



L.B. Clarke Middle School Chronicle

Principal: [Mr. Tim Wester](#)
Dean of Students: [Mrs. Angie Spaeth](#)
Secretary: [Miss Brynn Luebke](#)

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Two Rivers, Wisconsin
54241

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Monday, August 4th, 2014

Visit us online at: www.trschools.k12.wi.us/schools/lbc

What's New at L.B. Clarke?

It's so exciting to start writing the back to school newsletter because it means the new school year isn't far off. I am also excited to write this year's newsletter because it's my first one! After two years as your assistant principal I am thrilled to serve as the principal of the best middle school in the state. I love L.B. Clarke, our staff and our families. Please do not hesitate to come in, call or email if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions. We are all in this for the same reason... because we love our kids!

We have some new faces joining Mr. Schley and I in the office this year. Mrs. Angie Spaeth, formerly one of our 5th grade teachers, has become our new dean of students. We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Spaeth as our dean and we are looking forward to serving as your middle school administrative team.

Miss Brynn Luebke has also joined the office staff as our new building secretary. She is a recent graduate of the Lakeshore Technical College administrative professional program and is a former

student at L.B. Clarke and graduate of Two Rivers High School. She is a great addition to our staff and is very excited to meet you all as the school year approaches.

We are very excited for the start of the 2014-2015 school year! In less than a month your middle schooler will begin a new journey and we are proud to be a part of their growth and learning. This newsletter contains important information about beginning the school year and upcoming events. Please take the time to read it carefully and complete/return the forms enclosed in this newsletter on your child's registration date.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and the remainder of your summer. Your child will hear from his or her advisor in August. We are looking forward to seeing you soon!



**L.B. Clarke Middle
School Hours**
7:55 a.m.-3:15 p.m.
(Note later end time)

Grade Level Registration Days: August 11th-14th

During the week of August 11th, each grade level has a designated day (see **upcoming events to the right**) to register, pay fees and pick up schedules. You may come to register AFTER your grade level's designated date, but NOT BEFORE.

In order to pick up schedules, all of the appropriate paperwork must be filled out and turned in. The \$20 School Supply Fee (includes assignment notebook) will also need to be paid.

Please be sure to complete and present the following forms on registration day:

- Technology and Acceptable Use Policy
- Annual Health Survey
- Student Emergency Information Form

Checks may be written out to:
L.B. Clarke Middle School or
Two Rivers Public Schools

We look forward to seeing you on registration day and open house night!

Upcoming Events

Registration Days:

Each grade level has a separate day to register, pay fees and pick up schedules. You may come **after** your scheduled grade level date, but not before.

In order to pick up a schedule, the proper forms must be filled out and presented on registration day.

Schedules may be picked up between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the following dates:

GRADE 5 - Monday, August 11th
GRADE 6 - Tuesday, August 12th
GRADE 7 - Wednesday, August 13th
GRADE 8 - Thursday, August 14th

5th Grade Kick-Off to Clarke:

On Wednesday, August 20th, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. we will hold the first annual "Kick-Off to Clarke" for our incoming 5th graders. Students will meet their advisor and teachers, find lockers and choose cubbies, learn the building schedule and procedures as well as play games and win prizes!

We will end the fun by inviting parents in for a spaghetti dinner at 6:20 p.m. We are really looking forward to meeting the new members of our L.B. Clarke family! See you on August 20th!

Open House Night:

On Tuesday, August 26th, L.B. Clarke will host "Back to School Night" from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Students can meet teachers and advisors, bring school supplies and find lockers. There will be informational meetings for parents at the following times:

GRADE 5 - 6:00 p.m.
GRADE 6 - 6:15 p.m.
GRADE 7 - 6:30 p.m.
GRADE 8 - 6:45 p.m.

SEE YOU SOON!



5th Grade Kick-Off to Clarke: August 20th 4:00-7:00 p.m.

This year we are rolling out a brand new welcome program for our new 5th grade students called "Kick-off to Clarke." On August 20th, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. we will welcome all of our incoming 5th graders for a shortened day filled with fun.

The purpose of "Kick-off to Clarke" is to give students the opportunity to learn how middle school works, meet teachers and staff, and get comfortable with the building, lockers, expectations and procedures. We also want to give students and parents the opportunity to have any questions you may have answered. By taking care of these things before the first day of school we can hit the ground running on the first day.

We also want parents to feel comfortable with the beginning of the school year. If this is your first middle schooler we know you probably have plenty of questions. We are inviting you to join us for a spaghetti dinner at 6:20 p.m. so you can get acquainted with Clarke as well. We will have information for you at that time and an opportunity to meet the staff. See you there!



L.B. Clarke Open House Night: August 26th 6:00-7:00 p.m.

On August 26th, L.B. Clarke will host our back to school open house night from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

their locker for the first day. The 2014-2015 LBC school supply list can be found on the [L.B. Clarke website](#).

important information meant to help you and your middle schooler experience success. Grade level meetings will take place at the following times:

On open house night you will have a chance to meet your middle schooler's advisor, teachers and find his or her locker. Students may bring supplies and keep them in

In addition to acquainting yourself with the building and staff, we will run information sessions for parents in the gym. These meetings will include

- GRADE 5 - 6:00 p.m.
- GRADE 6 - 6:15 p.m.
- GRADE 7 - 6:30 p.m.
- GRADE 8 - 6:45 p.m.

"The role of parents in the education of their children cannot be overestimated."

