

Clark Middle School

2024-2025 Student Handbook

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Student Creed

*I am a student seeking to be a scholar.
The standard is excellence today and tomorrow.
I am disciplined, focused, and on-time.
I am organized, respectful, and responsible.
I am on a mission to elevate myself, my community and humanity.*

Creating a Climate for Learning

Clark Middle School is a place where “everyone is someone special.” Our school is organized and designed to facilitate and enable “teachers to teach and students to learn.” The efforts of the staff to create a climate for learning at Clark are reflected in the accomplishments and achievements of our students. Our educational goal is to make learning so exciting that students will experience the joy of discovering new ideas and building new skills, thereby developing a love of learning that will create “life-long learners.”

Student work and projects are proudly displayed throughout the school and students who complete their work on time are reinforced and praised by teachers. Positive attitudes toward school, staff and long-term changes in behavior are goals for each student. The staff focuses on positive, effective approaches in building self-esteem by teaching students respect for themselves and others. Students are provided many opportunities to develop and demonstrate self-discipline and responsibility.

The Clark Middle School staff is deeply committed to providing and maintaining a safe and orderly school environment as well as reinforcing positive character development.

This handbook contains most of what you need to know about Clark and how to be successful. If you do only those things you know to be right and treat others as you would like to be treated, you will have a wonderful middle school experience. The administrators, teachers and staff are here to help you meet your goals. Work hard, abide by the expectations, and trust others when you need assistance, and success is guaranteed during your stay at Clark Middle School.

Sincerely,

Bennetta Orchitt
Principal



Attendance

Absences (See Middle School Student Handbook District Guidelines pg. I-3) When a student is absent a parent or guardian must call the school at 907-742-7763 by 10 AM on the day of your absence. This is a 24-hour number with voicemail. If calling is not possible, the student is to bring a note from the parent to the office when s/he returns to school.

Absence types:

- **Excused Absences** are approved by parents and the school. Babysitting, or staying home for reasons other than being ill are not considered excused.
- **Unexcused Absences** are not approved by a parent and/or the school and are considered trancies. Arriving late to school is considered a tardy or truancy unless excused by a parent.
- **Prearranged Absences** are known ahead of time such as a trip, vacation, or illness. Get a *Pre-Arranged Absence Form* from the office and complete 2-3 days before to notify the office and your teachers. You will need to make arrangements with your teachers for makeup work and/or missed assignments during your absence.

Blue Passes - Do not leave the school without making arrangements with the attendance office. Should you have to leave the building at some time during the day, please follow these guidelines:

1. Your parent/guardian may call the office or you may bring a written note from your parent/guardian indicating when you need to leave school and a valid contact number. Give the note to the secretary before school starts.
2. The secretary will give you a “blue pass” which is to be shown to your teacher at the time you leave class.

Closed Campus - All middle schools are closed campuses, which means that students are not allowed to leave the building or the campus grounds from the moment of arrival at school until dismissal at 4:00 PM. A parent must sign their student out with the office when leaving and the student must check back in if returning the same day.

Parent absences also require a note! The school and emergency medical personnel must have a written note explaining who the temporary guardian(s) are for any minor. For student safety, the office needs a copy and the student should keep a copy with them.

Tardy Policy - Per ASD district handbook, “a student late for class without an acceptable excuse” shall be noted as tardy. Students are tardy if not in class when the bell rings. Tardies are monitored throughout the year, but will start over each quarter.

- 1st-2nd offense - Verbal warning
- 3rd-4th offense - parent contact by teacher/security
- 5th offense - lunch detention, including phone call home to parent by student/teacher/security
- 6 or more offenses - Administrator discretion

Academic Supports

Clark offers homework support and academic organization skills during advisory classes. It’s an important skill needed in middle school to figure out organization and knowing how to get the assigned work completed on a timely basis. For homework help, we will be offering Zap the Zeros on a Saturday once per quarter to give students access to teachers and some quiet time to get some needed work completed before the end of each quarter.

