

# Clinton Courier

A Publication of the Clinton Parent Teacher Association  
Issue 1, September 2007

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Clinton School families,

I wish to thank all those who attended our indoor picnic on August 20th. It was such a pleasure meeting everyone, especially all my students. Thanks for your warm welcomes and offers to help. Fear not! You will be called upon! Thank you, Leah, for all your efforts to help get our school open and for organizing the picnic. Thank you, Jeremy, for the music and landscaping. I feel so fortunate to be working with such talented people.

I'd like to take this opportunity to announce a few changes. Due to the small class sizes of the '07-'08 third grade class, I was asked to meet with Brian Osborne, and it was decided that instead of four third grade classes there will now be three. Mrs. Khan will move from third grade to fourth grade in place of Mrs. Secor who is on maternity leave. Mrs. Pomares will continue teaching third grade—all subjects—and remain in the portable. Mrs. Banks and Ms. Kent will team teach the other third grade classes. I am confident these changes will not disrupt the wonderful learning that takes place here.

I am also very excited to have Erin Wittig join our staff as one of our first grade teachers. Ms. Wittig is replacing Mrs. Harth who is on maternity leave. I am equally as excited to have Paula Ortiz join our staff as one of our resource room teachers. Ms. Ortiz is replacing Mrs. LaVolpe who is now working on the Child Study Team.

Looking forward to a peacefully productive year,

Patty O'Neill

**PLEASE BE SURE TO SEE  
THE Q&A INTERVIEW WITH  
MS. PATTY O'NEILL ON  
PAGES 4 & 5 OF THIS ISSUE**

## SEPTEMBER-AT-A-GLANCE

6-28 <sup>TH</sup>	NO FRILLS FUNDRAISER
13-14 <sup>TH</sup>	SCHOOL CLOSED (ROSH HASHANAH)
15 <sup>TH</sup>	HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH BEGINS (ENDS ON OCT. 15 <sup>TH</sup> )
20 <sup>TH</sup>	GENERAL PTA MEETING, 7:15 PM AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT DEADLINE
24-28 <sup>TH</sup>	FALL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR (TEACHERS' PREVIEW 9/21)
25 & 27 <sup>TH</sup>	BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS, 6:30 PM
	<u>COMING IN OCTOBER</u>
1-19 <sup>TH</sup>	SALLY FOSTER GIFT WRAP SALE
4 <sup>TH</sup>	AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT BEGINS
5 <sup>TH</sup>	SCHOOL PRIDE DAY AUTHOR VISIT, DAN GUTMAN
8 <sup>TH</sup>	SCHOOL CLOSED (STAFF DEVELOPMENT)
20 <sup>TH</sup>	MEET & GREET PASTA PARTY

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the new school year in South Orange and Maplewood, and to thank all of you who have welcomed me. I am impressed with the multitude of achievements in this district, and I am sure that through our collaborative efforts, open communication, and a sincere concern for equity, together we can provide a world-class education for every child. I am looking forward to meeting and working with all of you in the months to come.

Sincerely,  
Brian G. Osborne

## PTA BOARD 2007-08

### President

Leah Gomberg  
973-275-0927 ldgomberg@verizon.net

### First Vice President

Cecelia Cancellaro  
973-763-1730 ccancellaro@verizon.net

### Vice Presidents

#### Fundraising

Karen Bethel  
973-762-3474 kbethel@verizon.net

Assistant, Rosanna McCrear  
973-763-9588 rosanna@mccrear.com

#### Cultural Arts

Lori Mirabal  
lbmoperaforyoung@aol.com

#### Public Relations

Elizabeth King  
973-378-3718 elizabethking@mindspring.com

#### Membership

Erica Dussman  
973-763-1717 solutionstosavor@earthlink.net

### Treasurer

Derek Romanau

### Recording Secretary

Claire Sinclair

### Corresponding Secretary

Robyn Birdsong-Frazier

### Clinton Courier

Editor, Liz Herring  
973-378-3099 echerring@verizon.net

### Cultural Heritage Month Coordinator

Jacqueline Rhinehart

### Members-at-Large

Maureen Davenport  
Liz Salituri

### Teacher Representatives

Marlene Cutrufello  
mcutrufo@somsd.k12.nj.us  
Meta Johnson  
mjohnson@somsd.k12.nj.us  
Helena Nolan  
hnolan@somsd.k12.nj.us

### Principal

Patricia O'Neill  
973-378-7686/poneill@somsd.k12.nj.us

### Assistant to the Principal

Ann Bodnar  
973-378-7686/abodnar@somsd.k12.nj.us

### Clinton School Office

973-378-7686

### Board of Education Parent Liaison

Jennifer Payne-Parrish jparrish@arc4me.com

## FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

Welcome to a new year at Clinton School. I can tell it's going to be a great one!

