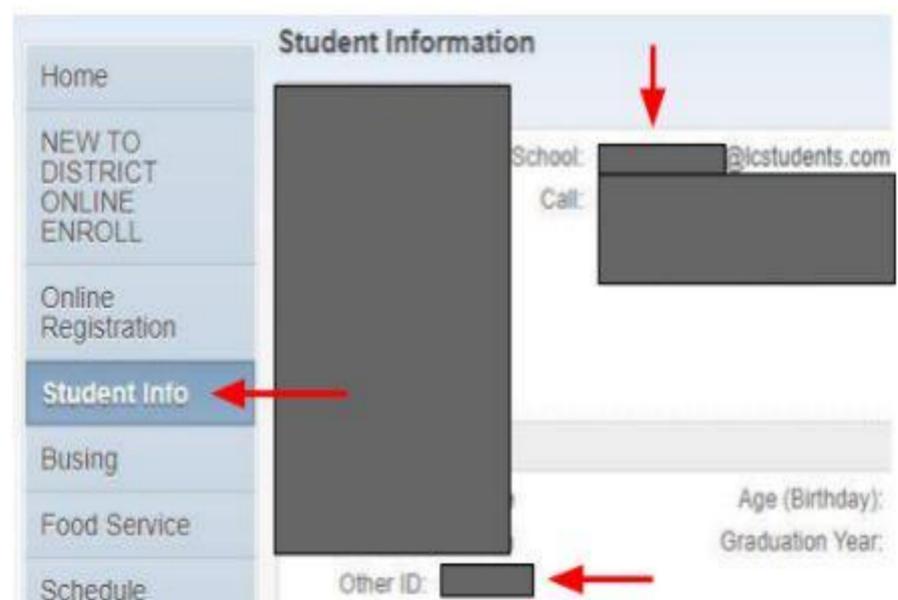
Student Login Information

The username and password for Canvas, Clever, student Gmail, and to log into a Lake Central chromebook are all the same. The formula is as follows:

- **Username:** First initial; middle initial; then last name followed by @lcstudents.com. (Some students may have a number after the last name if there are other students with similar initials)
- **Password:** Capitalized first initial of the first name; capitalized first initial of last name; followed by student ID number (NO SPACES)
- **Example:**
 - Username: Robert Lawrence Stine - rlstine@lcstudents.com
 - Password: RS1234567

You can also find your child's student gmail and student ID number in Skyward Family Access on the Student Info tab.

It should be right by their student picture and end with @lcstudents.com. Their student ID number is listed as Other ID under their picture.



Canvas

Canvas is where teachers will post assignments and other important information. The website is: <https://lakecentral.instructure.com/>. (You must use the Lake Central website for Canvas. Please do not just Google "Canvas" and use the generic website.) To access all of their courses in Canvas, click on the courses button on the blue menu along the left side. You can either click on an individual course from the list that shows up or All Courses if you wish to see them all.

