

Crown Point Community School Corporation

we are CP

Volume 3, Issue 1
July 2023

DEFINING “WE”

Each of us makes
CPCSC a great place
to learn and work

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REGISTRATION DATES AND MORE

**Changes on Main Street:
What's next for the former Taft site?**

who are WE?

"We Are CP." It's our motto. We chant it at sporting events, you'll see it on social media as our hashtag, it's even the title of the publication you're reading now. But who are we?

Crown Point Community School Corporation is made of approximately 9,000 students, 500 teachers, and 600 support staff. Among these numbers, we are a collective of individual stories and experiences. Each story is part of why our schools are an amazing place to learn and work.

So, who are we? We are a wide-range of student talents represented in more than 75 clubs and sports offered at Crown Point High School. We are student support professionals such as counselors and school resource officers, some of whom you'll meet in the pages that follow. We are diverse, like our English language learners who represent more than 20 native languages. We are teams of teachers and students who gather each year on Unified Game Day to celebrate our progress with inclusion.

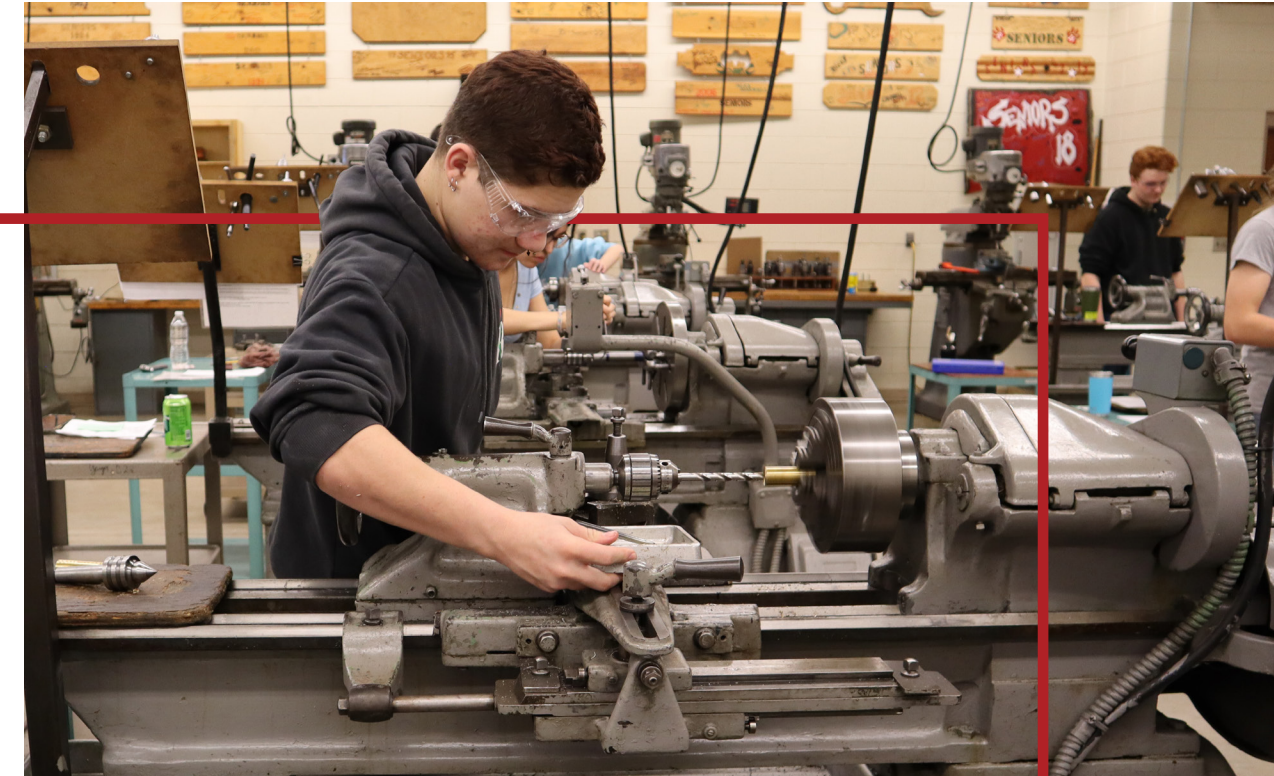
The success of our schools is strengthened by our community partnerships. That means you, too, are part of the **we**. This year 280 Crown Point High School students participated in internships hosted by local businesses. The annual CPHS scholarship night included over \$730,000 in awards from local organizations and foundations. Because of you, we are supportive and generous.