You'll notice right away that there has been a great deal of activity at Clinton over the summer. A fresh coat of paint in the auditorium, gym, cafeteria, hallways, and some classrooms has given our old school a new sparkle. Additionally, our front hallway has had a makeover of its own, thanks to Clinton parents and design experts Peggy Ledesma and Jeremy Moss, and the PTA (for funding the project). The new look is much more welcoming and cohesive, and it carries through into our beautiful auditorium, with the addition of gorgeous new art deco sconces that more effectively light that timeless and dramatic space. Also take note of our new multi-lingual signs throughout the school. The signs, which reflect our international community, should help those who are English Language Learners and provide a better understanding of language for everyone else. Please let me know if your native language has not been included—this will be an ongoing project. Special thanks to Heather Kern for her layout of the signs—it was a labor of love, and her help is really appreciated.

Without question these lovely "things" will improve the look of Clinton, but there is another addition that is even more special. It is with great excitement and a big sigh of relief that we welcome our new principal, Ms. Patty O'Neill. Hopefully, some of you were able to meet her at our last-minute summer picnic on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. O'Neill grew up in Maplewood, went to Maplewood Middle School and Columbia High School, and taught at Jefferson and Maplewood Middle. What you will get to know about Ms. O'Neill very quickly is that she is a community-minded and passionate person filled with great ideas and the energy and talent to bring those ideas to fruition. You'll also be excited to know that her favorite color is red (hmmm...that works out well for Clinton), she has a great sense of humor, and she is eagerly looking forward to, once again, celebrating Halloween with elementary school students.

We would also like to welcome the new teachers and staff that are starting at Clinton this month. We look forward to getting to know you and to doing whatever we can to make you feel at home. You are joining a dedicated and talented group of teachers and staff and our parent community is constantly grateful for the amazing work they do, day after day after day.

The Clinton PTA is always busy and no doubt, you'll see us around a great deal this month, reaching out, asking you to become a PTA member, and welcoming any suggestions and ideas you have. When we join forces there is no limit to what we can do for our school and its students. Our parent population never ceases to surprise and amaze us with their generosity, special talents and skills, and most of all, their devotion to our school.

Please be sure to come out for our first PTA Meeting of the year on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm. You'll hear from Ms. O'Neill, our new PTA Executive Board, and you'll get to see old friends and meet new ones. We want this to be a record year for PTA membership (among other things), so please don't forget to join the PTA. The membership fee is only \$12, but your commitment to our school community is worth so much more.

Best,  
Leah Gomberg

## COME TO OUR FIRST PTA MEETING OF THE YEAR

Please don't miss our **first PTA meeting of the year on Thursday, September 20th, at 7:15 pm in the Clinton School cafeteria**. You'll get to hear from our new principal, Patty O'Neill, and PTA Executive Board members will be on hand to discuss plans, programs, and events for the coming school year. And while you're there, you can join the PTA! Refreshments and babysitting will be provided.

## OUTDOOR BEAUTIFICATION CONTINUES

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you all had a good summer. This year we will have a planting/clean up weekend at the end of September or beginning of October. I'll keep you posted. Once again we will be looking for plant donations. Thanks to all those who donated plants to the school last year. If you have plants to give this year, please contact me, either to arrange to drop them off or to find out where best to plant them. You can email me at [bumpywhale@hotmail.com](mailto:bumpywhale@hotmail.com).

This fall we'll break ground on the Clinton School Butterfly Garden. This is an exciting project that will involve some of the students and be beneficial for the whole school. Watch this space for further details.

—Jeremy Moss, *Outdoor Beautification Chairperson*

## AUTHOR DAN GUTMAN VISITS CLINTON

There's a special treat in store for Clinton kids on October 5<sup>th</sup> when popular children's book author Dan Gutman entertains them with stories from the many books he has written. Mr. Gutman grew up in New Jersey and has written *They Came from Centerfield*, *Jackie & Me*, *Mickey & Me*, the *Million Dollar* series (*Shot*, *Kick*, *Goal*, *Strike*, *Putt*) and the *Weird School* series, among many others. He will also talk about how books are created and what it's like to be a writer.

