

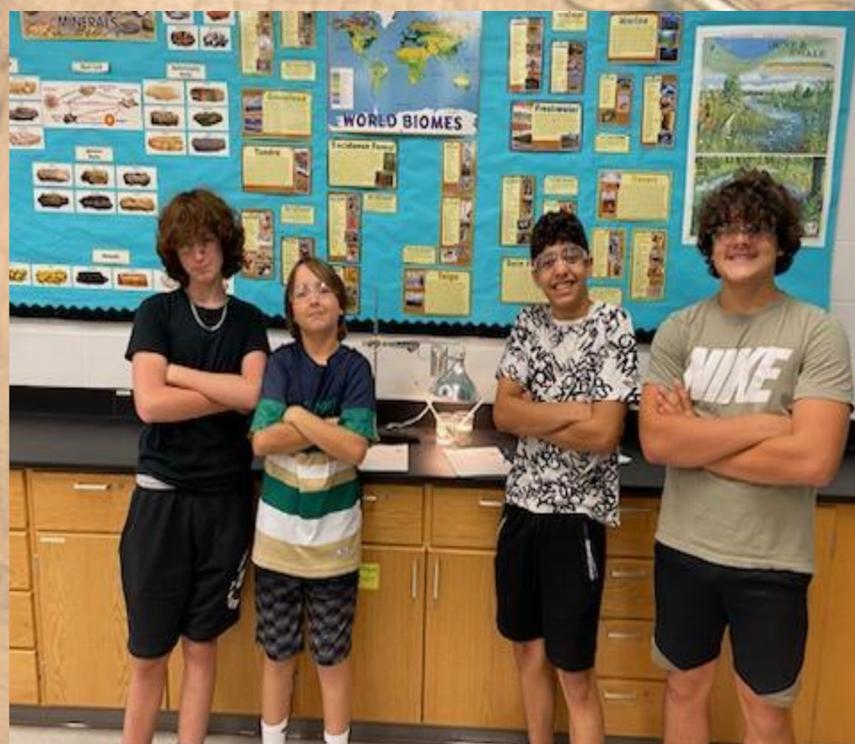


# Clark Middle School

*December 2023*

*Newsletter*

*2023*



For daily announcements and additional school information, visit us at: <https://clark.lcsc.us/>



A MESSAGE FROM

# Mr. Graber

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

**Happy December! Wow, it's hard to believe that we are at the end of the first semester. The holidays are right around the corner. For those of you that will be celebrating the holidays, I hope that you are blessed with great memories with friends and family. If you are traveling, please be careful and remain safe.**

**As we finish the first semester, a huge shout out to the students, staff, and parents for your hard work this semester. For some, the transition to middle school has been a bit rough, but for others, it has been smooth sailing. Whatever your experience has been, I hope that you know that the staff at CMS are here to support and help you through this journey. Please remember that free tutoring is offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:30. Additionally, students can see a teacher if they have questions about an assignment on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during advisory. As the saying goes, "it takes a village to raise a child," the same type of analogy works at CMS. It takes everyone to have a successful school. So, Thank You.**

**Entering into the winter season can be a bit difficult for some students due to family issues, etc. If you find that your child is struggling academically, please reach out to the staff. Our goal is to see all students succeed. Our counselors have a list of outside therapists that can help you manage if you are finding that your child needs some additional help. Feel free to contact us and they can explain what is available. CMS has partnered with Edgewater Counseling in an attempt to provide support for our students during the school day. If interested in this service, please contact your child's counselor for more information.**

**A special "Thank You" to our kitchen manager, Mrs. Kim Kooken, who provided hats and gloves for students. The NJHS has painted some of the windows for the holidays and they look super! The students have been bringing in food for the food drive...What a great way to serve others! As we continue to work diligently daily, please keep in mind that there are multiple ways for your child to become involved at CMS.**

**Our Best Buddies group had its first meeting in November and we had so many students that wanted to be a part of it that we now have two groups. Each student has been paired with a buddy. For some buddies, they will now have 3-4 students that are supporting them weekly. It's great to see the camaraderie amongst the students.**

**Our students have been working very hard this semester so if you have some free time, please come out and support them.**

**Happy Holidays!**

**Mr. Graber**

Hello everyone!

Hard to believe we are already in December!