Despite teacher shortages elsewhere, CPCSC continues to recruit top talent, and we anticipate beginning the year with our teaching positions fully staffed. While some districts have been forced to close schools, we're constructing more classrooms and community spaces in one of the largest capital improvement projects in the state - and doing so without a tax increase. These spaces prepare us for the future and help provide the best educational experience for our students. We are thriving and forward-thinking.

As the 2023-2024 school year begins, I hope every student, parent, and community member understands the value you each contribute to our schools. Together, we create a district that supports our students and ensures a high-quality education.

For our kids,

Dr. Todd Terrill, Superintendent of Schools



Percent of Crown Point High School students who earn college/career credit before graduation - 16% higher than the state average.

76%

Because of funding through bonds, there is no tax increase to complete \$350 million in capital improvement projects.

\$0

Number of Dual Credit and AP courses at CPHS, along with multiple career/technical courses like auto, machining, and construction.

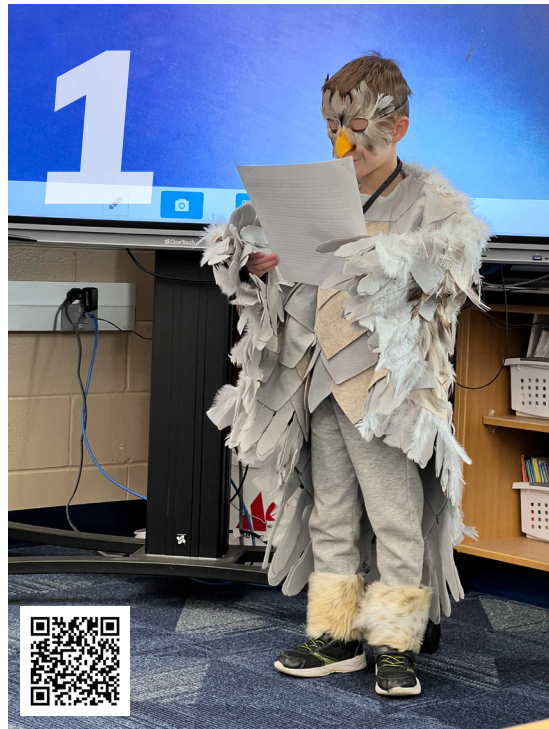
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Number of students CPCSC serves from preschool to age 22. Enrollment predictions indicate slow growth over the next decade.

9,000



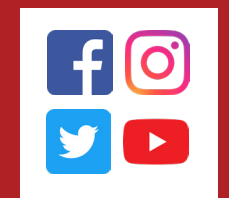
our stories, our year



1. First graders at Winfield created their own zoo as part of a writing unit.
2. CPCSC hosted Unified Game Day, an annual event where students and staff celebrate inclusion of all learners.
3. Music departments at Taft, Col. Wheeler, and CPHS earned all-department awards through the Indiana State School Music Association.
4. Robotics teams across the district had another great season. The CPHS teams had more students than any other year.
5. CPHS Dual Credit World Literature courses hosted award-winning author Vu Tran for a forum and creative writing session.



Follow us for more great stories!



Keep an eye on our district communications throughout the year as we share more stories that put the **We** in We Are CP. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, and Twitter.

You can learn more about the stories on this page by scanning each picture's QR code with your smartphone's camera.



6. CKLA, a new language arts curriculum, introduced students to topics like astronomy and ancient history.
7. The Crown Point Fire Department assisted with the annual Egg Drop where middle school students tested their physics knowledge.
8. CPHS academic teams returned from Purdue with three state championships in science, fine arts, and interdisciplinary studies.
9. Senior Lily Wilson placed fourth in the nation for Advanced Accounting at the annual Business Professionals of America conference.
10. Kevin Fricke was the recipient of the Spirit of a Bulldog Award. Kevin retired after 39 years of service at Taft Middle School.

change on MAIN street

What's happening at 1000 South Main Street? In the upcoming months, pieces of the district's many construction projects begin to fall in place at the previous Taft site. The northernmost section of the former Taft building will remain and become the CPCSC Education Center. This building will host important programs like Birth to School, a free program designed to support caregivers and their children ages birth-five who live in the district. The 18-22 year old Transition to Adulthood program supports students with disabilities who need support with independent living skills and self advocacy. Finally, CAP (Credit Acceleration Program) provides a setting for high school students who need a nontraditional option to complete credits. A portion of the building will also serve as climate controlled storage - a much less exciting, but important, feature.

