NAVIGATOR

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL 'CHARTING A COURSE FOR THE FUTURE'



VOLUME 30, NO. 1

FALL 2025

HONORING 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE AND LOOKING AHEAD

A Message From Superintendent Dr. Joshua Liddell

This past fall, we proudly celebrated 25 years in our Chautauqua Lake school building—a milestone that invites us not only to reflect on our history but also to celebrate the incredible work happening right now across our district.

When our building first opened its doors in 2000, the vision was clear as the original school board shared these words:

"As students enter our new facility in September 2000, it becomes more than just a building. It becomes the new home & new beginning for our school community. With excitement, enthusiasm, and the oneness of our new school, we anticipate an educational experience each student will value and cherish for a lifetime!"

Twenty-five years later, that vision continues to guide and inspire us. What began as a "new beginning" has evolved into a thriving school community—one recognized for excellence in academics, athletics, and our overall student experience. Our commitment to providing a place where every student can learn, grow, and reach their full potential remains as strong as ever.

This year, that spirit has been on full display. From the classroom to the playing field, from the arts to outdoor education, Chautauqua Lake students are excelling and making us proud in a variety of venues. You will see in this Navigator publication that our science students earned first place at the SUNY Fredonia Science Bowl, demonstrating teamwork and academic excellence. In the arts, our musicians and performers continue to impress at state and regional festivals. Our athletes and teams have had another amazing season highlighted by championships, tournament victories and impressive individual performances.









"A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE"

Honoring 25 Years of Excellence and Looking Ahead Continued on page 2...

Beyond accomplishments, what stands out most is the culture of connection and care that defines Chautauqua Lake. Programs like Girls on the Run, PBIS, Chautauqua Kids Care, and our Reading Buddies partnership remind us that learning extends beyond academics—it's about building confidence, compassion, and community. Our commitment to outdoor and adventure-based education fosters resilience, teamwork, and a lasting connection to both nature and learning. In this edition, you'll see our students exploring the outdoors and engaging in community service across the region—taking advantage of the incredible opportunities our area offers while giving back to the communities that support them.

Looking ahead, I am honored to continue serving the Chautauqua Lake community while also taking on a shared superintendency with the Bemus Point Central School District. This collaboration represents a forward-thinking approach-one that isn't about dividing leadership, but about expanding what's possible. By working together and sharing resources, we can continue to offer all students the best possible educational experience. I am confident that our outstanding leadership team, dedicated teachers, and remarkable staff will ensure that our students' daily experience continues to reflect the high standards, pride, and spirit that define our district.

As I walk through our halls each day, I see the promise of the next 25 years already taking shape. Chautauqua Lake has always been more than a building—it's a home built on shared purpose, hard work, and heart. As we celebrate how far we've come, we do so knowing that our future is brighter than ever. Thank you for your continued trust, partnership, and belief in what we can achieve together.

Joshua E. Liddell Ph. D.

Dr. Joshua Liddell

Superintendent, Chautauqua Lake Central School District

Tenure Appointments

Congratulations to Leah Stow and Olivia Michalak on being granted tenure!



Ms. Stow, who holds a permanent certificate as a School Counselor, has earned tenure in the School Counselor tenure area.



Ms. Michalak, who holds a professional certificate in Social Studies 7–12, has earned tenure in the Social Studies tenure area.

Celebrate 25 Years With Us

Our Silver Jubilee celebration honored the history and legacy of our school building, featuring footage from 25 years ago and interviews with past and present teachers and staff. The full video is now available to watch on our website—explore the memories, milestones, and stories that make our school community so special.





2020 Board of Education



James Tennies, Jay Baker, President; Don Belcer, Jack Volker, Vice President, Jill Scott, Virginia Scriven, Randy Henderson, Pamela Purdue

As we celebrate 25 years in our school building, we proudly recognize the incredible dedication and leadership of our Chautauqua Lake Central School District Board of Education—both past and present. From those who helped open our doors 25 years ago to those guiding us today, your vision, hard work, and commitment ensure that our students, staff, and community continue to thrive. Thank you for shaping the future of CLCS!





Jennifer Obert, Kenneth Shearer, Jr., Joshua Liddell, Superintendent, Andrea Munsee-Wellman, Michael Ludwig, President, Jessup Baker, Travis Bensink, Vice-President, Erin Pender

Eagles Sideline Store

Show your Chautauqua Lake pride with official Eagles gear—now available through our brand-new Eagles Sideline Store! The online shop offers hundreds of customizable products, colors, and designs for students, families, and fans. From hoodies and tees to hats and accessories, there's something for every Eagle.

Find the link to the Chautauqua Lake Sideline Store on our website under the Community section and gear up to show your school spirit all year long!





All day child care for children ages birth - 5 years

School age care for children ages 5 - 12 years

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

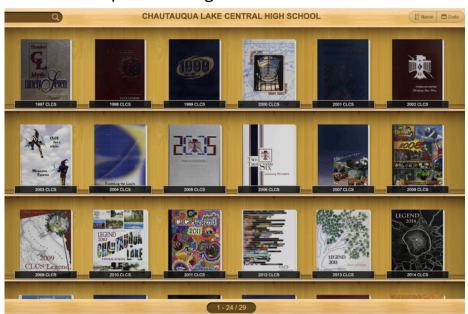
(716) 753 - 5851

Providing a loving, caring, secure learning environment for your children.

Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center offers a rich learning environment where children are able to explore and develop skills through play. Our qualified teachers provide a warm and inviting atmosphere that celebrates children's individuality and uniqueness. As we gear up for the winter season, we can enjoy the great outdoors in different ways. We will play outside each day and discover a variety of learning opportunities during this time. Our center has infant, toddler, preschool, and school-age care options. For additional information or to schedule a tour of our center, please contact the CLCCC at (716) 753-5851 or childcare@clake.org.

The Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center is a separate, non-profit business, which leases space from the school district. The building was designed to be a hub for a broad range of educational services to the community.

Explore Our Digital Yearbook Archive



We're excited to offer a fully searchable online collection of our school's yearbooks, preserving decades of memories for easy access and nostalgia. Whether you're looking to reminisce about your school days, research alumni, or plan a reunion, this archive is a valuable resource.

