



Crawfordsville Community School Corporation The Athenian Oracle

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
1000 Fairview Ave. Crawfordsville · 765-362-2342
www.cville.k12.in.us  

December 8, 2022

The Athenian Way

Pride, Respect, Engagement, Kindness, and Grit

A new student recognition award is under way at Crawfordsville High School to highlight students that represent CHS well and demonstrate The Athenian Way. The Athenian Way is defined by the following five qualities: pride, respect, engagement, kindness, and grit.

The idea came from the CHS staff who wanted to honor kids in a positive way. A student recognition team was then created to meet and select winners from the nomination pool. The award will be given quarterly and any staff member can nominate any student that they feel deserves the award.

Principal Jay Strickland said, "I believe students feel good about being nominated by a teacher and rewarded for doing great things at CHS. It means a lot to have a teacher or staff member nominate them for the award. The teachers are excited to see students following The Athenian Way get the recognition they deserve at CHS."

Winners of the award receive a shirt, certificate, gift card and their picture, alongside their



nominating teacher, will be posted on social media. The pictures will also be on display on the cafeteria TV screens during lunch.

This quarter's students receiving The Athenian Way along with their nominating teacher are: Reagan Cox (Molly Whitecotton), Wyatt Motz (Shozet Stump), Emily Powell (Lucy Becker), Melanie Quigg (Shelley Clouser), Olivia Fichter (Lucy Becker), Aidan Jones (Chris Ervin), Mason McCarty (Kris Sims), Cale Coursey (David Pierce), Aaliyah Strawser (Morgan Rainwater), Daniel Surface (Brett Motz), Macy Bruton (Danny Pierce), Sophie

Tomlinson (Jennie Swick).

Below are the reasons for nomination.

Reagan Cox: Nominated by Molly Whitecotton

"Reagan is a shining example of a stellar student and demonstrates The Athenian Way both in and out of the classroom. She shows respect to teachers, staff and coaches, is highly involved as a student athlete and is doing an amazing job as manager of the boys tennis team. She is also kind to her classmates and is always looking for ways to be helpful."

See page 3 for the summarized reasons for nominations,

Memorial Blood Drive to honor Jaxtyn

In honor of Jaxtyn Rogers, Hose Elementary School will host a Memorial Blood Drive on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. The blood drive will take place in the school cafeteria.



Jaxtyn Rogers

Jaxtyn was a recipient of 40 units of blood. Help us honor his life, joyful spirit, and generous heart by giving back through a memorial blood drive in his name.

Donation appointments must be scheduled and can be made at the following link, <https://bit.ly/JaxtynRogers-Blood-Drive-12-10>

In Memory of Jaxtyn Rogers

Blood Drive

Sat. Dec. 10th

9:00am – 12:30pm

*Hose Elementary Cafeteria

Nicholson Garden Club harvests success

Students' hard work donates more than 1,000 pounds to food pantry

The Nicholson Summer Garden Club wrapped up the growing season in early October after a successful record year! The garden donated 1,009.75 pounds to the local Fish Food Pantry, which topped last year's amount, and that was even after the club students and their families were able to take home produce too.

The garden at Nicholson has grown since it started approximately 10 years ago by former music teacher, Jerilyn Yerkes, and her father, Jack Heuss.

Yerkes said the students started seeds in the music room until they were ready to be transplanted. Yerkes and Heuss took care of the garden through the summers before the idea of a student summer club began. They also enlisted the help of Shelle Wheeler, first grade teacher at Hose, who often helped with planting in the spring. The summer club, when it started, typically included around 12 students and they were required to have an adult with them.

This year the garden club, which started planting in late May, has seen huge growth and was made up of more than 50 students. During the summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays, students, along with a parent participant, came to the garden

for planting and maintenance of the garden area. In addition to parents helping, the Montgomery County Master Gardeners are a key support to the garden project.

Yerkes and Wheeler sought the help of Master Gardeners in 2017 and have since been an integral part of the garden.

Yerkes said, "The Master Gardeners have been invaluable help!" They typically help with planting in the spring and during COVID they planted and tended throughout the summer too because of low student participation.

Through the club, students learn so much about the entire process including information on garden tools, planting seeds and plants, how to improve the soil with composted leaf mulch and putting down newspaper, and, the most fun activity, harvesting.