Behind Taft, a new administration building is taking shape and will house administrators and more than 50 support professionals who keep the district running behind-the-scenes. This new location is an opportunity for departments like Technology, Food Service, and Exceptional Education to work side-by-side with other departments after being in multiple buildings. Offices at the Learning Center on Harrington Avenue - which was home base for Exceptional Education - will become classrooms at Col. Wheeler Middle School, where a new auditorium will connect the two buildings.

The anticipated move to the new administration building is fall of 2023. "We have many moving pieces with the construction projects and want to make sure we meet the needs of our students while also improving the efficiency of our district," said Dr. Todd Terrill, CPCSC superintendent. "This fall, everyone will be in their new locations and ready to move on to the next phase of education on Main Street."

Before demolition, sections of the Taft gymnasium floor were saved. Stay tuned for a reveal of how the floor is being used in a project at the new Taft site.



Traveling Journal Returns to Taft after 15 Years

After traveling nearly 27,000 miles for the last 15 years, a journal from Taft Middle School has finally arrived at home. A 2008 project from Mrs. McClure's 6th grade English class, the traveling journals were meant to be passed from person to person and returned before May of 2009. The instructions inside the front cover encouraged recipients to add their name, a brief letter about their location, and photos so that students could plot the journals' trips and determine how far each one traveled.

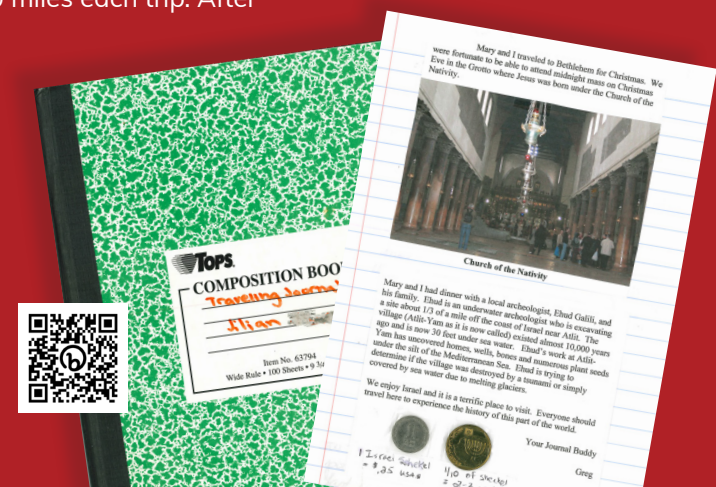
But the journal started by student Jillian Sharp never returned - until recently. With only a few months before Taft's upcoming demolition, Principal Tracy Seibert received a large manila envelope with a letter from Lori Williams of Norfolk, Nebraska. "With a sincere apology for misplacing this gem - for over 15 years - I'm returning it to its rightful owners," the note said. The journal had been misplaced in a closet at the local tourism bureau where Lori works and was found after a "long overdue" cleaning.

Eight individuals from around the world completed a journal entry, moving the journal approximately 3,370 miles each trip. After

starting in Crown Point, it traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska; London, England; Traverse City, Michigan; Dallas, Texas; Haifa, Israel; Seneca, Kansas; and Norfolk, Nebraska. Each entry is endearing. Writers shared information about their lives and locations, including pictures and even currency. "I live here in London with my husband Cliff and our guinea pig, Rosie," wrote Lisa. "Texans have their own language as well. We say things like fixin' (about to), ya'll (you all) and howdy (hi)," said Page from Dallas.

The last journal entry is serendipitous. Nikki Honeyman, a middle school teacher from Seneca, Kansas, wrote about a new middle school being constructed in their town. The coincidence, of course, is that Taft Middle School has been relocated and students will begin the school year in the new location. The journal's final photo is an aerial view of the Nebraska construction site - a view familiar to anyone who has kept up with the Taft construction project.