Each yearbook allows you to quickly find classmates, teachers, and special moments from our school's history. You can access the Digital Yearbook Archive anytime through the link on our homepage under the District heading—bringing the past right to your fingertips!

Navigator is a publication of the Chautauqua Lake Central School District www.clake.org

Dr. Joshua Liddell, Superintendent
Megan Lundgren, Elementary Principal
Rachel Curtin, Secondary School Principal &
District Data Coordinator
Sarah Graham, Dir. of Special Education &
Professional Development
Bryan Bongiovanni, Athletic Director,
Dean of Students
Jackson Graham, Business Executive I
Anthony Gray, Director of Technology
Heidi Martin, District Clerk
Jennifer Shearer, Cafeteria Manager
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Feel free to contact any of the leadership team members and/or board members with any questions, comments and concerns.



M CHECK IT OFF YOUR LIST

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY

jostens.com/orderyearbk



Purchase your 2025-2026 Yearbook online by January 30th for the best price!

Senior Ads and Business Ads are available at www.jostensadservice.com and must be submitted by January 1st.

We welcome candid photos of students in athletics or the community. Send contributions or request yearbook updates to Amy Preston (apreston@clake.org) or Krissy Stroth (kstroth@clake.org).

Professional Development for the 2025–2026 Academic Year

A Message From Director of Special Education and Professional Development, Sarah Graham

This year's Professional Development plan is already in full swing, with a focus on enhancing teaching strategies, boosting student engagement, and giving staff meaningful time to work toward the individual and team goals they identified in September.

Throughout the year, teachers can take part in focused learning sessions on topics such as Dyslexia & The Science of Reading Vocabulary, SEL & Teaching Tools with guest presenter Kyla Shriver, and Technology Integration featuring AI, Google Suite, and Canva. On scheduled conference days, staff also have dedicated time to collaborate and make progress on their individual and group goals.

A special Outdoor Adventure Learning Experience is also being offered for school administrators and instructional leaders in early November at Chautauqua Lake Central School. Presented in partnership with Chautauqua Health Network's Healthy Schools Program, this free session includes lunch and your choice of a guided hike or mountain bike ride on our trail while learning how outdoor experiences can strengthen school culture and well-being.

The year of learning and collaboration will conclude with the CLT Showcase on May 15, where staff will come together to share achievements and reflect on their professional growth. Together, these opportunities aim to strengthen classroom practices and continue building a culture of innovation and support across the district.

Half Day Bagged Lunches

Are you interested in a bagged lunch for your student on half days? This year we are offering a grab and go bagged lunch to all students on half days of school. Students need to be signed up to receive the lunch. The bagged lunch will include a sandwich, fruit, veggie and a bottle of water. Please contact your child's building office to sign your student up or reach out to Sarah Graham at sgraham@clake.org.



FeedMóre wny

Feedmore WNY Partnership

FeedMóre wny

Chautauqua Lake is excited to continue our partnership with Feedmore WNY. This partnership allows all students enrolled in the "Backpack Program" to receive a bag of non-perishable food items placed into their backpacks on the last day of each week. The bag of food consists of a protein (peanut butter, tunafish, or chicken), vegetable, fruit, shelf stable milk, pasta, and snack. The goal of the BackPack program is to provide nutritious and easy-to-prepare foods to children to take home on weekends and school vacations. This program is provided to you, completely free of charge. If you would like to enroll your students or have any questions about the program please contact Sarah Graham, Director of Special Education & Staff Development, at sgraham@clake.org or your student's main office.

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Celebrating Our First Quarter

A Message From Elementary School Principal, Megan Lundgren

The first quarter of the school year is officially complete. It's hard to believe how fast we've moved! While you see the daily excitement, I want to emphasize the critical foundational work that's been happening behind the scenes to make our school year successful.

Foundation: Goals and Priorities in Action

Every single decision, from how we arrange schedules to the professional development our teachers receive, is tied directly to our District Goals and Building Priorities. These aren't just ideas; they are the active map for our year. Our priorities focus heavily on project based learning that positively impacts our community, providing enrichment opportunities for all students, and building a rich sense of community through collaborations---including those with Ripley Elementary School. This focus provides a clear structure for everything our staff does, ensuring all efforts are unified and effective.

Building Connections and Community

The start of the year is all about relationships. We invested significant time in connection and community building. We've successfully integrated new students and welcomed new staff members. Our teachers spent the first weeks getting to know every child—understanding their learning styles, personalities, and academic needs. This knowledge is the basis for personalized instruction. Through our vibrant PBIS House System, we deliberately build community across the school. Through collaborative activities and shared experiences, we are teaching empathy, respect, and responsibility. When students feel they belong, they thrive.

Purposeful Teaching and Student Voice

Inside the classrooms, teaching and learning are moving at a strong pace. Teachers are implementing high-quality, research-based curriculum and continuing to differentiate instruction to reach every learner. We've focused on establishing clear academic routines and high expectations, which are already resulting in measurable progress.

We're also incredibly proud of our growing student-led initiatives. It's inspiring to see particularly older students take ownership, whether it's through their leadership in events like homecoming or mentoring younger students within their PBIS House. Giving students a voice teaches them essential lessons in leadership and civic responsibility. Thank you to our parents and surrounding community for being such supportive partners. We look forward to a successful second quarter!







PBIS Kick Off

Chautauqua Lake Elementary is off to a soaring start with PBIS this year including the new 'Eagles Unite Day'- where we support our fellow houses by dressing in their color! Students and staff came together to celebrate positive behavior, teamwork, and our shared school values. Each PBIS House joined in the fun with cheers, activities, and recognition for those demonstrating what it means to be a true CLCS Eagle—showing respect, responsibility, and readiness every day. We're proud of how our students are embracing our PBIS expectations and lifting each other up. Stay tuned for more celebrations and opportunities to keep our Eagles soaring high.









Homecoming

The elementary school spirit was on full display homecoming weekend as our youngest students participated in the annual Homecoming parade! Going beyond just cheering from the sidelines, a dedicated group of students proudly showcased their school pride by designing and building our very own float for the community celebration.