I would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of consistent school attendance. Students who are consistently in school achieve at higher levels than those who are chronically absent. According to National Center for Education Statistics, a recent study looking at young children found that absenteeism in kindergarten was associated with negative first grade outcomes such as greater absenteeism in subsequent years and lower achievement in reading, math, and general knowledge. The same information can be applied at the middle school level as well.

With that being said, we are entering cold and flu season. If your student is sick and cannot make it to school, please contact CMS and state the reason for your student's absence. Students who are not called off are considered "unexcused." Ten unexcused absences can result in a referral to the Lake County Juvenile Probation Officer.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.



# Clark Cares

**This year, Clark donated hundreds of dollars worth of food during the food drive. We are so proud of the contributions from our staff, students, and families. Thank you!**



Hello Clark Families. Another Washington DC trip is in the books and what a weekend it was! The experience we had on this trip is not only full of fun and excitement, but an array of enriching activities and sights to be taken in. These students never cease to amaze me as they navigate their way through the city learning the history and honoring memories. I look forward to next year's trip and hope to see a lot of our upcoming 8th graders.

Mrs. Beach  
Assistant Principal



THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED

Washington, D.C.

Sign up by: 12/20/23

Our Trip Dates: 10/24/24 - 10/26/24

When signing up, use Trip ID: 212389

Don't Miss this Trip! Sign up at  
[worldstrides.com/register](https://worldstrides.com/register)  
or by calling 800-468-5899



Scan to Register

Questions? Contact: Bob Gustas at [bgustas@lcscmail.com](mailto:bgustas@lcscmail.com)

Current  
7th  
graders,  
**CHECK  
IT OUT!**



Mrs. Churilla  
[echurill@lcscmail.com](mailto:echurill@lcscmail.com)  
Last names (A-Har)

Ms. Vail  
[svail@lcscmail.com](mailto:svail@lcscmail.com)  
Last names (Has-Pin)

Mr. Biscan  
[jbiscan@lcscmail.com](mailto:jbiscan@lcscmail.com)  
Last names (Poi-Z)

### Personal Safety Presentations

In November and December, the counselors gave personal safety presentations to the 5th and 6th grade students in a small group setting. The 7th and 8th grade students received an abbreviated video presentation in their advisory classes. The students were very respectful of the presentation topics, participated, and asked appropriate questions.

As a reminder, the presentation topics were to help children better recognize appropriate vs. inappropriate behaviors and use their critical thinking skills to make safe and healthy choices. This year's lesson reviewed some of the warning signs for abusive situations, provided information about healthy relationships and personal boundaries, and covered online safety issues middle school students may encounter.

### Coming Soon--Scheduling 8th Grade Students for High School Classes

The second semester of school is right around the corner. As we move into February and March, the counselors will be working with all 8th grade students to talk about high school. While specific dates have not yet been determined, the middle school counselors will touch on topics such as graduation requirements and earning credits, what a day at Lake Central High School might look like, and what classes should be taken freshman year. In January, the middle school counselors will collaborate with the high school counselors to plan for the presentations. Stay tuned for additional information!!

### CogAT Testing

On December 5th, the CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) was administered to students currently not identified (or only identified in one area) for high ability. If a student qualifies with a high enough CogAT score, they will then take the IOWA test for final placement into advanced classes. Families will receive communication from Central Office when test results are obtained.

### The Role of the School Counselor

If you would like to better understand our role as counselors in the school, please check out this digital presentation: [Role of a School Counselor](#)

## Attention Parents of 6th Grade Science Students:

Permission forms for our Challenger Learning Center Field Trip went home and are due back to Mrs. Klein and Mrs. Davis no later than Thursday, December 21st. If you have lost a copy, please click [HERE](#). Our students will be attending the Challenger Learning Center the week of January 22nd.

This field trip is unlike any other. "It's not about walking through an exhibit - looking and reading static information. It's about being immersed in the experience - being assigned to a job, working as a team, communicating, problem solving and applying math, language, science and technology skills to complete a high energy and exciting task." (Challenger Learning Center of NWI website) Reminder sheets will be sent home shortly before we attend. We look forward to this wonderful experience with our students.



## 7th grade SCIENCE

Students will be working on a fun and creative project this quarter! Students will be creating a company name/logo that will use either a renewable or a nonrenewable resource to manufacture a product that they would be able to "sell" to their classmates.

They will be designing this on large color paper to show their classmates their creations! It's a creative and fun way to learn about our resources on Earth and how we can better utilize those resources for the enjoyment of kids their age.





# Project LIT Family Challenge

Create a Literary Gingerbread House with your family for a chance to win a prize!