You can read the journal in its entirety at bit.ly/45Sr2iS or by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone's camera.





a blueprint for support

Less than five minutes into an interview with Crown Point High School guidance counselors Ami Marcinek and Lauren Sandor, there was a knock at the door. Senior students were stopping by on the last day of school to thank both of them for their help. “This really is one of the most rewarding jobs I think there is,” Marcinek said. “We are invested in making sure our students succeed.”

Not everyone understands the role of a guidance counselor, and the role can be somewhat different depending on the age of students. At Crown Point Schools, counselors in grades K-12 are tasked with helping students succeed academically and socially. They all agree that there is no such thing as a “normal day” in their jobs, but their work centers around helping students transition to new situations, proactively providing guidance for social and emotional well-being, and collaborating with parents and colleagues.

Transition Leaders

No matter which students a counselor works with, they lead conversations and activities to help students successfully transition from one stage of school to the next. As elementary students arrive in kindergarten, counselors help them acclimate to school. By fifth grade, they’re preparing students to move to middle school. “Everything we do can have a positive impact on the academic setting. We’re always advocating for students,” Alicia Bellamy (MacArthur Elementary) said.

In 6th grade, the process begins again - transitioning pre-adolescent students to a new environment and then preparing them for high school two years later. “I would say middle school is one of the harder age groups,” Josie Werhowatz (Taft Middle School) said. “Students are on the cusp of developing an identity at this time, and when you combine that with academic rigor, teen hormones, and changes among friends, it can feel like a big jump from elementary school.”

Before students arrive at CPHS, middle school counselors have already started leading discussions and activities about career exploration. They’ve also been working with students to improve their social skills. “I led a friendship group for sixth graders this year,” Andrea Day (Col. Wheeler Middle School) said. “We focus on skills that I hope they can grow and take with them into high school a couple of years from now.”

Once students enter the 9th grade, the social help provided through counselors is combined with academic and career guidance as students prepare to graduate - the ultimate transition from school. “One minute we could be doing course schedules and credit checks and the next we might have students who need emotional support,” Sandor said. “That’s one of the big misconceptions about our jobs, that we’re sitting around sort of waiting for issues. We do a lot of proactive work because even though our students are older, they’re still students.”