This year's float was a vibrant tribute to the foundation of our positive school culture: the PBIS House System. Over several afternoons, students stayed after school, working collaboratively to brainstorm ideas, sketch designs, and bring their vision to life. The float featured colorful representations of the beloved staples of our houses over the years, embodying the values of being safe, respectful, and responsible that the system promotes.



The excitement was palpable as the float rolled down the route, showcasing students' school spirit and teamwork. Participation in the Homecoming parade helped elementary students feel connected to the entire district and wider community. Their hard work paid off—adding a vibrant splash of color and enthusiasm to the festivities!

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Girls on the Run, It's So Much Fun!

Empowering Confidence and Teamwork at Chautauqua Lake Elementary

This fall, 11 energetic students from 3rd through 6th grade joined Girls on the Run, a national program that empowers girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident through fun, experience-based lessons and running activities.

Over eight weeks, participants met twice a week to build endurance, set goals, and support one another—both on and off the track. The program emphasizes confidence, friendship, and positive choices, helping each girl recognize her inner strength—her "bold heart."

The season culminated on November 8 at the Girls on the Run 5K in Buffalo's Delaware Park, where runners proudly celebrated their hard work and perseverance by crossing the finish line together. Coaches Abigail Della Chiesa, Megan Grace, and Kate Michalski shared how proud they are of the team's growth in confidence, teamwork, and determination.

Congratulations to all of our Girls on the Run participants for showing what it means to set goals, lift others up, and keep moving forward!







Fifth Grade Field Trip

At the beginning of October, the fifth grade students went to the Genesee Country Village & Museum. At the living museum in Mumford, our students were able to explore the historic village in small groups and discover a world much different than our modern one.

They saw ladies cooking pies, cobblers and apple butter over a cast iron stove. They watched as a cooper assembled staves of a barrel together and shaped each piece just right to fit into place. They listened and witnessed the creation of different iron tools and hardware pieces as the blacksmith used his billows to generate incredible heat to shape the iron. They visited many more buildings and interacted with many individuals who provided them with a glimpse at what life was like 200 years ago in America.



Fall Fest in Ripley



This year's Fall Fest was an unforgettable day for 4th graders from CLCS and Ripley, filled with hands-on learning, laughter, and the spirit of fall.

The day began with a pumpkin-picking adventure, where students searched the patch for their perfect pumpkins to take home. Back at school, five themed activity stations kept the excitement going. Students stomped grapes, pressed cider, met animals at the petting zoo, tested their skills with e-sports and battle bots, and played classic backyard games like kanjam and cornhole.

A high-energy dance party and sweet donut hole treats capped off the day's celebrations. Fall Fest 2025 was a joyful celebration of friendship, curiosity, and community spirit.







Red Ribbon Week

Chautauqua Lake Elementary students recently celebrated Red Ribbon Week®, joining the national campaign to promote healthy, drug-free lifestyles. This year's theme, "Life Is a Puzzle, Solve It Drug Free," inspired meaningful conversations and fun themed days that reinforced positive choices. Thank you to our students, staff, and families for showing their support and commitment to living drug free!





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Halloween

Elementary students and faculty got into the Halloween spirit with creative costumes and festive fun! The day wrapped up with our muchloved annual costume parade, bringing smiles and laughter throughout the halls.











Trunk or Treat

We had another fantastic turnout for our Trunk or Treat event! Thanks to our PTC, staff, B&G crew, bus drivers, and families for making it all happen.















Eagle Readers Soar Together

There's something special happening when the Kindergartener's walk down to the 6th grade pod—smiles, laughter, and the sound of stories being shared. This year, our 6th grade students have teamed up with kindergarteners for a Reading Buddy partnership that's quickly becoming a student highlight! Mrs. Smith shares, "This is such a wonderful program for our students! It really helps them grow as listeners and understand parts of a story we're learning in class. Plus, they love getting to know the older students--it increases their confidence and reinforces connection to our school community."

Each session, the older students help their younger buddies explore the world of reading and complete books that count toward their Hooked on Books incentive. They read stories aloud, talk about pictures, and ask questions about characters and events. The kindergarteners gain confidence and excitement for books, while the 6th graders practice leadership, patience, and communication skills. Mrs. Earle notes, "The Kindergartener's really look up to the older students, and practice good speaking and communication skills through having guided conversations with them."

Teachers have noticed that both age groups look forward to the visits. "My favorite part is watching the 6th graders learn how to keep their partner's attention by becoming a more engaging reader." shared Mrs. Betts.

The Reading Buddy program is more than just reading—it's about connection. It's about building a community where students of all ages learn from and support one another.

















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Chautauqua, Ashville and North Lake Fire Departments Support Student Safety

Students at Chautauqua Lake Central had an exciting, hands-on opportunity to learn about fire safety this week when familiar faces from our local fire departments visited the school. Elementary students explored fire trucks, tried on gear, and learned important safety tips in a fun and engaging way. These annual visits give students a chance to see first-hand how firefighters work and how to stay safe in emergency situations, while also highlighting the continuous support and connection these departments maintain with our school and community. A big thank-you goes out to our local heroes for returning year after year to share their time, equipment, and expertise with our students!





















Chautauqua Kids Care





Chautauqua Lake Central School District is proud to partner with Chautauqua County to launch CHQ Kids Care, a student-powered program celebrating young changemakers. Coordinated by teaching assistant Fawn Schuster, the initiative gives students across the region opportunities to lead projects that promote kindness, wellness, and environmental stewardship.

At CLCS, 5th graders are producing a podcast called Drop by Drop as part of their water cycle studies, inspiring listeners to care about our most essential resource—water. The program's first partnership project, created by 6th graders Hadley Olson and Alexis Parker, produced a PSA for the National Day of Action: Imagine a Day Without Water, which gained national recognition through the American Water Works Association.

Hooked on Books

Just over 240 elementary students completed their first reading challenge of the school year. In order to meet the challenge, students must complete additional reading both in school and at home. Not only are students growing in their reading skills, but they are also being rewarded with quarterly incentives. This quarter, students who met their challenge were invited to participate in fall STEM and craft activities at the Mayville Library. In addition, students in grades 3-6 enjoyed a spooktacular movie.