Due: December 11

Location: Bring them to the library

Prize: Candy and a copy of a book of your choosing (up to \$15.00)



## The Clark BOOKFAIR is a Holiday SUCCESS!

Mrs. Genovese, in the Clark Media Center, hosted the amazing anual BOOKFAIR last week. Thousands of dollars were well spent on books, books, and more books! Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who help make this week a success.





# CLARK HOLIDAY

## Dress up Days

MON DEC 11

TOASTY TOES DAY

TUE DEC 12

WINTER WONDERLAND

WED DEC 13

JINGLE BELL ROCK

THU DEC 14

MOVIE CHARACTER DAY

FRI DEC 15

FLANNEL SHIRT DAY

MON DEC 18

WINTER PJ DAY

TUE DEC 19

HOLIDAY HEADGEAR

WED DEC 20

TROPICAL VACATION DAY

THU DEC 21

UGLY SWEATER DAY

FRI DEC 22

NO SCHOOL

ENJOY YOUR BREAK!

AND

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!





# Happy Birthday

## TO OUR CLARK STAFF

**Janel Tobias**

**Sidney Hudi**

**Deb Hadu**

**Gorana Kosanic**

**Scott Graber**

**Matt Schneider**

**Kyle Scheffer**

**Karen Sulek**

**Tori Thompson**

**Benjamin Grimler**

**Michelle Taylor**

# NOVEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

For November, Clark Middle School focused on the character trait of kindness. Clark staff looked for students who treat others with respect, offers a helping hand when needed, shows gratitude and uses kind words when speaking to others.

Congratulations to Clark Middle School's  
November Students of the Month!

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Noah Sanchez Joshua Failor Emma Platopoulos Autumn Prince Brady Carbon Meela Turay Adam Musleh Sophia Budzowski Abigail Jonas Reina Amescua Alina Rodriguez	Maggie White Landon Gilmartin Maeve Vartabedian Maci Gross Matthew Levinson Georgia Urban Keely Tiljak Sabrina Matucha Maci Goeringer Olivia Kozak	Alex Webb Ben Szafasz Vinnie Lale Alysse Godoy Ivy Belicek Dana LaForte	Ashtyn Adams Jeff Vlasic Quinn Hooker Elliot Comparon Chyler Schuster



# December Birthdays

Clark Middle School would like to wish the following students a very Happy December Birthday!

5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
Taylor Wagner Rayah Whiteman Konstantinos Tsahas Novalee Devine Robert Ciurkot Vincent Majewski Evee Macak Jaxon Thom Taylor Jacobs Cordero Parker Giovanni Gilmore Robert Taylor Harper Schilling Eliana Thompson Jeremi Williams	Gavin Hallett Bradley Luchene Nolan Warner Kyla Koedyker John Duke Nora Marlow Ambreal Anthony Alejandro Gonzalez Declan O'Shaughnessy Jeremiah Flores Logan Noy Hugh Tripp Daniela Zych Jaydan Perez Isabella Cruz Abigail Daly Anabella Garibaldi Kevin Villalvazo Cecilia Flores Kelsie Rendak Jerome Burkes	Mackenzie Glinski Alexis Porter Mila Flamini Gabriella Sigrist Falynn Larson Sophia Dukes Thomas Romeli Frederick Leonard Zane Matuszak Zoe Salgado Audrey Heavilon Jayden Carpenter-Mansfield Aaron Carlson Emma Graber Owen Graber Mabel Salmen Lucas Silsby Trevor Skiba Brayden Lytle Joycelyn Cole Audrey Fealey Nova Eghbali-Mitchell Connor Molitor Natalie Schneider	Kaylie Folgers Matthew Kulig Enzo Lucido Chloe Tawlks Amariyana Flores Annalise Yanez Julia Pezzuto Alex Rodriguez Jackson Safranek Tashawnee Doston Liam Govert Benjamin Tobias Emmylou Moeller Kylee Onik Carter Lyon Anthony Plascencia Brooke Sarcinella Brady Junkin Kendall Junkin Brady Wessel Jackson Orlick Logan Biedron Rainbolt Emma Hall Charles Schriener Kenley Lalich Wes Lalich Evan Smith Vincent Vescovi Makeo Maragh Raymond Mettert Lexi Smith Hunter Segal





# PAWS FOR A CAUSE

Earlier this year, we covered an amazing jumping dog named Diesel. Now we got to MEET him! He competes in a sport called dock diving. It is where a dog runs off a 40 ft. dock and jumps into a 45 ft. pool. The most common event in dock diving is distance jumping, which Diesel usually competes in. His personal best is 20 feet, which is really good considering he's only 14 inches tall! His owner and trainers name is Claudia. She takes him to all of his competitions and her granddaughter, Clark student Mabel Salmen, usually goes along. She gets to compete in the Junior Handler events, and she holds Diesel when grandma is competing with him. Thank you for visiting with us Diesel!