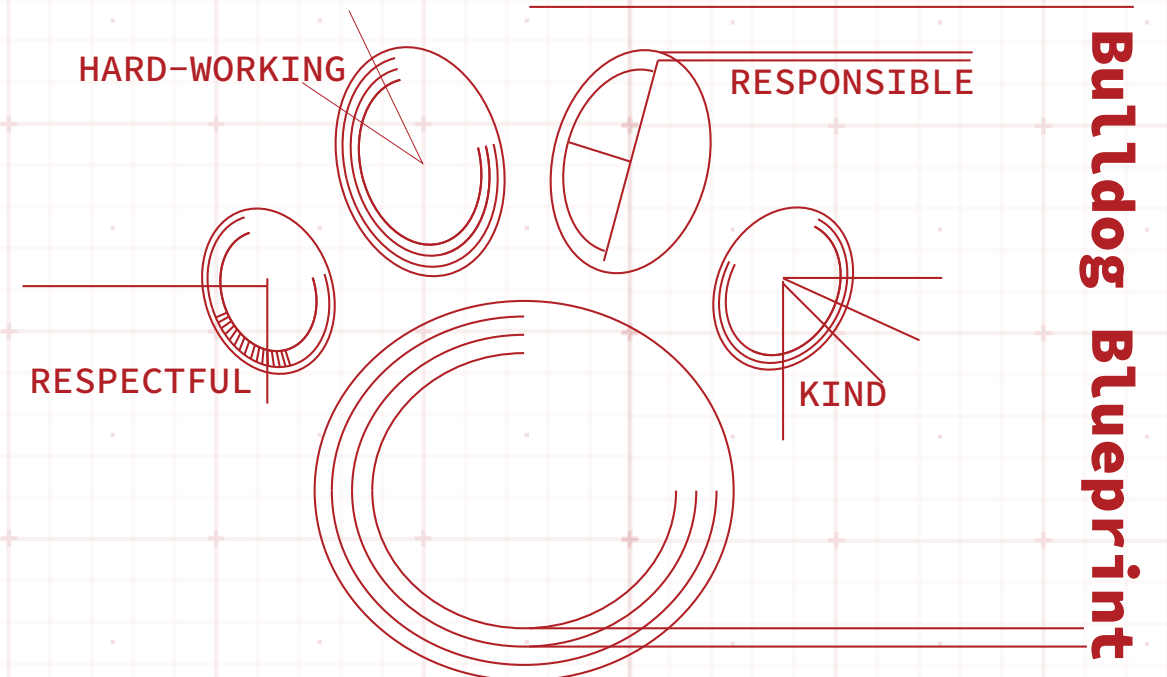
Counseling in the 21st Century

School counselors in Indiana must have a specialized license through the Indiana Department of Education, which requires a minimum of a Master’s degree. CPCSC counselors use standards from the Indiana Department of Education and the American School Counseling Association. The standards are closely related to Crown Point Community School Corporation’s 6 C’s - college, career, citizenship, culture, courage, and creativity - as well as the Bulldog Blueprint, a framework for student success used at both Taft and Colonel Wheeler Middle Schools.

“We use the Bulldog Blueprint to guide conversations with our students a lot,” Day said. “It’s a great way for us to continue working with the foundations our students had in elementary school. We talk about ways to be kind and respectful because we want them to know all those things apply in middle school, too.”

While counselors help students during the school day, there is a misconception that counselors are also mental health providers or therapists. “Mental health specialists provide treatment plans or diagnose patients, which is not our role,” Bailey Lauritzen (Solon Elementary) said. “We’re the support at school. What does a student need to perform academically and have a better experience while they are here? We are focused on

At Taft and Colonel Wheeler Middle School, the Bulldog Blueprint is a framework to drive discussions about relationships and academics. Parents, counselors, administrators, and students can refer to the framework for common language and expectations.



solutions that get students back to class and moving forward. An outside mental health specialist is for more long-term solutions.”

“I think many people may not understand the role of a school counselor in a 21st century school because it is so different from when we were in school,” Bob Eghbali (Taft Middle School) said. “I think that’s because a lot has changed regarding conversations of students’ mental and emotional health, which is a good thing.”

Colleague, Community & Parent Partnerships

Although school counselors are not mental health professionals, CPCSC counselors have colleagues and partnerships that help them serve students when issues arise. In the last two years, the district has added social workers to the student

support team. Partnerships with local agencies like Crown Counseling and Pillars of Wellness provide services both during and outside of school.

“Our partnership with Crown Counseling has been huge,” Day said. “We partner with parents to make referrals when our students need more assistance than what we can provide in our roles here at school.”

Marcinek noted that social workers help the CPHS counseling team have a well-rounded toolbox for helping students. “We refer students to a social worker when they’re dealing with something outside of our wheelhouse or something more long-term. And the social workers are part of our team, so we constantly check in with them as well as our grad coaches. There are

“It doesn’t matter what we are dealing with, the bottom line is that I’m here for your kid. Nothing changes that.”

a lot of people on our team making sure we get students across the finish line.”

Every CPCSC counselor interviewed agreed that the most important partnership they have is with parents. “I have a lot of parents who have questions about how to help their children,” Lauritzen said. “I think if there is one thing I could encourage parents to do, it would be to make sure they’re also taking care of themselves. Don’t forget to focus on your own well-being and have open, honest conversations with your kids. A lot will fall into place after that.”

Even though every day is different, CPCSC counselors all returned to the same word to describe their role: advocate. “By far the number one job of counselors is to be an advocate for our students,” Bellamy said. “It doesn’t matter what we are dealing with, the bottom line is that I’m here for your kid. Nothing changes that.”



Left: CPHS counselor Ami Marcinek high-fives graduates after they have crossed the stage at graduation.
Previous page: Solon Robinson Elementary counselor Bailey Lauritzen helps fifth grade students practice using a combination lock. “I’ve learned this is one of the things they worry about most with moving to middle school,” she said. “So at the end of the year, we give them some time to practice as part of our transition activities.”



CROWN POINT COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

2023-2024 Calendar

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No school

Distance learning

Start of 9 weeks

1st & last student day

End of 9 weeks

Teacher workdays

Crown Point Community School Corporation
Administrative Service Center
200 East North St., Crown Point, IN 46307
219-663-3371 www.cps.k12.in.us
Open Monday-Friday, 7am-4pm

Aug. 14 - First teacher day, no students
Aug. 16 - First student day

Sept. 4 - Labor Day, no school
Sept. 20 - E-learning day; staff professional dev.