## JOIN THE CLINTON PTA EMAIL LIST

The Clinton PTA Email List is a great way to keep up with the latest school news and announcements. Please email Cecelia Cancellaro at [ccancellaro@verizon.net](mailto:ccancellaro@verizon.net) to be sure you're included! Include your name, your child's name and grade, and, of course, your email address.

## YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED...

**What:** Meet and Greet Pasta Party

**When:** Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

**Where:** Casa Italiana in South Orange

**Why:** This adults-only party is a great way to see old friends, meet new ones, and enjoy some delicious pasta.

**Price:** Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple

**RSVP:** Liz Salituri at [Salituri@verizon.net](mailto:Salituri@verizon.net)

## FORECASTING A BOOK FAIR BLIZZARD

Clinton will soon be experiencing a large accumulation of great books when a fall Book Fair front moves into our area. Flurries of reading fun will snowball into Scholastic Book Fair excitement during the week of September 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. We invite the Clinton community to visit this winter wonderland. It's a great opportunity to purchase quality books at affordable prices and proceeds benefit our school! For your convenience, the Book Fair will stay open on both Back-to-School Nights.

Teachers, mark your calendars: a special Teachers' Preview Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Scholastic has rewarded another bonus to Clinton for holding two book fairs a year, and so teachers will once again receive gift certificates to purchase books for their classroom libraries.

**We are always looking for volunteers. So if you can spare a few hours, please contact Liz Herring at 973-378-3099 or [echerring@verizon.net](mailto:echerring@verizon.net).**

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

*Bienvenidos!* Welcome back to Clinton School. Please join us as we begin our second annual cultural heritage month celebration. We start the year by commemorating Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>-Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. Check out the display cases in the front hall and bulletin boards around the school. Students who borrow Spanish books from the library may enter a raffle for a prize, and Hispanic parents are invited to share their culture in Spanish class. Students and parents should contact their child's Spanish teacher for further details. Look out for more delightful surprises throughout the month.

This year the school will celebrate Native American Heritage Month in November, African American Heritage Month in February, Women's History Month in March, Asian Heritage Month in May, and Caribbean Heritage Month in June. If anyone has any donations for the display case for any of the heritage months, please contact me at 973-378-3068. *Gracias!*

—Jacqueline Rhinehart

*Cultural Heritage Month Coordinator*

## NOTES FROM THE NURSE

Welcome to another wonderful year at Clinton School. As the school year begins, I thought it would be helpful to share some district health-related policies with you.

1. If your child needs to take any medications at school (whether prescription or over-the-counter), a form must be completed by you and your child's physician. These forms are available in my office. The medication must be in the original, labeled container and needs to remain in school for the duration of the prescription. Children are not to carry medication back and forth to school. We do allow self-medication and the carrying of inhalers. A special form must be completed for these options.
2. If your child is sent home with strep, pink-eye, ringworm, or another contagious illness, you must obtain a note from your child's physician stating that your child is being treated and is no longer contagious before your child can return to school.
3. If your child is hospitalized or is taken to the ER for illness or injury, please have the attending physician provide a note stating that your child may return to school and participate in Phys. Ed.

These are just a few common policies that I wanted to share to avoid unnecessary return trips to the doctor and unnecessary absences for your child. As I review the health and immunization records of all students, I will send necessary forms home to you by mail. Please have these forms completed promptly to avoid having your child miss school.

Feel free to call with any questions or concerns (973-378-7686) or stop by my office. Please share any information with me that will help me provide your child with the best care possible. The health and safety of our students is my main concern.

—Joann Harrigan, *Clinton School Nurse*

## GETTING TO KNOW MS. PATTY O'NEILL

This year Clinton School welcomes our new principal, Patty O'Neill. A native of Maplewood, Ms. O'Neill worked in the hospitality industry for many years before entering the education field. For the past few years she has worked for the South Orange/Maplewood School District. The following Q&A with Ms. O'Neill provides a glimpse into her background as well as her vision for the future of Clinton School. –Liz Herring

**Q: For the last few years you have worked in the South Orange/Maplewood School District. Can you tell us about your experience?**

A: I had the great pleasure of teaching fourth grade at Jefferson School. I taught math and science, and my outstanding partners taught language arts and social studies. I taught at Jefferson for four years until I was asked to teach math at Maplewood Middle School. Never one to give up a challenge, I moved to the middle school and enjoyed not only being a sixth grade teacher but a sixth grade team leader as well. My team leadership position helped prepare me for many situations I am working on now as principal.