Clark Middle School would like to recognize the following students on having *PERFECT ATTENDANCE* in the month of November!

Xavier Abell  
Chase Adams  
Luke Adraneda  
Madison Alexander  
Olivia Alford  
Prince Alford  
Giselle Alvarez  
Hector Alvarez  
Camila Alvear  
Uthman Alzeer  
Reina Amescua  
Sonia Andresen  
Octavio Avina  
Addison Baker  
Samantha Bandyk  
Kailey Barbosa  
Dru Barkauskas  
Isaiah Barnes  
Brooklyn Barrett  
Arya Barrios  
Mia Barsich  
A'Vion Bates  
Stella Beasley  
Damien Beavers  
Bryce Beitler  
Ivy Belicek  
Dominic Belko  
Sophia Bennett  
Brandon Bergner  
Logan Biedron Rainbolt  
Jailah Billot  
Brielle Bishton  
Jackson Bogacki  
Kayden Boyd  
Sarah Brach  
William Brach  
Ela Brandon  
Anthony Bravo  
Jaden Brown  
Justin Bruce  
Willow Bruggeman  
Michael Bryant  
Sophia Budzowski  
Giana Bukvich  
Brayden Burger  
Audrey Byrne  
Arwen Cahill  
Sydney Cahill  
Lance Jaden Carangcarang  
Emerson Carl  
Jayden Carpenter-Mansfield  
Alexander Carr  
Martin Carreon  
Adalynn Carroll  
Claire Carson  
Noach Carson  
Dallas Carter  
Dee Castle  
Leah Castle  
Mia Chambers  
Efrain Chavez JR  
Ethan Chiz  
Robert Ciurkot  
Nathan Clark  
Scarlett Cmejrek  
Katie Cnudde  
Elliot Comparon  
Cameron Cook  
Ethan Cordova  
Natalia Cordova  
Isabella Cruz  
Michael Denny II  
Mason Denton  
Novalee Devine  
Gianna Diaz  
Xavier Diaz  
Charles Dicks  
Victoria Dietz  
Andre Dixon-Edmondson  
Melanija Djurich  
Sofija Djurich  
Morgan Dominik  
William Dominik  
Michael Dorneanu  
Connor Durkin  
Ryan Durkin  
Alexander Faris

Makenna Fazio  
Audrey Fealey  
Franciszek Ferek  
Zoe Figueroa  
Mila Flamini  
Daniel Flora  
Cecilia Flores  
Amir Fonville  
Austin French  
Dylan Fridrich  
Xavier Garcia  
Blare Gatlin  
Bryce Gatlin  
Maxwell Germeraad  
Jake Gerritsen  
Glenn Gervais JR  
Kaylee Giddins  
Landon Gilmartin  
Aidan Glista  
Maci Goeringer  
Noah Goeringer  
Alejandro Gonzalez  
Emma Graber  
Ian Gray  
Gavin Green  
Sullivan Grimler  
Carter Guillory  
Caleb Gurley  
Grace Gutierrez  
Dominic Guy  
Emilee Habas  
Julene Haigh  
Courtney Hajduk  
Maxwell Hall  
Gavin Hallett  
Hanna Hallett  
Gwendolyn Hankins  
Jonah Hardesty  
Katelin Harding  
Ammaris Harper  
Jett Harper  
Helena Hasier  
Theodore Hasier  
Aubrey Hatfield  
Avery Hawkins  
Jacob Hays  
Audrey Heavilon  
Maxwell Heavilon  
Ashley Henrikson  
Wyatt Hester  
Kathryn Hiller  
Bryson Hines  
Chloe Hodges  
Allison Holmquist  
Nathan Holmquist  
Peyton Hoogeveen  
Griffin Hooker  
Quinn Hooker  
Marlo Houk  
Chad Hovanec  
Skylar Hubbard  
Lucia Huertas  
Niko Huertas  
Ava Hulverson  
Sitota Hunt  
Ava Hutton  
Beckham Hutton  
Angelica Ibarra  
Kate Isom  
Makkiyah Jackson-Bey  
Elena Jevdosic  
Hozen Jiang  
Grace Johnson  
Londyn Johnson  
Maxwell Jonas  
Benjamin Jongsma  
Manmeet Kaleka  
Raymond Kappel IV  
Megan Karl  
London Keaton  
Frank Keelan  
Taylor Kerner  
Camille King