Behavior Rules

You are responsible for knowing and following all rules and expectations outlined in the Middle School Student Handbook District Guidelines. In addition, this section outlines Clark Middle School’s specific rules for our campus and further clarifies district rules. It may be best for you to first read the Behavior Rules in the Middle School Student Handbook District Guidelines Sections II and III, then read this section. Not knowing the rules cannot be used as an excuse. Students

who are inappropriate or do not follow the rules will receive sanctions according to district policy. Understand that school rules apply any time your actions affect the school. Certainly, this is true at school and on the bus; however, jurisdiction may also apply away from school (see also the Middle School Student Handbook District Guidelines Section III Jurisdiction). Similarly, if students do anything that is unlawful they may also be subject to school discipline. This is to help keep students safe. All you really need to remember is:

- Respect all others, yourself, & property
- Treat others as you would like to be treated
- Be appropriate and responsible for your actions
- We are here to learn - be in class on time with the materials that you need

Building Hours

Front doors are opened at 8:00 AM. Students are not to be in the hallways or at lockers until 9 AM. If you arrive early, remain in the Multi-Purpose Room until 9 AM. Students must exit the building by 4:15 PM unless involved in a supervised activity. Any student in the building after 4:15 PM will be required to have written permission from an administrator or teacher unless participating in a supervised activity.

Backpacks/Book bags, Hats/Headwear

For safety reasons, these items are to be placed in your locker as soon as you enter the building and remain there until you leave the building. Headwear includes hoods, headbands, headphones and earbuds. Students may not carry backpacks, bags, purses, fanny packs, etc. during the day without written permission from Administration. *Individuals may request exceptions to policies related to the wearing of headwear for religious reasons.

Balloons, Flowers & other deliveries



Balloons are not allowed in the building at any time as they can subject students/ staff to serious health risks as well as the potential of setting off the fire alarm. Please avoid deliveries of flowers and similar items. Door Dash or any food delivery services to schools are not permitted for students.

Buses

For safety reasons, students will have assigned seating on buses to and from school. As noted earlier, the bus is considered ASD grounds and all regular ASD and Clark Middle School rules apply. Infractions on the bus may result in the revocation of riding privileges.

Computers

Computer use is a privilege and an invaluable resource when students are absent or ill. Students must follow all Anchorage School District and Clark Middle School policies or lose computer privileges. Regardless of the device used, use must be ethical, legal, and only for teacher-approved school projects. This is particularly true of using the Internet. Students must have on file and follow the Internet User Agreement prior to using any computer. Students are responsible for what is in their files and their passwords, just like a hall locker. Students may only be in areas they appropriately have access to—NOT others' files, folders, or servers. Failure to follow set procedures as prescribed by the Anchorage School District is a serious offense and will result in appropriate consequences. Take care of this unique privilege!







Dress Code

Clark Middle School prepares students to be college and workforce ready. School is a place where every student goes to “work” each day. Every workplace has specific dress requirements and school attire is similar to the expectations required for most workplaces. Even though it is not fair, what you wear often determines what people think about you. If a staff member indicates a student is dressed inappropriately, the student will be directed to change clothes. Parents may drop off appropriate clothes or an exchange of clothes may be provided by the school. Continued offenses may result in discipline.

Dress at school must be appropriate; it cannot be disruptive to learning, unsafe, or gang related.

- No clothes with writing or images related to alcohol, weapons, violence, tobacco, drugs, sex, gangs, or containing any obscenity, harassing or demeaning words is inappropriate.
- Chains may not be worn and all jewelry must easily break away for the safety of the wearer.
- Clothing that is too revealing is inappropriate for school or work. Solid leggings or long pants must be worn with skirts, shorts or ripped jeans with skin exposed above mid-thigh.
- Clothing that is unsafe or may hide unsafe items is also inappropriate. This includes clothing that is too large, baggy, or bulky. Examples include oversized jeans; oversized shirts; onesies, jackets, quilted vest, oversized windbreakers, backpacks, bags or purses, etc.

