CLAYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT Office of the Superintendent 350 East Clinton Street, Clayton NJ 08312

Cleve W. Bryan Interim Superintendent of Schools Phone:

856-881-8700

Fax:

856-863-8196

October 3, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Over the past week, local, state and national news reports have been increasingly filled with stories about "Clown Sightings" in nearby communities. As such, our administration felt it was necessary to take a moment to share some important information on student safety and ways in which you can help.

Please know that there have been no confirmed clown sightings in our immediate area. However, we are asking parents and guardians to review the following safety precautions with your child(ren):

- Children should be taught to recognize odd or suspicious behavior and report it immediately to an adult at the school and a parent/guardian in the home. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to contact law enforcement if you feel it is necessary.
- Stress to your child(ren) the importance of truthful reporting rather than rumors that can cause undue anxiety or fear. Also, falsely reporting a sighting or being a part of a hoax is a serious violation of our "Student Code of Conduct".

It is possible that the incessant rumors of "clown sightings" could cause anxiety, fear, anger, or some other emotion with students. I encourage you to be aware of any behavior changes in your child that might be attributed to this notion. Any parent/guardian who has a concern regarding their son's/daughter's behavior should contact their guidance counselor.

The Clayton Public School District is committed to keeping all students and staff safe. I want to assure you that safety and security is always our highest priority. If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please feel free to contact me by phone at (856) 881-8700 ext. 3050.

Sincerely yours,

Heve W. Brvan

Interim Superintendent of Schools Clayton Public School District