Rylan Kleminski  
Mateo Kluga  
Brody Knight  
Kyla Koedyker  
Jaxson Konicki  
Aiden Kowal  
Olivia Kozak  
Abel Krauklis  
Noah Krauklis  
Adam Krol  
Quinn Krugman  
Emilia Krupa  
Henry Kuipers  
Liv Labadie  
Dana LaForte  
Gino Lale  
Vincenzo Lale  
Kenley Lalich  
Wes Lalich  
Hanna Lane  
Jake Lane  
Samantha Lane  
Sophie Lapointe  
Camryn Lavery  
Juliette Lawrence  
Natalie Lawrence  
Kemiyah Lee Williams  
Jaxon Lehman  
Isabelle Lenart  
Vivien Lenart  
Jordan Limoncu  
Christopher Lopez  
Bradley Luchene  
Enzo Lucido  
Brayden Lynch  
Michael Maatman  
Kaelynn Maddox  
Mason Majewski  
Vincent Majewski  
Londyn Malloy  
Armaita Manhani  
Zarall Manhani  
Charles Mann  
Milan Manojlovic  
Haralambos Manousopoulos  
Makeo Maragh  
Ahnali Marin  
David Marin  
Novak Marjanovich  
Leo Martinez  
Tristan Mata  
James Mation  
Matthew Maximtsev  
Anthony McCloskey  
Macy McDonald  
Neven Melendez  
Logan Mencl  
Adrian Mercado  
Mia Merritt  
Gavin Mesko  
Jack Messmer  
Alexis Michalski  
Grace Michalski  
Maxim Mills  
Connor Molitor  
Domenico Montano  
Ethan Moore  
Riley Moore  
Liam Moran  
Alexavier Moreno  
Ava Morgan  
Carmen Mosley  
Avery Mrzlock  
David Muniz  
Damian Munoz  
Sofia Munoz  
Adam Musleh  
Scarlett Myers  
Alaina Nava  
William Nellemann  
Blake Newtoff  
Owen Newtoff  
Benjamin Nguyen  
Hieu Nguyen  
Niko Nikolovski  
Joshua Nowinski

Tyler Oakes  
Lola Olejnik  
Jeffrey Olson JR  
Mia Onohan  
Cole Ores  
Jackson Orlick  
Gavin Orrico-Feltz  
Grace Orrico-Feltz  
Kamdyn Ortega  
Anthony Oster  
Caleb Ostryzniuk  
Eliot Ostryzniuk  
Silas Oswald  
Jacob Paat  
Summer Palmer  
Charlotte Parise  
Jack Parise  
Rachel Pasko  
Phoibe Pavell  
Cameron Pelletier  
Jaydan Perez  
Samantha Perez  
Mia Pervan  
Olivia Pervan  
Nicola Pezzuto  
Emma Platopoulos  
Gianna Pogorzelski  
Vivian Polusky  
Lauren Pompy  
Trevor Popa  
Ashley Powell  
Phoebe Pramuk  
Raven Preusser  
Autumn Prince  
Carter Prince  
Tyler Prospal  
Anthony Prusko  
Abigail Puskarich  
Allison Ramirez  
Hailey Ramirez  
Elina Ranich  
Layna Redus  
Salvador Rinella  
Hunter Robertson  
Lila Rockey  
Carlo Rodriguez  
Leonardo Rodriguez  
Luke Rodriguez  
Roberto Rodriguez  
Santino Rodriguez  
Anthony Roppolo  
Harper Ruffner  
Miranda Russell  
Jack Rybicki  
Tyler Rybicki  
Ava Saenz  
Mo'ien Sahawneh  
Sidra Salah  
Matteo Salazar  
Mabel Salmen  
Brooke Sarcinella  
Kaylie Schaffenberg  
Kayla Scheuneman  
Alaina Schmidt  
Aubree Schmidt  
Benjamin Schneider  
Natalie Schneider  
Finn Schoon  
Sawyer Schoon  
Lily Schriener  
Justin Schuck  
Ethan Schuller  
Max Schultz  
Aaron Scott  
Noah Scott  
Colton Seale  
Keshawn Sebolt  
Drew Sensor  
Ryan Sensor  
Jaxson Sessa  
Yousef Shatat  
Charles Shimala  
Claire Shires  
Gabriella Sigrist  
Isabel Silvas