HEAD <i>No caps, visors, hoods, bandanas, sunglasses, earbuds/headphones, or other head gear except w/ administrative permission or for religious coverings.</i>	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE 
UPPER GARMENTS <i>All garments must cover shoulder to shoulder and long enough to overlap the beltline or stay tucked. No crop tops, tank tops, or muscle shirts.</i>	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE 
LOWER GARMENTS <i>Undergarments and buttocks must remain covered. Dresses, skirts, and shorts must be at least mid-thigh (longer than 4" above the knee).</i>	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE 
Footwear <i>Shoes must be suitable for the outdoors and have a backstrap covering the heel.</i>	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE 

Headphones/earbuds - Headphones/earbuds are not to be worn during the day including lunch and passing time and must be removed upon entering the building.

Other - Coats, jackets, blankets, backpacks, bags, fanny packs, purses, or similar items are to be placed in lockers upon entering the school and *remain* in the locker during the day.

Fines Students will receive fines for missing locker locks, textbooks, library books, Chromebooks, and extra-curricular sports gear and/or uniforms. Fines are due and payable at the time of report card distribution.

Food/Beverages in Halls & Classrooms is Not Allowed. Food is to be consumed in the MPR only. Students drinking or eating in the hallways will be asked to dispose of the food or drink immediately and may be subject to disciplinary action. The only exception to this will be water in water bottles.

Gum is not allowed at Clark at any time.

Hallways Teachers will be visible in doorways, pods and hallways greeting students and supporting a safe and positive school environment. Students are expected to go directly to class, using their passing to move safely from one class to another. For safety reasons, avoid congregating in large groups and/or blocking the halls or doorways. If you want to visit with your friends in the morning you may meet them in the MPR during breakfast. “Cruising”, walking with a large group of people, or walking on a grade level floor where you have no classes can be seen as aggressive and/or intimidating and is not permitted. Students should not walk shoulder to shoulder in a manner that blocks the passing of others. Walking with linked arms is not allowed.

Hall Passes - Students must have a pass signed by a teacher to be in the halls during class time. Being in the hall without a pass may result in receiving a disciplinary consequence. Ask your teacher for a pass before you leave class. Insist on having a pass to avoid disciplinary action.

Other passes - Students must remain in the multipurpose room (MPR) during lunch and may not leave without a pre-arranged pass from a teacher and signing out with security. Nurse passes are issued by teachers as needed and must be used to see the nurse. Library passes are available upon request during lunch but on a limited basis due to library capacity and supervision. An appropriate teacher-signed pass is needed whenever you are out of class or requesting to leave the lunchroom for any reason, except for an emergency.

Physical Education Non-mark gym shoes that are fully tied are required at all times in gym class. Gum is never allowed. Both of these rules are strictly safety issues while in the gymnasium and at other physical education class locations.

Selling Items at school is prohibited. Even fundraising for Clark groups requires special administrative approval.

School Property Students are expected to treat facilities, equipment, and materials provided responsibly. Deliberate or at times even accidental damage caused by a student may result in a fine for restitution and, if warranted, disciplinary action for vandalism.

Substitute Teachers are an extension of the Clark staff and as such are to be treated with respect at all times. Students who are disrespectful and/or disruptive with a substitute teacher are subject to disciplinary action including a parent phone call.

Throwing Objects at any time for any reason, particularly in classrooms, over the balcony or in the cafeteria, may result in suspension. This includes any time you are under school district jurisdiction, including at the bus stop or on the bus.

Visitors/Trespassing All visitors must report to the office when entering Clark Middle School for a visitor’s pass. Entering or remaining on school property at an unauthorized time or at a school-sponsored activity without permission is considered trespassing and is prohibited. During school hours, a student must have authorization to be on the property of a school where the student is not enrolled. Students failing to do so will be subject to ASD trespass policies. (See also Middle School Student Handbook Section III, Visitors and Trespass)

CHAMPS

The goal of classroom management is to develop a classroom of students who are responsible, motivated and highly engaged in meaningful tasks. The CHAMPS acronym is a proactive tool that allows teachers to directly teach students expected behaviors, clearly outlining expectations for a specific activity or moment. This approach is focused on preventing problems rather than reacting to them.