The students ultimately "learned about how when working together we can accomplish most anything in the garden," said Yerkes.

Yerkes said the favorite activity was harvesting the tomatoes, green beans, peppers, peas, potatoes, and strawberries. The students were able to reap great rewards after a lot of



Students work together in the Nicholson Elementary garden collecting Sunflower seeds for next season's planting.

hard work and some less-than-fun tasks that required consistency especially on hot summer days. It was the challenge and often dreaded task of watering the garden. Yerkes said the necessary task took several adults to pull three hoses, hook them up and connect them to the far away spigot. She noted the student's lesson of appreciating rainy days!

At the start of this school year, the garden work continued and was utilized during the after school program, which began in September and continued for six weeks. The students helped with garden clean up and learned about collecting seeds for next year's flower garden. The student also got to measure the giant sunflowers with the tallest measuring 12 feet!

As a surprise this fall, the Master Gardeners did some fall

planting of daffodil bulbs in one of the raised flower beds so the students will have a big surprise in the spring.

The club has big goals for next year including starting a compost bin for garden debris, having some tree limbs trimmed to allow more sunlight to the garden, utilizing the greenhouse, and putting in a request for another water spigot installed closer to the garden.

Nicholson's successful garden project has been noticed by other schools in the county and are now often asked for information about how to start their own school garden.

Yerkes said, "The second and third graders are so great to work with and their ability and eagerness to help and learn about gardening kept us all energized and we are in hopes that their interest and experiences last a lifetime."



Last summer's Nicholson Summer Garden Club had approximately 50 students caring for, watering, and harvesting the Nicholson garden.



CMS spelling winner advances

Congratulations to the 2022-23 Crawfordsville Middle School Spelling Bee winner, Baela Hensley, above left. Hensley will compete in the Regional Competition at River City Community Center in Lafayette on March 4, 2023 against around 45 other top spellers. Congratulations are also in order to this year's runner up is Katelyn Teeple.



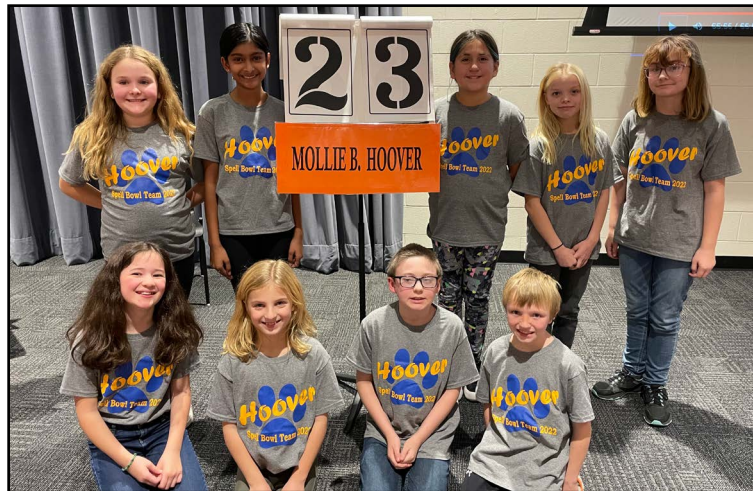
Crawfordsville Middle School 8th grade students gather for a picture in front of the Lincoln Tomb and the Lincoln Statue. Students rubbed the nose of the Lincoln Statue as it is said to bring good luck.

Eighth graders visit Springfield

In October, CMS eighth graders took their class field trip to Springfield, Illinois where they toured the history of Abraham Lincoln.

Students visited the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Abraham Lincoln's Springfield home where they walked the same rooms and street of Abraham Lincoln himself, Abraham Lincoln's tomb where he and his family are buried, and lastly Lincoln's New Salem where he spent time as a young adult.

The eighth graders enjoyed traveling the history of Abraham Lincoln's boyhood to becoming the United States' 16th president. Students were even able to leave Springfield with a little good luck by rubbing the nose of the Lincoln statue outside of President Lincoln's home.



Hoover spelling team wins 1st

The Hoover Spell Bowl Team, coached by Special Education Teacher Tonya Michael, placed 1st in the orange division at the Annual Spell Bowl Academic Competition held at West Lafayette Intermediate School. While nine Hoover spellers went to the competition, only eight students are able to compete. Each participant was given seven words for a team total of 56 words. The Hoover team completed the competition with an impressive 23 correct words. Words were quite challenging at this year's competition and included words such as, *jurisprudence*, *Addis Ababa*, *fjord*, and *ventriloquist*.