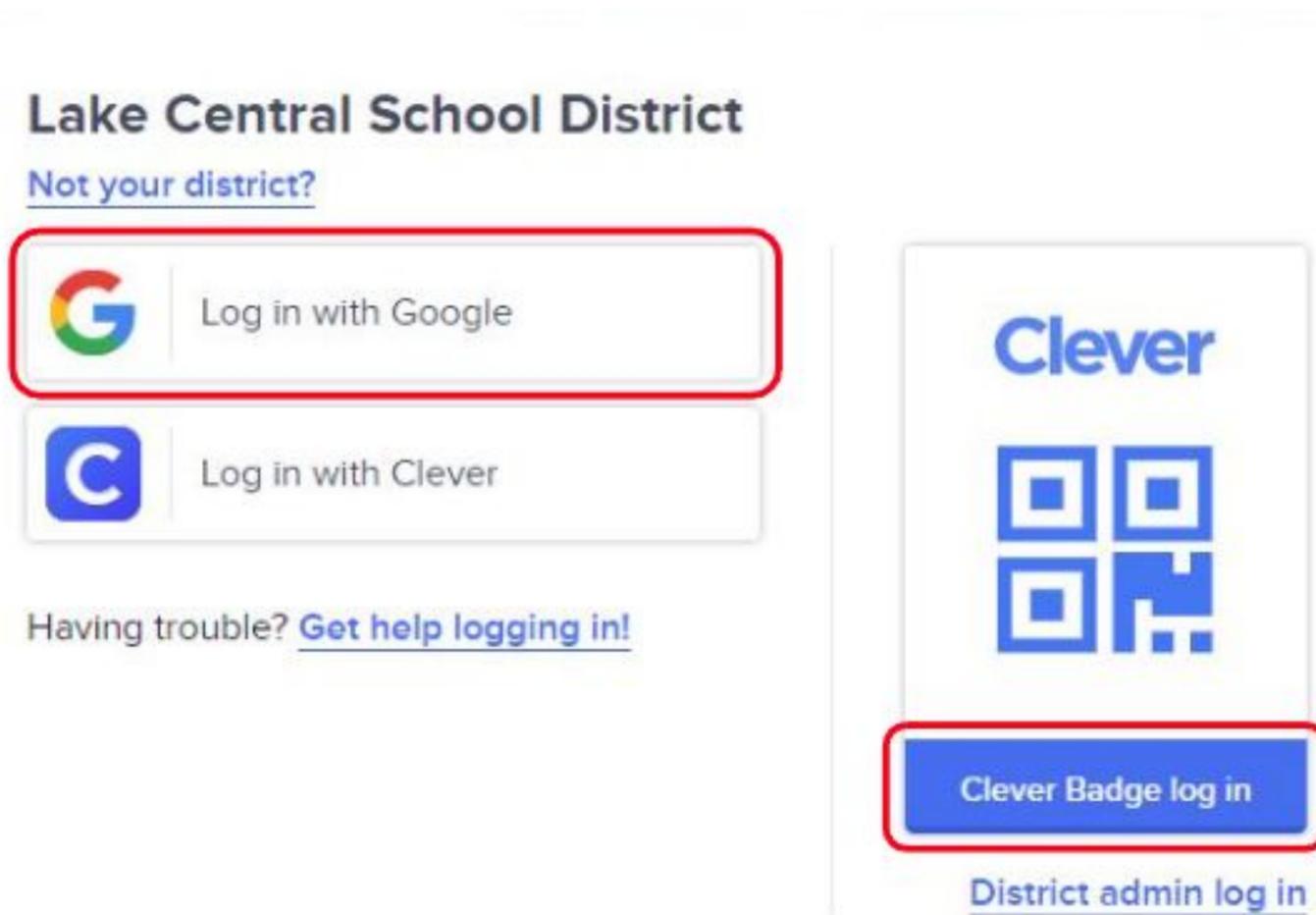


If you have questions about where to find things on a teacher's Canvas page, please email the teacher.

Continued on next page

Online Textbooks & Programs: Clever

Almost all online textbooks and programs your child may need can be found on Clever. Clever can be accessed via Canvas using the Textbook Login button (see image above), or you can go to the website: <https://clever.com/in/lake-central>. The username and password for Clever are the same ones that you used for Canvas. Be sure to click either Log in with Google button. Our Kindergarten students may also have a Clever badge that was sent home by their teacher that they can scan to login with. In that case, you would click the Clever Badge login button instead.



Parent Login Support

If you need further assistance with logging in, please contact the following people:

| Issue | Contact Person |
|--|---|
| Chromebook Assistance, Gmail Login Assistance, or Skyward Assistance | Technology Department (219) 558-2727 or tech@lcscmail.com |
| Canvas or Clever Assistance | District Technology Trainers (please contact the person for your child's school): <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Protsman/Bibich/Homan<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Julie Moore (jmoore@lcscmail.com)● Kolling/Peifer/Watson<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Beth Hamacher (bhamache@lcscmail.com)● Clark/Grimmer/Kahler<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jolene Bogacki (jbogacki@lcscmail.com)● Lake Central High School<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Susan Schweitzer (sschweit@lcscmail.com) |



Nurse Notes

Vision and hearing testing is approaching.

Tentative dates are as follows:

Vision Screening - November 2, 2023

Hearing Screening - November 28-30, 2023

Cold and flu season is right around the corner. Remember that students must be fever free for 24 hours prior to returning to school.

If your student has an updated vaccination record, please send a copy in to the office.

If you have any questions about our office, please contact us at extension 7115 or 7241.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO START SHOWING YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT!

You asked and we answered. Parents, students, and staff will now have access to a year round spiritwear store. Clark has partnered with [1st Place Spiritwear](#) to introduce a huge selection of products for everyone. Products ship directly to your home and a portion of the sales benefit Clark Middle School. Don't miss great deals. Are you ready for spiritwear days? Start shopping now!

Back-to-School Sale

Our Annual Back-to-School sale will be here before you know it! We will be introducing a wide array of new products and designs.

- **Dates:** August 8th - September 7th
- **Offer:** 30% off all merchandise and free shipping over \$75

CLARK SPIRIT WEAR STORE



TEES, HOODIES & MORE!



1stplace.sale/107077