C	CONVERSATION	<i>What voice level of conversation are we at and what should students be talking about?</i>
H	HELP	<i>How can a student get help or assistance?</i>
A	ACTIVITY	<i>What activity are we engaging in currently?</i>
M	MOVEMENT	<i>What should the teacher see for movement right now?</i>
P	PARTICIPATION	<i>Who does this apply to and what does participation look like?</i>
S	SUCCESS	<i>What does success look like? How will students know if they did their task well & completely?</i>

CHAMPS Voice Levels:

- Level 0: Silence
- Level 1: Whisper (peer to peer)
- Level 2: Soft Conversation (table group)
- Level 3: Presentational (whole class or class presentation)
- Level 4: Outside (never used within school)

Extracurricular Activities

Activities—Sports are available throughout the school year as funding permits. Required paperwork includes a participation form signed by a parent, a current physical form completed by a licensed medical professional, and a fee payment or fee waiver form. All practices are from 4:15 - 5:45 PM daily. Participants must have transportation arranged ahead of time and picked up within 15 minutes of the activities ending time (i.e. 6:00 PM). Sports having competitions with other schools will have a schedule of games, which generally last until 8 PM or later depending on location and sport. For safety reasons, all Clark athletes are required to have up-to-date parental/guardian contact information. Any unpaid fines (i.e. lost uniforms) are to be paid per district policy. Student spectators must have parental supervision to attend scheduled games and competitive events.

Academic Activities - Non-Sports activities are many and vary each year depending on funding and staff. They are offered before, during and after school. Examples include: National Junior Honor Society, technology groups, Spelling Bee, Battle of the Books, Geography Bee, speech and debate, Drum Line, Informers, etc. A participation form must be signed by parents and on file for those activities that occur before or after school.

National Junior Honor Society Clark's chapter of NJHS is open for membership to students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade who have spent at least one semester at Clark, have a grade point average of 3.5 and above, and who have demonstrated qualities in citizenship, service, leadership, and character consistent with national guidelines. Students are reminded that discipline problems reflect personal qualities that are inconsistent with the membership requirements of NJHS.

Assemblies are planned throughout the year. Student behavior during these assemblies is extremely important and will determine the frequency of such enrichment opportunities. Any misbehavior/disrespect during an assembly may result in disciplinary action.

Dances are from 4:00 - 5:30 PM. Students who are inappropriate and/or break any rules during a dance will call a parent for immediate pick up. Appropriate discipline will be applied and attendance at future activities may be denied. Dances are for Clark students only. Once you leave the dance, you may not return. Students must be picked up by 5:45 PM.

Other Student Information

Honor Roll includes all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who obtain a 3.0 grade point average or above, with no grade below a C. There will be a posted and published listing of students who meet these requirements to celebrate their achievements.

Library The purpose of the library is to help students and faculty to complete successful research projects, discover enjoyable reading, and utilize current information technology to its greatest advantage.

Hours: The library is usually open 9:00 AM - 4:15 PM for student use.

Check-out: Usually, you may check out as many as three (3) books at a time for a period of two (2) weeks.

Overdue Books: Students will be notified of any overdue items. Fines are due & payable at the end of each quarter.

Lockers Dos:

- Keep your locker combination to yourself. Only put your items in your locker. You may receive discipline for something others put in your locker or they could also take your items.
- Stay in your assigned locker. See the office if someone knows your combination. Personal locks are not permitted on school lockers, so another lock will be assigned. If the lock is lost or misplaced, a \$5.00 fine will be charged.
- Close the door by gently closing it with your hand. It should easily close and latch top and bottom. If it does not, open it again and check to see what is in the way.
- Keep things organized! Be careful nothing touches the back of the area where the dial is or the locker will jam.
- It works best if your textbooks and small items are neatly on the top shelf. Hang your backpack on the REAR hook (not the top), hang your jacket from the top or side hooks.
- Carefully place large binders in the bottom of your locker so they are well behind the side rails.
- If a locker is not working correctly or you notice something broken, report it immediately to Safety-Security.
- Remove your lunch daily and take home dirty clothes weekly.
- You may decorate only the INSIDE, not the outside of the locker. Use only transparent tape to hang items.
- Remember that lockers can be searched at any time by the building administration.