- Unknown

Breakfast and Lunch Programs

The breakfast and lunch programs will begin on Tuesday, September 2nd. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. until 7:55 a.m.

verification letter and receive AFDC or food stamps, please call Food Service at 793-7172.

Breakfast Grades 5-8:
Regular \$1.70 Reduced: 30¢
Lunch Grades 5-8:
Regular \$2.30 Reduced: 40¢

Lunch payments can be sent with your child to school, mailed to L.B. Clarke School or made on the district website by using our online payment system, Revtrak. Pre-payments may be done weekly or monthly. Please have visible on the payment envelope the name of the head of the household, the student's names, and the dollar amount enclosed. Parents/guardians of students who are down to a zero balance or more will be contacted by phone and will not be served breakfast or hot lunch until the balance is paid in full.

Applications for Free and Reduced Lunch will be sent home with the students during the first week of school. If you feel you may qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch, please complete the form (one form per family) and return it to school as soon as possible. Families that receive AFDC or food stamps must include their food stamp number. These families will be mailed a verification letter from the district in early September. If you do not receive a

Please contact Paula Erickson or Kris Parma at 793-7172, if you have any questions.



ATTENTION PARENTS: WE WANT YOU!

PTO Is a Vital Part of L.B. Clarke and Your Child's Education

As children grow older and attempt to become more independent we want to allow them to be responsible for small parts of their lives. The middle school years present a difficult mix of feelings, emotions and challenges for both parents and children. Please know:

Your child needs you to be involved more in middle school than any other time in his or her life.

Middle schoolers need love, support, encouragement, boundaries, consequences and most of all guidance.

This is **NOT** the time to become less involved. Middle schoolers seek approval and acceptance and if they don't find it in positive places they may in the negative.

You should feel safe in allowing your child more freedom to take responsibility in sports they play or clubs in which they participate. Those are things they can control and give them a feeling of autonomy, yet aren't too much freedom. A middle schooler's grades, friends, activities outside the home and school are things which parents should continue

to monitor and guide.

Please consider joining the L.B. Clarke PTO and continue to be a part of your child's education. Our PTO is a vital part of the school community. PTO organizes the book fairs and other fundraisers that provide classrooms with books and other supplementary materials. Being part of the PTO also means you are at LBC and are an active participant in your child's school life. The first meeting of the year is on September 15th, at 6:30 p.m. in the L.B. Clarke LMC. See you there!

“Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.”

-Benjamin Franklin
Get Involved!



Safety for Pick-Up and Drop-Off at LBC

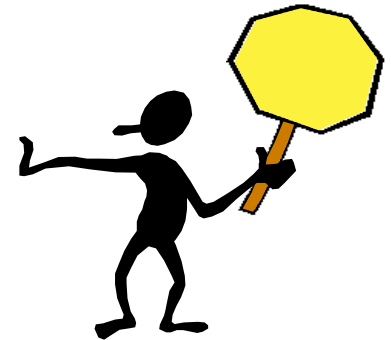
As we begin this school year, we need everyone's cooperation in keeping our children safe. Please observe the importance of the rules of the road and using patience when dropping off and picking up your child. Our first concern at L.B. Clarke is to keep our children safe.

With over 500 students it is inevitable that there will be traffic congestion in the morning and afterschool. Students may be dropped off in the circle drive in front of school or on Parkway Boulevard behind the school. Please

pull as far forward as possible and drop off your child immediately.

There is **NO PARKING** on the Clarke side of Bellevue Street before or after school. For the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists there is also no parking or turn around in the parking lot on the south end of the building.

There is nothing so important we can forget safe driving and risk the safety of a child. Be a kind and thoughtful driver. Together we keep our children safe.



TRHS Seeks LBC Students to Audition for "Shrek the Musical"

Two Rivers High School is looking for LBC students to audition for our fall production of "Shrek the Musical". We are looking for male and female students to play the roles of Young Shrek, Young Fiona, Teen Fiona, and Baby Bear.

Auditions will be on Thursday, September 4th at TRHS. This is the third day of school so

you will need to be prepared! Please make sure you have your parent's permission and a ride planned for afterward. This is a great opportunity for LBC students to get involved in something fun and rewarding.

For questions, or to sign up for an audition time, please contact Mrs. Meulbroek at shannon.meulbroek@trschools.k12.wi.us





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4608 Bellevue Place
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We Totally READ at L.B. Clarke!

Literacy is the gatekeeper to success in so many things throughout school and life. At L.B. Clarke we take reading VERY seriously. We will continue to focus on reading and overall literacy this school year, along with building a common academic vocabulary. There are many things you can do as a parent to support your middle school reader. Please take the time to read the important information below, provided by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.



Summer Reading Loss Issues

- Numerous studies show reading over summer prevents “summer reading loss.”
- Children living in poverty are more likely to lose reading skills over the summer than children whose families are more affluent.
- Some researchers estimate 50-67% of the achievement gap, for children living in poverty and for children of color, is the result of summer learning loss.
- Summer reading loss is cumulative. Children don’t “catch up” in fall because the other children are moving ahead with their skills. By the end of 6th grade children who lose reading skills over the summer are two years behind their classmates.

The Importance of Summer Reading

- Reading 4 or 5 books over the summer can have a significant impact for middle school readers.
- Free, voluntary reading is essential to helping students become better readers, writers, and spellers.
- 8 out of 10 studies indicate students who read recreationally out-performed those who don’t. Students read more when they can choose materials based on their own interests.
- Summer reading programs in public libraries usually encourage readers, especially those who are struggling, to use alternate formats such as magazines, recorded books, graphic novels, and material on the Internet.