Hoover students are (Back row) Elliot Hamilton, Vedanti Kiran, Geenesis Valle-Zuniga, Rayleigh Lee, Hailey Lobaugh, (Front row) Vera Gobel, Carli Bokhart, Jaycen Posthauer, Ethan Harshman.

The Athenian Way . . . *continued from front page*

Summarized nominations:

Aaliyah Strawser: (After organizing help for another student) "This selfless act shows the "Kindness" portion of the Athenian Way and I am proud of her strength." - Morgan Rainwater

Aidan Jones: "Adian was nominated for the Athenian Way Award because he went above and beyond by volunteering to help another student who was struggling, and has continued working with this student in class." - Chris Ervin

Cale Coursey: "Cale has demonstrated kindness almost daily and it has rubbed off on other classmates..." - David Pierce

Daniel Surface: "He moves with purpose and determination to give his best which helps establish a positive culture. He is well respected by his peers and teachers because of his work ethic and the way he treats others." - Brett Motz

Emily Powell: "She demonstrates kindness by going out of her way to make all students feel included..." - Lucy Becker

Macey Burton: "Shows pride and grit, but also is respectful to others." - Danny Pierce

Mason McCarty: "I want Mason to know that his character and leadership does not go unnoticed." - Kris Sims

Melanie Quigg: "Melanie demonstrated genuine kindness towards another Athenian this day, and continues to spread kindness everyday thereafter!" - Shelly Clouser

Olivia Fichter: "Olivia is an outstanding individual. She exemplifies what it means to be an Athenian." - Jenny Sims

Regan Cox: "Regan is a shining example of a stellar student and demonstrates The Athenian Way both in and out of the classroom." - Molly Whitecotton

Sophie Tomlinson: "Sophie is a kind leader. She leads by example and is willing to help make the choirs better in any way she can." - Jennie Swick

Wyatt Motz: "Wyatt epitomizes the very best at CHS." - Shozet Stump



Hose learns about food, feelings

Throughout November, students at Hose Elementary have been participating in a fun nutrition program called Mood Boost. Mood Boost is designed to help elementary and middle school students connect what they eat with how they feel, both physically and mentally. With the importance and focus on getting vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants from fruits and vegetables, Mood Boost provides featured recipes and characters called Moodies focusing on six moods: Smart, Happy, Confident, Alert, Strong, and Calm.



Each Wednesday, kindergarten and first graders excitedly entered the cafeteria for lunch to discover and learn the weekly Moodie. Food samples associated with each mood were passed out to students by the executive chef and dietitian. Students were encouraged to at least try a bite. Some of the favorites included sunflower seed butter and celery, cinnamon roasted sweet potatoes, and guacamole with carrots.

The enthusiasm continued throughout the week as Mood Boost foods were featured on the serving line for the students to enjoy at lunch. Student also received trading cards with recipes and stickers with



the colorful Moodie characters on them. The Mood Boost program is a great addition to the nutrition education offerings at our school and so much fun for the students!

Wabash College swim team partners with kindergarten class

The Wabash College swim team has partnered with Mrs. Pendleton's kindergarten class to bring students of multiple ages together to learn. Mrs. Pendleton's son Jack is a sophomore on the swim team, and in talking with Wabash Swim Coach Will Bernhardt she learned the team was looking for a positive community outreach opportunity.

"Wabash [College] is a positive influence in our community in a lot of ways that people don't know about because they find small, quiet ways to be involved," Hose teacher JeneAnne Pendleton said. For her, this was a way to bring a team of positive role models into her classroom.

It also makes learning fun for the kindergarten students when they have these young men showing interest in what they are learning and interacting with them. "They are listening to [the kindergarten students]



and conversing with them," Pendleton said. "They love to play together."

Members of the team have visited once so far during learning centers and also read stories to them.

Another visit from the entire team is planned for January, including a special appearance of Wally, the Wabash College mascot.



The Wabash College swim team took some time to visit Mrs. Pendleton's kindergarten class to play, read and hang out together.