In both schools, I have had the great privilege of working with some of the finest professionals I have ever worked with. I also had a splendid time working with my mother, Mary, who was the school nurse at Jefferson for 25 years. Having my sister, Terry, teaching in district has also been fun. I learned so much from my colleagues and am a better person for my time spent in both schools.



**Q: You began your career in the hotel industry, which is unusual for a principal. Can you tell us about your career before you became a teacher and how your unique background may help you in your role as principal?**

A: Prior to entering the education field, I worked in the hospitality industry starting at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City where I worked in the Human Resources Department and became one of the Assistant Directors of Human Resources. I enjoyed teaching and training our staff in the workings of the hotel and was eventually transferred to the corporate offices in Beverly Hills, California, to implement a new tax credit program into a number of Hilton hotels across the country. Having an affinity for cooking led me to the food and beverage area, and after managing restaurants in New York City and New Jersey, I became operating partner of a restaurant in New Orleans. Talk about a challenge 24 hours a day seven days a week! I most enjoyed teaching and training my staff and realized that a change might be in the making. Sure enough, I went back to school to pursue my Master's Degree in Instruction and Curriculum and have never looked back.

As principal, all my business and management experiences will allow me to understand the “workings” of Clinton school. My human resources experiences will allow me to collaboratively work with my staff to achieve our common goals. My building a business from nothing will allow me to work in partnership with the students, staff, and families to create a brilliant future together.

**Q: You grew up in Maplewood. What was your experience going to school in the district? How has it changed since you were in school? How would you like to see it change in the future?**

A: Growing up in Maplewood was enchanting. I was the second oldest of nine children so there was never a time when there wasn't someone to play with. As a matter of fact many people thought my mother had her own preschool! I attended Catholic school from kindergarten through eighth grade. I then attended Maplewood Junior High and went on to graduate as senior class president from Columbia High School just a few short years ago! I loved school and all it had to offer. I tried to take advantage of as much as I could and loved to be involved in the arts and sports programs.

The one difference that seems to come up in conversation often as to my experiences versus students today is the lack of “play.” I remember leaving school, going home, changing clothes (sometimes), eating a snack, and then riding bikes, going to the park, or playing with friends until it was dark. We were always active and exhausted by the end of the day. It was much easier to do homework in the winter because it got dark earlier. We were not allowed to watch television unless it was the weekend. I think that had a lot to do with how well we used our time to do things we enjoyed and also aided in our love of reading.

I would love to see children being children and enjoying the wonderment of nature and play. I would also love to see adults and/or teens reading to and with children to help develop their life-long love of reading.

**Q: Why did the job at Clinton appeal to you?**

A: I knew of the staff's great reputation as a cohesive group and of the extraordinary support of the community. I knew with these two very important qualities already present, I would be able to help the staff and the families secure a bright future for the school.

**Q: What will you bring to this job that you think students and parents will respond to?**

A: Students and parents will enjoy my sense of humor, my calm demeanor, and most importantly my passion for working with them and our staff to ensure the very best learning experiences for all our students.

**Q: Based on what you know about Clinton at this point in time, are there aspects of our school that you find particularly exciting/intriguing?**

A: I love the space of Clinton school, both the physical building and the grounds. It's like its own little estate. I am very excited about working with the PTA to continue to beautify the building and grounds and am thrilled with all their creative ideas and their willingness to help implement these ideas to benefit our community. I am thrilled to be working with such a caring, dedicated, and talented staff and look forward to a great partnership with them as we get ready for the future.

*Getting to Know Ms. Patty O'Neill, continued*

**Q: What do you think will be your greatest challenge as principal?**

A: Sleep!

**Q: What will be your primary areas of focus during your first year at Clinton?**

A: My primary focus my first year is to have Clinton school become the nicest, the cleanest, the “greenest,” and the healthiest school around. I will also focus on working with our staff to review our academic strengths and weaknesses and create action plans with them to address our needs.