Oct. 13 - End of 1st 9 weeks (42 days)
Oct. 16-20 - Fall Break, no school
Oct. 26 - K-5 parent/teacher conferences:
E-learning for elementary students only

Nov. 7 - E-learning day; staff professional dev.
Nov. 22-24 - Thanksgiving Break, no school

Dec. 19 - End of 2nd 9 weeks (39 days), 1st semester (81 days)
Dec. 20-Jan. 3 - Winter Break, no school

Jan. 3 - Teacher work day
Jan. 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no school
Jan. 31 - E-learning day; staff professional dev.

Feb. 19 - Presidents Day, no school

Mar. 8 - End of 3rd 9 weeks (45 days)
Mar. 12 - E-learning day; staff professional dev.
Mar. 25-29 - Spring Break, no school

May 27 - Memorial Day, no school
May 31 - End of 4th 9 weeks (54 days), 2nd semester (99 days)

June 3 - Last teacher day

Summer school will begin following the end of the regular school year.

School & Building Directory

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

School day: 9:05 am - 3:44 pm

Eisenhower Elementary



219-663-8800
www.ike.cps.k12.in.us
1450 S. Main St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

Jerry Ross Elementary



219-663-3010
www.jerryross.cps.k12.in.us
11319 Randolph St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

Lake Street Elementary



219-663-5683
www.lake.cps.k12.in.us
475 E. Lake St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

MacArthur Elementary



219-662-3600
www.mac.cps.k12.in.us
12900 Fairbanks St.
Cedar Lake, IN 46303

Solon Robinson Elementary



219-663-2525
www.solon.cps.k12.in.us
601 Pettibone St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

Timothy Ball Elementary



219-663-0047
www.tball.cps.k12.in.us
720 Summit St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

Winfield Elementary



219-663-2287
www.winfield.cps.k12.in.us
13128 Montgomery St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

School Day: 7:40 am - 2:55 pm

Taft Middle School



219-663-1507
www.taft.cps.k12.in.us
5235 E. 121st Ave.
Winfield, IN 46307

Colonel Wheeler Middle School



219-663-2173
www.wheeler.cps.k12.in.us
401 W. Joliet St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

CROWN POINT HIGH SCHOOL

School day: 7:35 am - 2:37 pm



219-663-4885
Guidance: ext. 11028
Athletics: ext. 11131
www.cphs.cps.k12.in.us
1500 S. Main St.
Crown Point, IN 46307

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENTS

Open 7 am - 4 pm



Central Office: 219-663-3371
Transportation: 219-663-1465
Food Services: 219-662-6480

EDUCATION CENTER

219-662-5656
1000 S. Main St.
Crown Point, IN

EARLY LEARNING CENTER AT TIMOTHY BALL

219-663-4330
720 Summit St.

CPCSC SAFETY TIPLINE

Call or text: 219-306-8063

Email: 1789@alert1.us

Web: <https://cps-k12-in.safeschoolsalert.com>

staff of the YEAR

Elementary Teacher of the Year – Andrea Choate

Andrea Choate is a kindergarten teacher at Solon Robinson Elementary with 18 years of service. Six of those years are with CPCSC.

“Andrea’s love and dedication to her students and the professionalism of teaching is exemplified each and every day,” Barb Merrill, principal of Solon Elementary, said. “Visiting her classroom is an unforgettable experience; Andrea brings creativity and energy to her classroom.”

Finalists for Elementary Teacher of the Year were: Brandy Sims - Jerry Ross Elementary, 5th grade teacher; Alex Drakulich - Winfield Elementary, music teacher; Jamie Pauley - Timothy Ball Elementary, 3rd grade teacher; Patty Begley - Eisenhower Elementary, kindergarten teacher; Tiffany Markham - Lake Street Elementary, 1st grade teacher; and Alicia Bellamy - MacArthur Elementary, counselor

Secondary Teacher of the Year - Allison Florek

Ali Florek is an English 9 teacher at Crown Point High School. She has worked in the district for 10 years and currently co-sponsors student council, is an instructional coach for other teachers, and is the freshmen class sponsor.

“It only takes a few minutes in the same room as Mrs. Ali Florek to realize that she is magic,” Annie Lorek, CPHS Assistant Principal, said. “Mrs. Florek is the dinner-time conversation teacher: the one who students talk about when parents ask them about their day. She is the culture-builder, the joy-maker, the life-changer.”