Crawfordsville Schools benefit from MCCF grants

The Crawfordsville Community School Corporation benefited from the final 2022 grant cycle of the Montgomery County Community Foundation.

Willson Preschool received \$11,000 for a climbing wall to be installed in the school gym. Climbing wall activities promote gross motor development, and are associated with a greater likelihood of success in academics and in social/emotional development. The wall will be a great active option when outdoor recess isn't possible.

An additional \$10,000 was awarded to the area of Health and Welfare for CCSC. These funds will be used for students within the corporation who need financial assistance for eye exams, glasses, dental services, medications, and mental health assessments. The grant will also be used for CPR training and supplies, and student health education.

The MCCF awarded 14 nonprofit groups grants totaling \$330,770.

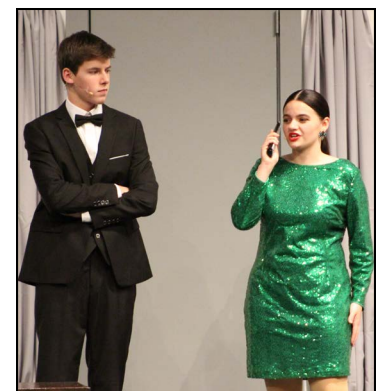


Left photo: Willson Preschool Director Heidi Plunkett, left, accepts the grant from MCCF Chief Executive Officer, Kelly Taylor. Right photo: Grants and Community Relations Director Cheryl Keim, right, presents the grant to CHS nurse Lacey Melevage, left, and CMS nurse Amy Bales.



Dr. Bokhart presents at conference

CMS Principal Dr. Bokhart presented at the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) Fall Professional's Conference on the topic of "Enhancing Teacher Leadership Through Action Research." It's great to see Dr. Bokhart sharing his leadership and expertise with principals across the state of Indiana.



Rumors production a great success

Congratulations to the CHS students on a job well done for the production of Rumors. The audience was thoroughly entertained during each of the weekend's performances!

Dance competition season off to great start

The Crawfordsville Dance Teams started the competition season in Louisville and each team came home with Regional Champion titles. Other awards included: CES Diamond Elite - 1st Place Elementary Hip Hop; CMS Starlettes - 1st Place Middle School Hip Hop; CHS Blue Illusions - 1st Place Varsity Spirit Show-down and Most Entertaining Award, and 4th Place Varsity Hip Hop.

Most recently the dance teams hosted the 22nd Annual Crawfordsville Dance Invitational at CHS where 28 teams from all over the state of Indiana competed.

The high school team received excellent scores from the judges as usual, but as a courtesy of the hosting team, the CHS Blue Illusions allow placement positions for the other teams. The CMS Starlettes placed 1st in Hip Hop and 2nd in Jazz. The elementary team Diamond Elite also got first in both Hip Hop and Jazz.



Photo by Susan Ehrlich



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Molly Pierce drives to score.

Elyse Widmer fights for the shot.

Alec Saidian jumps to the rim.

Drake Burris drives by defender.

Athenians both earn victories over Attica Saturday night

Both the CHS girls and boys basketball teams split over the weekend with losses to Lebanon Friday night, but victories over Attica on Saturday. The Lady Athenians defeated Attica 52-46 making 11 three-pointers. They shot 41% from behind the three-point line. This is the

third season in a row that CHS has made at least 11 threes in a game. Senior Elyse Widmer made 4, Madison Hedrick 3, Taylor Abston 3, and Addison Hodges 1. The girls are now 3-8 and will travel to Parke Heritage on Thursday, Dec. 8.

The boys team also defeated Attica by a score

of 67-17, allowing younger players more varsity court time in the second half. The Athenians forced 26 turnovers by Attica and scored 21 first quarter points before Attica was on the board. The boys are now 2-2 and will host West Lafayette on Friday, Dec. 9.

CHS wrestlers go 3-2 at WeBo

The Crawfordsville wrestling team finished 3-2 on the day as CHS defeated Danville 57-18, Tri-West 45-30, and Frankfort 56-24. The Athenians lost to Western Boone, 58-19 and against Lebanon in a 56-14 loss.



Photo by Susan Ehrlich

Jaziel Gil-Herrera battles his opponent on the mat.



Photo by Susan Ehrlich

Keegan Cokel, right, prepares to make a move.