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From the Desk of the Secondary Principal

A Message From Secondary School Principal, Rachel Curtin

It's been a vibrant, busy, and genuinely joyful fall at Chautauqua Lake. The energy in our hallways, the pride at our events, and the focus in our classrooms remind me every day how special this school community is. Our students are showing up for one another, in learning, in leadership, and in spirit, and that sense of belonging has set a positive tone for the entire year.

From Homecoming Week, where an incredible 269 students attended the dance, to our Fall Adventure Days that took every grade level outdoors, from the Chautauqua Gorge to Panama Rocks to Peek'n Peak, our Eagles have embraced every opportunity to connect and grow. They've also soared academically and artistically: earning first place overall at the SUNY Fredonia Science Bowl, planting 68 new trees at Lakeside Park, acceptance into All-State and Area All-State music festivals, and completing National Honor Society candidacies that highlight character, leadership, and service.

Even as we celebrate these accomplishments, one message remains central to student success: attendance matters. We recognize that life happens, and sometimes absences are unavoidable. When that's the case, communication is key. Staying in touch with our attendance office and teachers ensures that students can keep up with their learning and get support when they return. New York State requires students to be in school at least 91% of the time, and miss no more than 12 days total. It's important to remember that all absences- excused or unexcused-count toward that total. Even understandable absences can add up quickly and impact learning, grades, and progress toward course credit.

The good news is that attendance is something we can control—together. Showing up consistently builds academic confidence, strengthens friendships, and ensures that students don't just stay caught up, but stay connected. Whether they're in the lab, on the stage, on the trail, or in the classroom, being present each day gives our students the opportunity to fully engage in everything that makes Chautauqua Lake so special.

I'm so proud of the work happening here every day. Thank you for partnering with us to make sure students keep showing up ready to learn, lead, and be part of something special.







Adventure Based Learning

Our district's commitment to outdoor education began five years ago with a simple question: Can we get some bikes and just get these kids outside? What started as a small idea has grown into a program that's redefining how we approach learning, wellness, and connection.

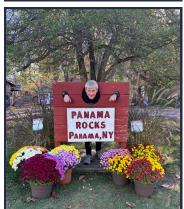
On November 10, we joined Chautauqua Health Network to share our work in adventure-based learning with area educators and administrators. Thanks to our partners, local donors, and grant funding, that early vision to get students learning on the trail has truly taken root. And now, with generous support from Cand'Aid, Specialized, and community contributions, we've expanded our biking and trail program to include elementary students—giving even our youngest Eagles the chance to discover the joy of riding in the woods.

This fall, our Eagles fully embraced the adventure spirit—trading screens for scenery and finding joy on the trails. We hiked Long Point State Park, climbed Chautauqua Gorge, and took in the views from Luensman Overlook. Adventure Club riders hit the dirt after school, carving through singletrack at Loud Performance, looping lakeside trails at Long Point, and tackling climbs at Harris Hill. Each outing brought new challenges, laughter, and pride. It's been a season of fresh air, muddy shoes, and big smiles—and we can't wait to see where the next trail leads.











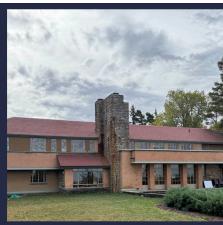






Graycliff

Students from Mr. Tennies' class visited Graycliff, the historic Frank Lloyd Wright-designed summer home on Lake Erie, to explore its architecture, history, and restoration firsthand—a unique opportunity to connect classroom learning with one of Western New York's cultural landmarks.



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SUNY Fredonia Science Bowl

Congratulations to our students for an outstanding performance at the SUNY Fredonia Science Bowl! This annual event brings together high schoolers from across the region for hands-on experiments and quiz-bowl competitions in biology, chemistry, environmental science, and math—designed to spark interest in STEM and give students a taste of college-level science.

Each member of the overall winning team received a \$50 bookstore gift card and a \$500 book stipend toward college books if they attend Fredonia. We're proud of our students' hard work, teamwork, and excellence in STEM!





Chautauqua Lake Students Partner with Mayville to Plant Trees in Lakeside Park

Students from Chautauqua Lake Central School's Environmental and Field Science classes joined forces with the Village of Mayville's Department of Public Works and Tree Committee to plant new trees in Lakeside Park. Beyond their beauty, the trees will help improve water quality over time by reducing erosion and stabilizing the shoreline.

"It's great whenever we have a chance to put our knowledge of the local environment into local action," said sophomore Victoria Carris. "We had beautiful weather, which was only a bonus."

Science teacher Adam Gollwitzer added, "The ongoing efforts of the Village Tree Committee —working with Mayor Syper, Treasurer Obert, and the DPW—are a prime example of residents and local government collaborating to improve public spaces. We're proud for our students to be part of that process and to witness civics in action to protect places we all value."















































Chautaugua Lake Students Experience Save a Life Tour

Program highlights dangers of impaired and distracted driving through interactive simulations. Chautauqua Lake kicked off September with a powerful visit from the Save a Life Tour, sponsored by Ardent Solutions, for students in grades 10–12. This nationally recognized program turns the dangers of impaired and distracted driving into real-life lessons through hands-on simulation. Students tested their reflexes in a virtual reality experience that mimicked driving under the influence, then faced a texting-and-driving challenge that made it clear just how quickly distractions can lead to disaster.

The Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department joined the event with a seatbelt simulator, showing that even a crash at 5–7 mph delivers a serious jolt—underscoring how seatbelts save lives. Chautauqua Lake Central School remains committed to providing experiences that prepare students to make safe, responsible choices on and off the road.



NHS Hosts Blood Drive, Prepares for Holiday Food Drive

On Wednesday, October 29, the National Honor Society hosted a successful blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross. Generous donors rolled up their sleeves to help save lives, while NHS volunteers ensured the event ran smoothly and every participant felt welcomed.

Next, NHS is launching its Holiday Food Drive from December 1–12 to help provide meals for local families in need. Students can drop off donations in front of the guidance office each morning, and community members are encouraged to send items with their children or deliver them directly to the secondary office.

Items most needed include:

- Gravy and stuffing mix
- Cranberry sauce
- Biscuit and mashed potato mixes
- Non-perishable fruits and vegetables
- Desserts and other holiday favorites

Every contribution, big or small, helps make a difference. NHS thanks everyone for their generosity and continued support in making this holiday season brighter for all.

