



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 10th, 2015

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

New Year... New Faces at L.B. Clarke!

Things are in full swing in preparation for the 2015-16 school year at L.B. Clarke. You will find a list of important dates and events to the right. Please take the time to read through them and mark your calendars.

Parents familiar with L.B. Clarke will notice some new staff members at school this year:

- Miss Angela Brown will rejoin us this year as a 6th grade English Language Arts (ELA)/Science teacher after serving as a long-term sub in the second semester last school year.
- Mr. Jim Landon will rejoin us as one of our special education teachers after serving as a long-term sub last school year.
- Miss Laura Buchanan will also rejoin us this year as an 8th grade Science/Math teacher after serving as a long-term sub last year.
- Mrs. Dana Cegielski will join us as our new Spanish teacher at L.B. Clarke and TRHS this year.
- Mrs. Danyelle Schmidt will be an ELA/Science teacher in the 5th grade this year. Some of you may know her as

Miss Kohlmeier, as she subbed for our 7th grade math teacher while she was on maternity leave.

- Mrs. Kristin Leclair will serve as an ELA/Social Studies teacher in the 5th grade. Parents with older kids may recognize her as Miss Rusch, formerly a special education teacher at TRHS.
- We also welcome Mrs. Nancy Derenne and Mrs. Kelli Nowak as new support staff to L.B. Clarke this year. Both have served as support staff at Koenig recently.

Congratulations to Mrs. Leclair (Rusch), Mrs. Schmidt (Kohlmeier), Ms. Bauer, and Mr. Haag, all of whom have been married over the summer! Ms. Bauer will now be Mrs. Bauer-Sikhosana and Mr. Haag will still be known as Mr. Haag :)

I am very excited to welcome our kids back into the building and get the new school year started. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to call or email. We have a lot to be excited for this year. See you soon!

Mr. Wester

Grade Level Registration Days: August 17th-20th

During the week of August 17th, 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 registration/materials 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**

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 17th
GRADE 6 - Tuesday, August 18th
GRADE 7 - Wednesday, August 19th
GRADE 8 - Thursday, August 20th

5th Grade Kick-Off to Clarke:

On Wednesday, August 26th, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. we invite our incoming 5th graders to "Kick-Off to Clarke." Students will meet their advisor and teachers, find lockers and choose cubbies, learn the building schedule and procedures, get email and network accounts set up, as well as play games and win prizes!

We will end the fun by inviting 5th grade parents join us for a spaghetti dinner at 6:20 p.m. We are really looking forward to meeting you, the new members of our L.B. Clarke family! See you on August 26th!

Back to School Night:

On Tuesday, September 1st, 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:

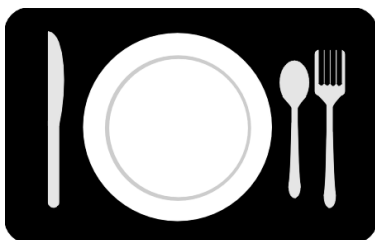
GRADE 5 - 6:00 p.m.
GRADE 6 - 6:15 p.m.
GRADE 7 - 6:30 p.m.
GRADE 8 - 6:45 p.m.



School Hours:

7:55 a.m.-

3:15 p.m.



5th Grade Kick-Off to Clarke: August 26th 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 26th, 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 Back to School Night: September 1st, from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

On September 1st, L.B. Clarke will host back to school night from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

On back to school 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 their locker for the first day. The 2015-2016 LBC school supply list can be found on the [L.B. Clarke website](#).

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

meetings will include important information meant to help you and your middle schooler experience success. Grade level meetings will take place 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.

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 \$1.80 Reduced: 30¢
Lunch Grades 5-8:
Regular \$2.40 Reduced: 40¢

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

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.

Please contact Stacy Watzka 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 seek it in the negative.

You should feel safe in allowing your child more freedom to take responsibility in sports or clubs in which they participate. Those are things they can control and allow 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 21st, at 6:30 p.m. in the L.B. Clarke LMC. See you there!



I ♥ My
Parents

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 use patience when driving near school. Our first concern at L.B. Clarke is to keep our children safe.

There will be traffic congestion in the morning and afterschool. However, if we all model patience and observe the rules of the road, the traffic congestion dissipates quickly. After making changes last year, the traffic cleared within five minutes of school letting out.

FRONT CIRCLE DRIVE:

- Please pull as far forward as possible and drop off your child immediately.
- Do not wait to drop your child off right in front of the door. This significantly slows traffic.
- There will be ONE lane of traffic through the circle drive. We will have the inside lane barricaded off.
- Please drive SLOWLY through the circle drive and on Bellevue Place.
- You may not pass on the left or right of cars waiting on Bellevue Place to turn into the circle drive. This is a city street and you will be ticketed by the Two Rivers Police Department. **This is a VERY**

dangerous practice.

- Please remind your child that they should NOT walk between cars in the circle or traffic on Bellevue Place. Children should only cross at the corners or crosswalks.

BELLEVUE PLACE:

There is no parking along the west side of Bellevue Place (the Clarke side) before or after school. This makes the street too narrow for traffic and buses.

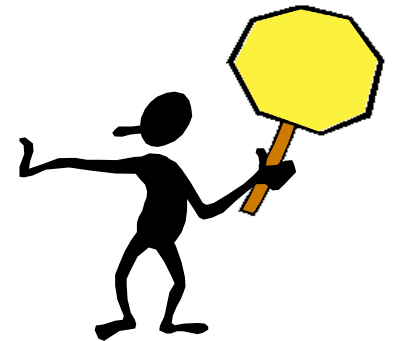
SOUTH PARKING LOT (near 45th street):

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. This lot will be closed with a barricade.

NORTH PARKING LOT (next to the gym):

There is no parking in this parking lot. This is the driveway that buses use before and after school. You may park by the tennis courts in the back so long as you are not in the path of buses. You must exit the parking lot using Parkway Boulevard.

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 will keep our children safe.





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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 our focus on literacy this school year, along with the implementation of specific reading and writing instructional practices. 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.