**Q: Can you give us a sense of how you'll be spending your first few months?**

A: My first few months will be spent making sure the needs of the students and staff are taken care of to the best of my ability and observing the wonderful learning the students will be engaged in. I will also be working closely with the PTA to continue the “beautification” of Clinton School.

**Q: School budgets have been hit hard in the past few years due to S-1701 (the NJ law that limits school district spending). What are your thoughts about moving forward in a positive way in light of these restrictions?**

A: I don't believe we have any other choice but to remain positive. School funding is a critical issue throughout the state. I believe we have to continue working with our governor to get more federal funding in light of the No Child Left Behind restrictions while looking at other resources including grants and fundraisers to help achieve our fiscal goals.

## SAVE THE DATE

Our annual **Tricky Tray/Silent Auction** will be held this year on **March 8th**. We raised over \$20,000 at last year's event and are hoping to break that record this year. Not only is this one of our most successful fundraisers, it is also one of the most fun! So mark your calendars now.

If you, a neighbor, or any family members work for a company that would be willing to donate merchandise or a gift certificate, please let us know. Do you know someone at a restaurant who will donate a gift certificate, a nail salon that might be willing to donate a free manicure, or a big corporation that is willing to give us a pricey electronics item? No gift is too big or too small. We have an official letter we can provide with all the details, so if you'd like a copy that you can submit to the relevant person in the company, let us know. Companies are usually quite generous about these kinds of donations if they are given enough notice, so don't be shy about asking. If you'd rather have us do the contacting, then let us know the name of the company and the contact and we'll follow up.

**Please contact Claire Sinclair if you have a donation or ideas for donations ([hifromclaire@yahoo.com](mailto:hifromclaire@yahoo.com) or 973-763-0088) or if you would like to be a part of the Tricky Tray committee. And be sure to save the date so you won't miss this fun evening out!**

## KEEP CLIPPING THOSE BOX TOPS!

Those little box tops labels on your child's favorite cereals and snacks earn Clinton School ten cents and they added up to a healthy sum for us last year. Cheerios, Chex Mix, Gogurts, and Nature Valley Granola Bars are just a few of the participating products. For a list, visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). And don't forget about Campbell's labels. Campbell's Soups, Pepperidge Farm Goldfish and Cookies, Prego Pasta Sauce, and V-8 Juices are just some of the eligible products. Make sure to include the UPC code when clipping these labels. For more information, visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com). Send box tops and Campbell's labels to school in an envelope or Ziploc bag with your child's name and teacher and your child will be mentioned in the Box Tops Clippers column featured in the *Courier* each month. Stephanie Mosé is once again heading up our box tops effort and you can contact her with any questions ([socratesmthr@comcast.net](mailto:socratesmthr@comcast.net)).

## A FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The special fundraising efforts made each year by the Clinton community help provide monetary support for many of the important activities and initiatives that make our school such a special place. Once again, we have a lot of great fundraising opportunities this year—some old favorites and some new ones, too.

By popular demand, we're bringing back the **No Frills Fundraiser**. This fundraiser is for those of us who would prefer to make a monetary donation to Clinton School, instead of selling wrapping paper or cookie dough during the school year. From now until the end of September you can make a one-time cash donation to the Clinton PTA which will go directly to funding many important events and projects at Clinton School. Of course, you can still participate in other fundraisers if you'd like, but if you're looking for a way to make a difference at Clinton School and you don't have the time to sell wrapping paper, then this is the fundraiser for you. And the best part is that 100% of the proceeds benefit our children. You will receive a flyer in your child's backpack with all the details.

This month we will premier **Clinton School car magnets**, available for \$5 each at upcoming school-sponsored events. What a great way to display our school pride!

Coming up on November 17th, **Goldfinch Books** will host a Clinton Day. More information will follow, but please keep all your receipts from Goldfinch Books and submit them throughout the year, as Goldfinch will donate a percentage to Clinton to help stock the school library.

For more information, please feel free to contact Karen Bethel at [Kbethel@verizon.net](mailto:Kbethel@verizon.net)

**NOW YOU CAN READ THE *COURIER* ON  
CLINTON'S NEW WEBSITE:  
[WWW.CLINTONELEMENTARY.ORG](http://WWW.CLINTONELEMENTARY.ORG)**

## AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM BEGINS ON OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

Our wildly popular After School Enrichment Program is gearing up for another amazing session, running for eight Thursdays, from October 4<sup>th</sup> until December 20<sup>th</sup>. As always, the classes will begin at 3 pm and will end promptly at 4:15 pm.