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FitnessGram

FitnessGram is a comprehensive, health-related physical fitness assessment program for students in grades 3–12. Its mission is to promote lifelong physical activity by measuring key components of health-related fitness, including aerobic capacity, muscular strength, endurance, flexibility, and body composition. The program provides students, parents, and educators with valuable data to help students set personal goals for maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The CLCS PE Department has begun using this program and will be sending home FitnessGram reports for your student along with their Q1 and Q4 report cards.

A variety of tests were used this year, depending on the grade level. Some of the options included the one-mile run, push-ups, curl-ups, trunk lift, V-sit and reach, and the 15m or 20m PACER test.

Results are compared to "Healthy Fitness Zone" standards rather than to other students. This provides a picture of each student's overall health-related fitness.

If you have questions about your child's results or would like more information, please reach out to their PE teachers.







Exploring Careers with Real-World Experience

This year, Stephanie Janicki is leading the Career Exploration and Internship Program class, giving students the chance to explore a variety of career paths while completing hands-on internships. To bring real-world insight into the classroom, Mrs. Janicki regularly welcomes guest speakers who share their experiences and discuss what motivates them in their careers.

So far, students have had the opportunity to learn from retired Deputy Jason Beichner who also serves as the CLCS School Safety Advisor, Travis Bensink, chef and owner of Tulip's Brunch House, and Stephanie Dawson, who is pursuing a career in farming. These visits give students a firsthand look at different professions and help them think about their own future paths.







Senior Dayne Jantzi Competes in World Dairy Expo

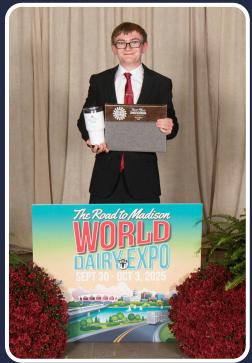
In August, Dayne Jantzi earned first place high individual and first in oral reasons at the NYS Fair 4-H Dairy Judging Contest, securing his spot on the New York State Dairy Judging Team.

In September, Jantzi and his teammates represented New York at the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin, where he placed first individual in the Red and White Holstein breed and second in Brown Swiss out of 84 competitors.

Their outstanding results earned the New York State team the honor of representing the United States at the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh, Scotland, in June 2026.

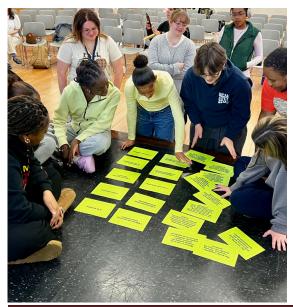
"Placing in the top three was such a surreal moment," said Jantzi. "I'm honored to have the opportunity to represent the United States in Scotland."

We congratulate Dayne and his team on their hard work, dedication, and remarkable achievements.



Anne Frank Project's Social Justice Festival

Students from Mrs. Hendrick's Holocaust class attended the Anne Frank Project's Social Justice Festival at Buffalo State College, where they participated in powerful sessions focused on empathy, storytelling, and community action. The experience inspired meaningful conversations about how small acts of courage can create lasting change. The festival's theme, "Belonging Begins Here," emphasized that belonging is not just a value, but a foundation rooted in connection, inclusion, and the recognition that diverse voices are essential.





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Homecoming 2025

This year's Homecoming marked a significant milestone as our school celebrated its 25th Silver Jubilee, commemorating twenty-five years of excellence, growth, and community. The event honored the rich history of the district and its roots in the communities of Mayville, Chautauqua, and Ripley. The annual fall pep rally brought together grades 7–12 for spirited competitions, recognition of athletic achievements, and enthusiastic cheers that celebrated school pride and community unity.

The annual Homecoming parade featured themed floats from each class celebrating 25 years of school life—Seniors with a Silver Jubilee throwback, Juniors highlighting sports, Sophomores showcasing clubs, Freshmen focusing on academics, and 7th–8th graders creating banners—all reflecting school pride, unity, and enduring traditions.



The weekend concluded on a high note with the Homecoming Dance, where students gathered for an evening of celebration and school spirit. Students enjoyed music from a lively DJ, posed for memories at a photo booth, and the Homecoming Court was recognized as well. It was as a festive finale to a weekend full of tradition, camaraderie, and pride, leaving students with lasting memories of the 25th Silver Jubilee Homecoming.

3D Printing

In October, Mr. McCray's manufacturing students gained hands-on experience with cutting-edge 3D scanning technology during a visit from industry leader Keyence. Representatives demonstrated how their scanners use AI to capture precise part data—accurate to within a tenth of a thousandth of an inch—and generate code for CAD and production needs. Students practiced scanning their own parts and later used the generated files to 3D print components following the presentation.







Celebrating Our All-State and Zone 1 Musicians

Michael Horvath, Eve Kushmaul, and Josie Dawson will represent Chautauqua Lake Central School in the Mixed Choir, and Lillian Schenk will sing with the Treble Choir at the NYSSMA Zone 1 Area All-State Festival at SUNY Fredonia. These ensembles bring together the region's top high school musicians from Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, and Cattaraugus counties, selected through competitive NYSSMA auditions. We are especially excited to share that Eve Kushmaul has earned a spot in the Mixed Choir at the NYSSMA All-State Festival, which will take place in December in Rochester. This is a wonderful honor and recognition of our students' dedication, skill, and passion for music!









7th and 8th Grade Halloween Fun Night

Junior Student Administration sponsored its first Halloween Fun Night for 7th and 8th-grade students. Junior SA members were responsible for finding chaperones, advertising, decorating, and planning food, music, and activities. The evening featured Halloween-themed games, creative costumes, pizza and snacks, and dancing. A competitive limbo contest was the highlight of the event. Thank you to our chaperones for helping us host this activity.

Junior Student Administration is open to all 7th- and 8thgrade students interested in planning events, holding fundraisers, and engaging in community service. Meetings are held monthly during the school year. Students who are interested in joining Junior Student Administration should contact co-advisors Mrs. Denny or Mrs. Rosage.



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SAFETY NEWS AND INFORMATION

Emergency Closings/Cancellations

School closings or delays due to weather will be announced on local radio and TV, and when possible, posted on the district website (www.clake.org) and CLCS social media.