Locker Don'ts:

- Never share a locker with another person. If you do, expect your items to be taken.
- Don't move to another locker or put your items in another person's locker even for a short time.
- Never kick or slam into the door of a locker. It breaks the doors which are expensive to repair or replace and you may be charged for it and disciplined.
- You may not have sodas or any glass items in your locker.
- Don't allow old food or dirty clothes to build up in your locker.
- Inappropriate pictures (with drugs, alcohol, gangs, violence, weapons or sexually explicit content) are not to be in your locker or at school.
- Do not use stickers or double back tape that often won't come off and can damage lockers.
- Do not write on lockers with anything, not even dry erase or special markers. Everything will damage the paint and a fine will be assessed.
- You may not hang anything on the outside of a locker.

Lost & Found If you are missing an item check the lost and found in the MPR and in the Locker Rooms. If the item is valuable, please talk to a Security person or complete a *Lost and Found Report* form in the front office. If you find an item, please return it to the office immediately. Using, possessing, or distributing a found item is considered theft. Items are quickly returned to you if your name is on them.

Lunch Clark Middle School will provide free lunch for all students. We have provided a few lunchroom reminders:

- Wait for security to release your table to the lunch line. Stand in orderly lines and do not cut in front of others.
- Throwing food will result in discipline.
- Use the CHAMPS Voice Level 1 (whisper) while in the cafeteria to maintain a peaceful lunch room. Many voices even at a whisper creates a loud environment for all!
- Students must receive permission to leave the lunchroom for any reason. Teachers will often issue lunch passes for students to eat in their classroom, but this must be pre-arranged. Students are to sign-out if leaving to use the restroom. Students are released only after the floor and tables are completely clean.
- Lunchroom work detail /detentions/suspensions will be assigned for rule infractions.

Memory Book is published yearly. Cost will vary each year depending on publication costs. You are responsible for your book at all times. Do not write anything inappropriate or allow anyone to write anything inappropriate in your book. We encourage student/families to reserve your memory book by purchasing your copy during registration.

School Pictures are taken during the first semester of the new school year. Make-ups are scheduled in early fall by an outside agency. Students who wish to order picture packages may do so. Payment must be provided on the day of pictures or orders may be placed afterwards online. All students will have their picture taken and receive a complimentary ID card.

Telephones/Cell Phones - Cell phones should be turned off and stored away in a student's locker at all times during the school day including lunch and passing periods. Students have access to classroom phones throughout the building as needed. Students need to simply ask to use the phone. Office phones are for emergency contact calls only. You must obtain prior permission from a staff member to use the phone. Students may use cell phones before and after school, unless participating in sports as this is an extension of the school day. As a rule remember, OFF & AWAY during the school day!

Textbooks and Supplies - Students are responsible for the care and covering of all texts issued to you. A fine will be assessed if you lose or damage a text. Fines are due prior to receiving report cards. Students are expected to bring their own pencils, paper, notebooks, pens, and related supplies as noted in the teacher's syllabi. For your convenience, these supplies may be purchased in the school store.

Visitors - Parents and visitors are always welcome at Clark Middle School. For security purposes, it is important that all visitors sign in and receive a visitor's pass/badge at the front welcome desk. If parents would like to sit in a classroom, notification to the teacher is required at least 24 hours in advance. There are to be no student visitors.

Where to go for help

There are many people available to help you with problems ranging from lockers that are jammed to serious crises. Try to find at least one adult you are comfortable talking to whether it is the principal, a teacher, counselor, security or custodian to answer questions. Remember when seeking help from someone in the office:

- Unless it's an emergency, get a pass from your teacher before you come to the office or visit the office during lunch.
- Enter only from the main door, sign in at the counter when you enter, and sign out when you leave.

Please follow the guidelines noted below when seeking help:

- **If I have a health problem?** The school nurse has your health record from your elementary school. If a new health concern has developed for you, if there is a change in your health from the previous school year, or if you need routine medical care, please see the school nurse in the front office, left of the counselor's office. See the nurse at lunch, before, or after school. Any other time you must have a pass from your teacher.
- **If I have been abused in any way?** See your counselor, teacher, the nurse or any staff member. This is very important. Please do not delay. We can help you!
- **If I am depressed, thinking of running away and/or suicide?** See your counselor, a trusted teacher, administrator, or any staff member. Depression is serious. We can connect you to many community resources that can help you.