Michael Sirbas  
Parker Sisk  
Connor Skiff  
Kristopher Skurka  
Evan Smith  
Matthew Smith JR  
Maximus Smith  
Mia Snoreck  
Isabella Socia  
Jacob Socia  
Emily Solorio  
Brody Soto  
Joshua Soto  
Jack Spila  
Joseph Spila  
Samantha Steele  
Brady Stoming  
Benjamin Stooksbury  
Luca Storino  
Rayfield Stringer IV  
Jayden Sufie  
Grace Sullivan  
Isla Sullivan  
Garrett Suroviak  
Cierra Swalina  
Nathan Swanson  
Ben Szafasz  
Jack Szafasz  
Daniel Szpak  
Dominic Taffora  
Ethan Tampauskas  
Rylan Tatum  
Chloe Tawlks  
Abdullah Taylor  
Robert Taylor JR  
Elana Thompson  
Jaylyn Tobin  
Cody Travis  
Hugh Tripp  
Jayda Truitt  
Zachary Tyburski  
Sofia Ungureanu  
Georgia Urban  
William Urban  
Abigail Urbanczyk  
Addison Usher  
Brittany Usher  
Maeve Vartabedian  
Noah Vera  
Emily Vigil  
Kevin Villalvazo  
Claire Vinson  
RJ Virostko  
Sophia Vjestica  
Charlyn Vlasic  
Henry Vollink  
Taylor Wagner  
Trevor Walsh  
Nolan Warner  
Kenan Washington  
Caleb Webb  
Lucinda Wermeling  
Maggie White  
Haven Wilcox  
Jeremi Williams  
Keilan Williams  
Layla Williams  
Joseph Wojcik  
Collin Wood  
Ethen Wright  
Bentley Wucka  
Smaragda Xidias  
Jonah Yannuzzi  
Zachary Yates  
Allison Yott  
Michael Yunker  
Vanja Zakula  
Gia Zarlengo  
Isabelle Zenner  
Zachary Zimmerman  
Daniela Zych  
Neven Zych

# PARENT INFO

Does your child need to leave school early? In an effort to keep Clark safe for our students and staff, please send them to school with a note stating the time of departure.

Please note, students without a note will not be released to anyone outside of the emergency contact list without prior approval from the parent.

Are you looking for daily information about Clark? Visit the Clark website at

<https://clark.lcsc.us/>

The announcements, which are read to the students daily, are also posted here.



Cold and Flu season is beginning. Please see the state guidance below.



Indiana Department of Education

## How Sick is too Sick?

This information sheet is designed to be used as a general guidance for parents. If parents have medical questions, they are encouraged to consult with a healthcare provider.

Symptom	Send to School	Keep at Home
<b>Fever</b>	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been below 100.4 degrees and no fever-reducing medication has been taken.	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been more than 100.4 degrees.
<b>Diarrhea</b>	During the past 24 hours, no more than one watery stool has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, more than one watery stool has occurred.
<b>Vomiting</b>	During the past 24 hours, no vomiting has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, vomiting has occurred.
<b>Eye Irritation</b>	Eyes may be itchy, but are not red, crusty, or draining.	Eyes are pink, draining, crusty, itching, painful, sensitive to light, or student has vision changes.
<b>Cough/Runny Nose</b>	Slight cough or runny nose, but no fever, and the student is able to cover cough, blow nose, and wash hands.	Symptoms are severe enough that the student is unable to learn. The student has a fever, or is unable to cover cough, blow nose, or wash hands.
<b>Rash</b>	Rash is not draining or spreading. The student does not have a fever, and symptoms of itching are not severe enough to impede learning.	Rash is bothersome and distracting. The student has a fever or severe itching, or rash is spreading or draining.
<b>Asthma</b>	Symptoms are well controlled, and the student knows when to contact a school adult for assistance or the student has an asthma action plan on file at the school and is following the plan.	Symptoms are not well controlled. The student is not able to recognize when he/she needs assistance, and no asthma action plan is on file at the school.



Mrs. Gonzalez



Mrs. Danielson



Ms. Rodriguez