District officials monitor weather and road conditions early each morning, consulting local authorities and neighboring districts. By 6:45 a.m., a decision is made about school openings and transportation. If school is canceled, local media and the automated ParentSquare system are notified. After-school and evening activity cancellations follow a similar process, usually decided by 2 p.m.

Parents may choose to keep children home if local conditions feel unsafe, even if schools remain open. District decisions are always made with student safety as the priority. We thank parents, transportation staff, and students for their cooperation and care.

Questions? Call your child's school or the District Office at (716) 753-5808.











In Case of Emergency at CLCS

Parents can help Chautauqua Lake Central School prepare for an emergency by following a few simple steps:

- Know that the District is taking every step to keep your child safe.
- Keep your child's emergency information up-to-date.
- Wait to be contacted by the District at your emergency contact number.

The District has developed multiple methods of communicating with parents/guardians. Please give our system an opportunity to work as planned. In case of emergency, please do not go to the scene or the school until you receive instructions.

- Keep the telephone lines open on your emergency contact numbers.
- •Get accurate information and instructions.
- •Please do not call the school. Do not contact your child via cell phone. Phone lines must remain open.
- •Refrain from using social media to spread unofficial information.

HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS AND INFORMATION

Dress for Cold Weather

In anticipation of cold temperatures, please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately. Layering clothing is the best (coat, jacket, sweatshirt, or sweater), plus head and hand coverings. Please do not allow your child to leave the house with exposed skin (ears, hands, legs, etc.), as this increases the chance of frostbite in cold weather. If your child needs warm clothing (coats, hats, or mittens) and you cannot provide it, please call the school nurse at (716) 753-5819 for assistance.

Please understand that if you believe on a given day that conditions are too dangerous, you always have the final decision as to whether you send your child to school or not.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Together we can ensure that all children arrive safely at school.



Avoiding Winter Slips & Falls

Winter in Chautauqua County can often mean periods of icy or snowy weather. While the Buildings & Grounds Department works diligently to remove snow and ice from walkways and building entrances, you still may encounter slippery surfaces while walking around campus. The Chautauqua Lake Safety Committee offers the following tips for avoiding slips and falls during this winter season:

- Select appropriate footwear. Footwear with rubber or neoprene composite soles provides better traction on ice and snow than leather or plastic.
- Give yourself extra time for travel. Avoid rushing, taking shortcuts over snow piles, or traveling areas where snow or ice removal is incomplete.
- Be careful walking on slippery surfaces. It's best to avoid slippery surfaces, but if you have no choice, bend slightly forward and shorten your stride or shuffle your feet for better stability.
- Wipe your feet when entering a building. Remove moisture from the soles of your shoes on doormats to avoid walking on wet or slippery surfaces.
- Seek help if you fall and injure yourself. Immediately see the School Nurses and report your incident to the School Health Line, District, Secondary or Elementary Offices.

You are encouraged to report slippery conditions in the District's parking lots, walkways, and building entrances to the Buildings & Grounds Office at (716) 753-5825 or any school office.



Questions or concerns about a student's health or medical needs should be directed to a school nurse. The nurses can be reached in the Health Office at (716) 753-5819 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. each school day.

The fax number for the Health Office is (716) 753-2085. Please notify your child's doctor's office. Thank you.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS AND INFORMATION

Dignity Act, Bullying Resources

Learning environments that are safe and supportive can increase student attendance and improve academic achievement. A student's ability to learn and achieve and a school's ability to educate students are compromised by incidents of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to bullying, taunting, and intimidation. Therefore, in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), the District strives to create an environment free of discrimination and harassment and to foster civility in the schools to prevent and prohibit conduct that is inconsistent with the District's educational mission.

The District condemns and prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment of students based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex, whether by school employees or students on school property and at school-sponsored activities and events that take place at locations off school property. In addition, any act of discrimination or harassment outside of school-sponsored events, which can reasonably be expected to materially and substantially disrupt the education process, may be subject to discipline.

Students or adults witnessing or in the knowledge of any act that could be considered harassing or intimidating to others are directed to report such incident in a timely fashion to an administrator or a DASA Coordinator for investigation.

K-6 DASA Coordinator School Counselor, Kara Smith: 716-753-5846

7-12 DASA Coordinator School Psychologist, Katrina Cummings: 716-753-5849

Annual training is provided for all District employees, and instruction from Kindergarten through grade 12 includes a component on civility, citizenship, and character education. Rules against discrimination and harassment are included in the Code of Conduct.

For more information, including printable and online reporting forms, visit www.clake.org.

Counseling Directory

Pre-K - Grade 5: Grades 6,7 & 8: Grades 10 & 12: Grades 9 & 11: School Psychologist: Kara Smith Leah Stow Jessica Cowan Jason Richardson Katrina Cummings

(716)753-5846 (716)753-5847 (716)753-5887 (716)753-5887 (716)753-5849

Reminder: Update Contact Information

Be sure to call 716-753-5910, or your child's school office, if your telephone number, email or mailing address changes. This information is maintained in PowerSchool, the student data management system.

The contact information is used to send recorded messages, emails or texts when school is closed or when after-school and evening activities are canceled due to severe weather conditions, when emergency situations arise and when information needs to be relayed to parents, guardians or other caretakers.

Even if first class mailings from your child's school office are forwarded from your old address, you may not receive newsletters or other publications sent at bulk mail rates unless we have your current mailing address.



Important Allergy and Safety Reminders

Parents have been notified that students in several classrooms have severe peanut/tree nut allergies. Strict avoidance of peanut/tree nut products is the only way to prevent a lifethreatening allergic reaction. We ask your assistance in providing these students with a safe learning environment. Teachers and administrators have also modified class materials to avoid the presence of any peanut/tree nut allergens used in cooking or for arts and crafts, science projects, or classroom parties and celebrations.



























Strong Start

A message from Supervisor of Athletics, Bryan Bongiovanni

This fall has been one for the record books at Chautauqua Lake Central School, where Eagle athletes once again displayed hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship across every sport. The football program expanded to three levels, Modified, JV, and Varsity thanks to increased participation. The Modified team went 6–1, JV finished undefeated at 6–0, and Varsity earned a 7–1 record, ranking 15th in New York State and second in the Section 6 playoffs.