- **If I might have a problem with drugs or alcohol?** See any administrator, the nurse, your counselor, a trusted teacher, or any staff member. Clark has access to a variety of drug/alcohol counseling programs. We can help you or get help for you.
- **If I am having a hard time resolving a conflict or getting along with someone?** Meditation is a good solution. Fill out a “Request to See a Counselor” form and indicate who else is involved. A counselor will set up the mediation as soon as possible, and you will be pulled from class to attend and work things out. In some cases, an assistant principal will assist with a mediation if a conflict can be resolved without the need for discipline.
- **If a student is really bothering me?** Attempt to solve the problem by requesting a mediation or by asking a teacher or counselor to help you. If this does not work, see a counselor, security or an administrator. If another student is provoking and/or harassing you, seek help immediately. The problem rarely goes away by itself and usually gets worse.
- **If I need help with my school work?** See your teacher first. This is extremely important! See your counselor if the teacher is not available or if the teacher is unable to help to your satisfaction. The after school program may be an option too if you need the time to keep working or need tutoring assistance in any subject area.
- **If I need advice about my classes?** Fill out a “Request to see a Counselor” form and see your counselor. Your counselor is the best person to give you sound advice. If you need additional help after seeing your counselor, see an administrator.
- **If I need to talk to someone about a personal problem?** See your counselor, the nurse, one of your teachers or an administrator. Please don’t wait; let us assist you.
- **If I am having trouble with a teacher?** Always try to solve the problem with the teacher. However, if attempts to work through the problem with the teacher are not successful, see your counselor. If a counselor is not available, please fill out a “Request to see a Counselor” form. You will be called to the office soon. If it’s an emergency, see an administrator.
- **If I need resource materials for a class project?** See your teacher first. If you need additional research/reference materials, then go to the library. You will find a wealth of resource materials and people willing to help you.
- **If I have questions about sports or activities?** See an Assistant Principal. Remember, you must have a participation form for the sport you are interested in and a current physical examination form on file in the office before you are eligible to participate in sports. Coaches can answer specific questions regarding individual sports.
- **If I have questions about my attendance?** See the attendance secretary at the welcome desk or stop by the front office. It is your responsibility to clear any concerns with attendance.
- **If I am having trouble with my locker?** Do not spend time trying to open it. Go directly to class - don’t be tardy over a jammed locker. Ask your teacher for a pass to go to security for assistance.
- **If I’ve lost an item?** Check the lost and found in the MPR. For small valuables like eyeglasses, jewelry, etc..., check at the front desk. Fill out a lost/theft report form, which can be found in the front office.
- **What bus do I ride?** Check with any of the front office staff (the registrar, administrative assistant or attendance secretary) for assistance. Counselors are also available to assist students with transportation concerns. You will need to know the street location where you get on the bus. Look for the route number of the bus making your stop.
- **If I need to purchase lunches or apply for free/reduced-price lunch?** All students enrolled at Clark Middle School receive breakfast and lunch at no cost to students or families. In addition, students enrolled in the Extended Day After School Program will receive a free snack pack after school.
- **If I accidentally make a mess in the halls (this includes broken glass, spills, etc.)?** Please notify the nearest teacher or come directly to the office and see a custodian, secretary or administrator. We will have it cleaned up and issue you a pass back to class. Please do not leave a mess for others to clean up for we take great pride in the cleanliness of our building.
- **If I need extra support with personal, home or school issues?** Contact your counselor who has a variety of information about resources that are available to you.

STAFF I can go to if I Need HELP!

- **Administrative Assistant** is in the main office and can help you with any paperwork or question

- **Administrators** are the Principal and Assistant Principals who can assist students with any safety or serious issues.
- **Attendance Secretary** is at the front welcome desk when entering the building. The Attendance Secretary can help with all attendance issues and guide you to other help.
- **Counselors** are here to help you. Use the *Request to See Counselor* forms available at either office counter, ask a teacher for a pass, or drop by during lunch.
- **Safety/Security** staff are here to help students with any and all issues. They are your first support in any situation!
- **AK Behavioral Health Clinician** will be available for students seeking mental health support.
- **School Nurse** is available in the front office to check on your health & wellness. Ask a teacher for a nurse pass!
- **Social Worker** is also in the main office and available if you're dealing with a crisis, just want someone to talk to, and can provide support for both the student and families.
- **Registrar** takes care of all official information on Q. See the registrar in the office for any family contact updates.
- **Custodial staff** is available to assist with many things, however, we are very limited in the number of custodians on hand. Students can let Security, your teachers, or administrators know what is needed.
- **Administrative Assistant of Finance & Procurement (AAFP)** is the person who deals with all money transactions. If you need to pay for something such as sports fees, dances, or memory book, see the AAFP.