We are offering thirteen fabulous classes for the fall including some old favorites (cooking, chess club, fencing, ceramics and clay, science, Children of the Sun, cool card games, theater, yoga, and gardening) and some exciting new options (a climbing wall class with Mr. Lehman, a mixed media art workshop that utilizes elements of nature, and a class focused on playing and composing on Orff instruments with Mrs. Eames).

Registration materials will be distributed the week of September 10<sup>th</sup> and registration closes on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Classes fill up *very* quickly, so please return your completed forms and payment right away. If you have questions, please contact Cecelia Cancellaro at [ccancellaro@verizon.net](mailto:ccancellaro@verizon.net) or 973-763-1730.

## JOIN THE CLINTON SCHOOL PTA

The Clinton School PTA is a committed, proactive, and creative force in our school community. We work rigorously to provide valuable resources and services to Clinton students, parents, and staff, and we take our role very seriously! Whether we are volunteering in classrooms and at school events, fundraising, creating enriching programs for our students, maintaining a stellar cultural arts assembly program, purchasing items—both big and small, or advocating for our school, our work has a major impact on many aspects of the Clinton School experience. In the past few years we have purchased a climbing wall for our gym, brand new playground equipment for our schoolyard, and a license to an online tutoring and test prep service for our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, to name just a few. We can't do any of this without you, so please join or renew your membership to the Clinton PTA now!

Paying members are eligible to vote at PTA meetings and hold PTA office. When the PTA gets involved, children benefit. When you get involved with the PTA, the child who benefits most is yours!

**Be one of the first 100 people to join and receive a copy of *The Melting Pot*, Clinton School's very own cookbook!**

Fill out the form below and return it with your dues (\$12 per person) in an envelope marked "PTA Membership." Checks should be made payable to Clinton PTA and should include phone number. Envelopes can be deposited in the PTA mailbox in the main office.

### CLINTON PTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name of Parent/Guardian: .....

Address: .....

Phone: ..... E-mail: .....

Names of Children: .....

Grades/Teachers: .....

## HAVE YOU VOLUNTEERED AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL LATELY?

Parent volunteers are responsible for *many* of the amazing things that happen at Clinton School every year. Whether you give some of your time to your child's classroom, the library, the art room, the recess program, our book fairs, our international dinner, storytelling night, the pumpkin patch, the school fair, our annual tricky tray and auction, or our indoor and outdoor beautification committees, you are giving our school and our children a wonderful gift.

Your volunteer efforts have a major impact at Clinton and the rewards you'll receive for giving even a bit of your time are many:

- You'll be surrounded by happy, curious, and always grateful children.
- You'll be surrounded by talented, committed, and always grateful teachers.
- Your child's school will be a truly collaborative organization, with staff, teachers, and families working together to make Clinton even more amazing than it already is.
- Nothing more clearly demonstrates to your child how seriously you take their education and their school than seeing you excited about and involved in Clinton School activities.

There are volunteer opportunities for every parent, every schedule, every situation, and we will gladly cater to your particular circumstances. You can volunteer in the day or evening, or on the weekends. There are even things you can do without leaving your house.

Please complete and return the green volunteer questionnaire that was sent home in your child's backpack. If you'd prefer to complete the form electronically, please email Cecelia Cancellaro at [ccancellaro@verizon.net](mailto:ccancellaro@verizon.net) and she will send it to you as an email attachment. And feel free to email or call Cecelia (973-763-1730) if you'd like to talk about the wide variety of volunteer opportunities and which ones work best for you.

## SHOW YOUR SCHOOL COLORS!

On the first Friday of every month celebrate Clinton School Pride Day by wearing a Clinton T-shirt or red and white clothing (Clinton School colors).

A big thanks goes to **Ricciardi Brothers** for generously donating paints and supplies to help in our school "beautification" efforts!

visit our website: [www.ricciardibrothers.com](http://www.ricciardibrothers.com)

# RICCIARDI

RICCIARDI BROTHERS • THE PAINT AND DECORATING PEOPLE

JEFFREY LAFRANCE 1915 Springfield Ave • Maplewood, NJ 07040  
Store Manager Tel. 973.762.3830 Ext. #1 Fax. 973.762.1810