On the volleyball court, the Eagles thrived in their first year as an independent program. The Modified team went 6–4, while the JV and Varsity girls both finished 13–1 and excelled in multiple tournaments, earning a #4 state ranking heading into playoffs. This season also featured two major milestones: Karagan Fairbank recorded 1000 assists and Alice Scarpine recorded her 1,000th career dig, an outstanding accomplishment that highlights their talent and leadership on the court.



The girl's tennis team also had much to celebrate, capturing the league title, with Eden Ludwig qualifying for Sectionals for the second straight year. In the pool, the young swim team showed tremendous growth, setting multiple personal bests and gaining valuable experience as the youngest squad in their Section. Their enthusiasm and progress have us poised for a bright future for the program.

On the soccer fields, the boys and girls' teams showed determination and teamwork throughout the season. The boys' varsity team went 10–6, ending with a hard-fought playoff game at North Collins, while the modified boys finished 6–6–2 with contributions from more than 30 players. The girls' varsity team battled through injuries and adversity to finish 4–12, highlighted by a strong playoff effort against Barker, and the modified girls capped off an excellent season at 8–3–1.

As the district and community turn their attention indoors, excitement is building for the winter sports season. JV and varsity practices begin November 17, with modified wrestling and girls' basketball starting November 3, and boys modified basketball tipping off January 5. Families are reminded to complete all FamilyID forms and physicals before practices begin to ensure a smooth start to the new season.

Go Eagles!





Our varsity football team completed their regular season with an impressive 7–1 record overall (6–1 in Class C South). A big week 8 win against last year's state finalist Salamanca clinched the No. 2 seed in the Section VI playoffs, where the Eagles went on to host Akron in the first round.

The Eagles dominated that matchup, defeating Akron 70–12 and setting a new school record for points scored in a single game. When the new state rankings are released, the Eagles will stand as the No. 12 team in Class C.

The offense has been explosive all year, scoring more than 40 points in five games (including a 64-point performance against Fredonia) and posting three shutouts on defense. Senior quarterback Brayden Gibbs has thrown for 1,500 yards and 19 touchdowns on 111 completions, while also adding 313 rushing yards and 5 scores. Top targets include Devin Hewes (47 catches, 605 yards, 6 TDs), Asher Olson (31 catches, 530 yards, 8 TDs), and Carson Fairbank (21 catches, 272 yards, 4 TDs). On the ground, Thandon Bensink has led the charge with 131 carries for 801 yards and 10 touchdowns. Defensively, Tristen Gibbs (85 tackles) and Trent Houser (83 tackles) have anchored the unit, supported by Clayton Smith (10 sacks) and Aiden Woodis (4 interceptions).

In a thrilling semifinal upset, the Eagles defeated top-seeded Barker/Royalton-Hartland 30–13 to punch their ticket to the Section VI Class C Championship at Highmark Stadium. Big plays from Asher Olson (5 catches, 119 yards, 2 TDs) and Thandon Bensink (112 rushing yards and a touchdown) fueled the victory as the Eagles continued their incredible season.

Varsity Boys Soccer



The Chautauqua Lake Boys Varsity Soccer team finished the season 8-7 overall and 3-5 in league play. The competitive season featured many close games, with the team scoring 40 goals and finishing +10 in goal differential. Freshman Travis Horvath led the team with 11 goals, while sophomore Lucas Horvath contributed 13 assists (31% of the team total). Freshman goalie Landon Emery recorded 100 saves in his first full varsity season. The team will miss graduating seniors and captains Dayne Jantzi, Evan Riedesel, Aden Gollhardt, Michael Horvath, Denny Rojas, and Gavin Zemcik, all of whom played pivotal roles over the years. With a strong group of young players and a large modified program, the future of the program looks bright.

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Varsity Girls Soccer

The Varsity Girls Soccer team ended their season with a record of 4-12. This team showed what true success looks like with growth, grit, and teamwork. Each player improved in skill, confidence, and understanding of the game. The girls supported one another through challenges, celebrated every small victory, and played with heart until the final whistle. Their sportsmanship, determination, and unity made this season a strong foundation for future success!





Modified Boys Soccer

The 2025 modified boys' soccer team had a strong season with a very young roster, including 17 seventh graders among 30 players. The boys improved their ball handling, passing, and teamwork throughout the season, earning "Shut-Em Out" brownies for shutouts against Salamanca, Maple Grove, Silver Creek, Frewsburg, and North Collins. They finished with a 6-6-3 record, playing many close games.

Both the boys' and girls' modified teams will participate in a Blue vs. White Scrimmage and Skills Challenge, earning points for a fundraiser with sponsor donations. Our modified soccer programs have grown tremendously in recent years, and the future looks bright for CLCS soccer.



Modified Girls Soccer

The girls modified soccer team finished the season with an 8-3-1 record. Throughout the year, the players showed steady improvement in their skills, teamwork, and understanding of the game.

A highlight of the season was their hard-fought win over Frewsburg, which showed how much the team had grown since the start. Seventh grader Abigail Rizzo led the offense with 17 goals, helping set the tone for a strong season overall.

This group worked hard, supported each other, and represented the program well on and off the field. It was a successful season built on effort, growth, and teamwork.

Modified Boys Football

The Modified Football team put together an exceptional season, finishing with a 6–1 record and showcasing talent, teamwork, and toughness on both sides of the ball. This year's team was a terrific blend of Chautauqua Lake, Westfield and Brocton student-athletes with over 30 players on the squad. The offense was explosive both in the air and on the ground, averaging over 40 points a game! Quarterback Paxton Liddell and running back Parker Wellman, the team's Co-MVPs, set the pace with big plays, while Ryker Ellis and Destyn May provided key production at receiver.



In the trenches, Jeremiah Battle, Ethan Hammond, Jaxen Frary, Brian Luna-Lopez, and Bennett Campbell anchored the offensive and defensive lines, setting the tone for the Eagles. Liddell, Wellman, Ellis, and May also made key contributions on defense, helping shut down opposing offenses throughout the year. They were joined by Eli Meredith, Bode Gerring, Nate Swan, Gage Donato, Jeremy Hawkins and Chester Machemer, who were standouts on defense and provided valuable support on offense. With this strong core of young talent, the future looks bright for the Chautauqua Lake Eagles.