Behavior Consequences

We believe strongly in relationships and supporting students to make healthy choices. When things go wrong or students make inappropriate choices, we partner with other teachers and parents to support each student through situations to find solutions. Sometimes traditional behavioral consequences are still needed and this list of behavior consequences at Clark Middle School is not exhaustive nor are all used or applied in order:

Phone Calls Communication between home and school is critical to maintaining a positive learning environment. Staff will attempt to contact parents at home or work to notify them of noteworthy behaviors, both positive and negative. A phone call is usually adequate to correct inappropriate school behavior.

Classroom/Teacher Sanctions All teachers and teams will inform students and their families of the rules for their classroom. Students who do not follow the rules and/or consistently repeat the same infraction leading to disruption of the classroom and learning environment may receive a variety of consequences starting with:

- 1st offense – Verbal warning and discussion of expected behavior
- 2nd - 4th offense – verbal redirection, conversation and parent contact
- 5th or more offenses – Administrator discretion

Additional classroom management strategies will be utilized as appropriate to further support student success including: verbal redirection, reassigned seating, buddy room resets, delayed passing time, student problem-solving conference with team teachers, referral to counselor, student/parent conference, and more.

Mediation Many student issues can be resolved through mediation. In this process, the individuals come together and meet with one of the administrators, a counselor or a trusted staff member to work through conflicts and find solutions together. If there is a situation you need help solving, come to the office to talk to someone as soon as possible. We are here to help!

Detentions If the specific behavior continues, teachers may assign a 30-minute teacher-supervised detention. The teacher and/or student will make a parent phone call (prior to the student serving the detention) discussing the behavior and consequence. When detentions are assigned, the detention is to be served the next day detentions are offered (Tue-Thur). If a student cannot attend on the day assigned, the student will meet with security before the detention time to reschedule. It is the student's responsibility to be sure the detention is served otherwise the consequence carries over to the next available day until served. Students will eat lunch in the detention room. Students must arrive on time, sit quietly and are not allowed to sleep or put their head down. Work to do or having a book to read is recommended. Detentions are short-term consequences and opportunities for conversation regarding specific and recurrent behaviors.

After School PIC is provided to students for additional behavioral support. The Prevention Intervention Coordinator, in addition to Clark administration, coordinates this extended learning activity. This is offered on an as needed basis but generally is 2-4 hours in length after school or on Saturdays.

Suspension is another element of disciplinary action at Clark Middle School and is used in accordance with district guidelines. ASD reserves the right to apply whatever disciplinary action is appropriate in each case, requiring professional judgment and an individualized evaluation of the conduct and the student involved. Disciplinary action in general is progressive, yet some situations warrant an out of school suspension while others may be solved with in-school suspension. Clark administrators and staff provide corrective behaviors and work through tough situations with students so they may have adequate social skills and capabilities moving forward.

School Goals

Clark Middle School goals are aligned with ASD school board goals and guardrails and we seek to advance the knowledge and abilities of students each day through each lesson and activity.

READING & MATH GOAL

The percentage of students proficient in reading and math on the state summative test will increase from 40% to 80%.

COLLEGE, CAREER, & LIFE (CCL) READY GOAL

The percentage of students with a GPA of 2.8 or higher will increase to 58% and reduce the gap between Clark's average daily attendance and that of ASD at large by half (0.41 difference to 0.21).

Clark Middle School is committed to creating a supportive environment which fosters life-long learning and develops effective citizens prepared to function in a changing multicultural and technological society. Understanding the characteristics of middle school students, we realize that our students are in a unique period of transition from childhood to adolescence. Therefore, we believe that we must foster partnerships that work closely with families and communities.

