

Brian Clarke

City and state: San Antonio, TX

High school attended: Clover Park High School

Graduation year: 1999

Colleges attended/degrees earned:

- U.S. Air Force Academy, Bachelor of Science, Biology
- Air Force Institute of Technology, Master of Science, Environmental Engineering



Current career/job:

U.S. Air Force Captain, Bioenvironmental Engineer

Describe your current career/job:

I work to protect Air Force workers from potential health hazards such as toxic chemicals, radiation and drinking water contaminants.

Describe the path you took from high school graduation to where you are today:

I graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 2003 and was stationed at Moody AFB in Georgia. From there I went to Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio, where I earned my master's degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology. I am now stationed at Brooks City-Base in Texas.

How did your experiences in Clover Park School District help prepare you for this path?

The Air Force is a very diverse group of individuals. Growing up in Lakewood and attending Clover Park schools is somewhat the same, with the influence from Fort Lewis Army Post and McChord Air Force Base and a very diverse student population.

Who was the most influential teacher or administrator to you as a student in the district? Why?

Mr. Rob Swaim was my baseball coach when I attended Woodbrook Junior High School and a vice-principal during my time at Clover Park High School. He truly cared for all students and went above and beyond his normal duties to help those students in need.

What was the most valuable thing you learned while attending school in Clover Park School District?

The most valuable thing I learned was the importance of friendship, as I met some truly remarkable people during my 13 years in the Clover Park School District.

Do you have any favorite memories from when you attended school in Clover Park School District?

My favorite memory was going to the state football playoffs my junior year (1997) after finishing 8-1 that season. We lost to Newport (63-56), but it was a great experience.

What advice do you have for Clover Park School District students?

Study hard and know that what you learn in school is important when you graduate. Take as many advanced classes as you can if you plan to go to college. However, have fun too, because it goes by quickly!

What opportunities exist in your career sector for new graduates? Is post-secondary education required for this field?

There are tremendous opportunities in the Air Force. High school graduates can either enter the Air Force directly as an enlisted member, or go to college first and become an officer through ROTC or the Air Force Academy.