JV Football

The JV football team capped its first season undefeated at 6-0, outscoring opponents 218-64. Sophomore captains Greyson Wellman, Lane Scarpine, and Jordin Eddy led the ground game with over 1,100 rushing yards and 22 touchdowns, powered by strong blocking from Jon Head, Alex Bourgeois, Ricky Rivera, Chase Houser, James Davis, and Hunter Stow. Freshman quarterback Josh Swan led the passing attack, connecting with Ian Kinderman, Michael Jauss, and Tyler Olson.

Defensively, under Coach Devin Pope, the Eagles recorded two shutouts, with relentless pressure up front and lockdown coverage from the "No Fly Zone," which didn't allow a single passing touchdown all season.

Modified Girls Volleyball

The girls' volleyball team had a season to be proud of, showing incredible growth despite many first-year players. The team improved their passing, setting, and court awareness, while rallies became longer and communication stronger. Confidence and leadership shone as players stepped up for one another, and every match demonstrated their determination—even in tight losses. The season ended with a winning record, and the foundation they built in effort, teamwork, and heart sets the stage for continued success.



JV Girls Volleyball

The JV Volleyball team finished their season with a record of 12-1. They won 5 of the 6 tournaments they entered so far. The tournaments they won were the Adler Tournament at Gates-Chili on 8/25, the Route 5 and Route 20 Tournament at Dunkirk on 8/30, the Randolph Volleybash tournament on 9/25, the Olean Volleybash tournament at St. Bonaventure on 10/11 and the JV Championship tournament at Fredonia on 10/18. Their record for the season including tournaments is 42-2-1.



Varsity Girls Volleyball



The Varsity Volleyball Team finished the regular season with an impressive 13-1 record in their first year of being independent. The team showed tremendous growth, teamwork, and competitive spirit throughout the season, turning in strong performances at several tournaments, including the Adler Tournament at Gates-Chili, St. Mary's of Lancaster, and Penfield.

Their success this year is a testament to their hard work, focus, and commitment to excellence both on and off the court. The team would like to extend special recognition to seniors Gracie Gerring and Jeanine Group for their leadership, dedication, and the example they set for their teammates.

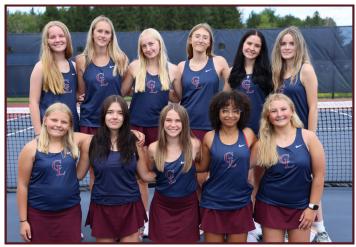
Varsity Girls Tennis

The 2025 tennis season was a success, and the team showed steady growth from start to finish, guided by outstanding senior leadership from Jillian Miller, Taylyn Stanton, Molly Ulsh, and Quinn Vaillancourt.

The team finished with a 9-2 overall record and a 7-1 league record, earning a league championship and competing strongly in their first team championship tournament. At the CCAA tournament, four doubles teams and two singles players represented CLCS, with Eden Ludwig finishing 2nd overall in Chautauqua/Cattaraugus County and advancing to sectionals at the Miller Tennis Center.

Sportsmanship awards went to Eden Ludwig and Josie Dawson—a true reflection of the team's character and camaraderie!





Varsity Girls Swimming

The Swim Team had a fantastic season, led by captains Addison Gervasio and Lillian Schenk, whose commitment and leadership inspired continuous improvement. At the Chautauqua County Meet, the team posted numerous personal bests. Highlights included a 6th-place finish in the Medley Relay (Gervasio, Roets, Craeger, Schenk) and strong individual performances: Aviana Matos placed 11th in the 50 free and 9th in the 100 butterfly; Addison, Elsa, and Lillian placed 4th, 6th, and 8th respectively in the 100 freestyle; and Lillian earned 4th in the backstroke with a career-best time. Ayla Roets and Hannah Raynor each dropped significant time in the 500 freestyle, both finishing 12th. The 200 free relay also placed 4th. With their determination and teamwork, this "small but mighty" squad made a big splash this season!



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Lake Lady Navigators Fall Youth Girls Basketball

Twenty girls, ranging 2nd-6th grades, from the Chautauqua Lake and Ripley districts participated in the Fall "Lake Lady Navigators" youth basketball program. Starting with camps at the end of June, the girls continued with open gyms throughout the summer and began with wins in Erie in August. They continued throughout the fall, playing fifteen games in a Chautauqua County league.

Highlights include an undefeated record in the Fall League, winning the Corry 3v3 tournament, a third place finish in the challenging North East Tournament against much larger Erie teams, and throwing an unbelievable amount of candy from our float in the CLCS Homecoming Parade.

As we look forward to our winter program, we want to share sincere gratitude for the Chautauqua Lake Athletic Department for their support and assistance. The girls are putting the time in the gym, learning sportsmanship, teamwork, dedication...and how to have fun! The future of Lake girls basketball is on the move.







CL Soccer Teams Support Alumni at Edinboro!



The Chautauqua Lake girls varsity and modified soccer teams recently took a special trip to Edinboro to cheer on 2025 alumna Jada Cole as she took the field for her college team. Jada had an outstanding game—scoring two goals and adding an assist!

It was an inspiring experience for our players to see one of their own competing at the next level. They returned home motivated and proud, having witnessed Jada's hard work, skill, and dedication in action.

We're so proud of you, Jada!

Chautauqua Lake Central School 100 N. Erie Street Mayville, New York 14757-9798

Area Code 716	
School Safety Tip Line	753-5803
Superintendent's Office	753-5808
Elementary School Office, Pre-K-6	753-5841
Secondary School Office, 7-12	753-5881
Counselor, Pre-K-6	753-5846
Guidance Office, 7-12	753-5887
Health Office	753-5819
District Registrar	753-5910
Student Services Office	753-5877
Transportation Department	753-5901
Cafeteria Office	753-5824
Business Office	753-5874
Buildings and Grounds	753-5825
www.clake.org	

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www.clake.org

We make every effort to mail our calendar and newsletters to every family with students enrolled at Chautauqua Lake. This mailing list is separate from any first class mailings you may receive from your child's school office. If you know of a family with a student enrolled at CLCS who does not receive these publications, please notify us by calling the District Office at (716) 753-5808.

