## CLIFTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.clifton.k12.nj.us

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Clifton Board of Education

## September 9, 2021 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Clifton High School Student to Sign the National Anthem

CLIFTON, N.J. –

On Friday, September 10, 2021, at Clifton High School's home football game, Clifton High School senior / American Sign Language II student, Miguel Arellano, will sign the National Anthem alongside the Mustang band for the first time at a CHS Athletic event. A 9/11 tribute is planned for the evening as well. Pregame festivities begin after 6:40 PM, when the teams leave the field.

"For a community that prides itself on diversity, I am especially proud of our high school programs that afford our students the opportunity to share their skills and knowledge in a message of inclusivity," remarked Dr. Danny Robertozzi, Superintendent of Clifton Public Schools. "This gesture of unity and inclusion encapsulates our motto, 'One Clifton,' and is particularly meaningful on the eve of such a significant day in our nation's history."

Clifton High School Sign Language teacher Lori Lesler said, "I am extremely impressed with how hard Miguel has worked to learn and perfect the signs being that we have only been in school for three days! He was a virtual student last year in Sign I but even without meeting him in person until this year, I could tell that he was a very motivated, hardworking student."

Lesler also added that a different student from her Sign classes will sign the National Anthem at every Clifton home game this season.

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