Finalists for Secondary Teacher of the Year were Devin Lewis - Taft MS, English teacher; and Stephanie Olson - Col. Wheeler MS - math teacher

Employee of the Year - Michele Kral

Michele Kral is the district’s catering manager. She has been employed at CPCSC since 2007 and has a degree in Applied Science Culinary Arts from Joliet College. Before working in the district, Michele trained and cooked around the Chicagoland area, and worked in catering on the East Coast.

“Michele makes sure all her food products are delicious,” said Pam

Maloney, the district’s Director of Food Services. “Michele knows her audience and prepares food according to their preferences. We are lucky to have a chef on staff.”

Finalists for Employee of the Year were Al Roach - Jerry Ross Elementary, head custodian; Jeannie Watson - preschool, paraprofessional; Karen Harmicar - CPHS, custodian

Administrator of the Year - Jennifer Linsley

Jennifer Linsley, principal of Jerry Ross Elementary, is the 2023-2024 Administrator of the Year. Ms. Linsley has been the principal of Jerry Ross since the building opened in 2009 and brings true dedication to her role.

Parent Fred Dobry was one of the individuals who nominated Ms. Linsley. “Starting towards the end of last school year through the beginning of 2023, our family navigated a difficult situation. As a result of Ms. Linsley’s compassionate and empathetic leadership, we had an entire team at Jerry Ross involved in supporting our family. She had to wear multiple hats that go well beyond the role of a typical principal. We will forever be indebted to Ms. Linsley and her entire team for helping us through this challenging experience. I can think of no person more deserving of this recognition this year than Principal Linsley.”

Left to right: Jennifer Linsley, Michele Kral, Andrea Choate, Alison Florek



Last year Terri Priesol didn't know she would be working with students. Neither did Emily Ng. But one year into a student support role and Terri (a former pharmacy technician) and Emily (a former veterinary assistant) both say that they are in a career that is meaningful and rewarding.

Terri and Emily are paraprofessionals, or paras for short. Paras are an integral part of the student support system and they assist teachers with tasks such as working with small groups, helping with classroom management, and providing instructional support to students.

Not new to the paraprofessional role is Marina Matthews from Eisenhower Elementary, who has been working with students in the Applied Skills program for more than nine years. Her role is to help students with disabilities adapt and thrive in the general education classroom. Marina says experiencing milestones with her students is one of the best parts of her job. "I love watching kids discover reading. When they realize the letters become words and they can read by themselves, that they can do it, it's so great."

Emily is a para at Timothy Ball Elementary and works primarily with second graders. She helps students not only with academic goals, but also social and behavioral needs. "Paras are part coach," she said. "I help from the time students step off the bus to the moment they get back on again in the afternoon. I'm here to help make sure they have academic and personal growth."

While every day has its routines, no day is the same. "For some of my students, day-to-day changes in middle school can be overwhelming. Knowing they have someone looking out for them can be reassuring," Terri, who works at Colonel Wheeler Middle School, said. "My job is about helping them build peer relationships, develop self-advocacy skills, and strengthen their independence and confidence."

Growing with Students

It's not just their students who have grown. Emily, Terri, and Marina all say that being a paraprofessional has taught them more than they could have imagined.

"What have I learned since becoming a paraprofessional? Everything," said Marina. "Things I never really knew I would learn: how to use different teaching strategies, how to respond to a student's needs based on their disability, and how to work with teachers. There's so much."

Emily noted the teaching staff at Timothy Ball have been an asset as she took on her new role. "The teachers in this building are amazing, and I've learned so much from them. They're incredibly supportive of inclusion and what it means to have an inclusive school where everyone is able to learn with their peers. It's given me a chance to see into the education field and even consider whether I might go back to school again."

"I want them to know that their time here was a safe place for them to make mistakes, that we supported them through their mistakes and in their learning. And then they'll be ready to move on to the next step without us."

The role has also prompted Terri to consider a return to school. She's now planning to finish a degree in education with a focus on middle school and exceptional learners. It may seem surprising that she wasn't sure whether she would be a good fit for the job. "I hadn't really considered a job like this before, but I decided to try something new. More than anything I've learned about myself," she said. "I have to be flexible. I have to think outside the box. I adapt my own thinking now in order to serve someone else, and I can use different techniques to help my students."

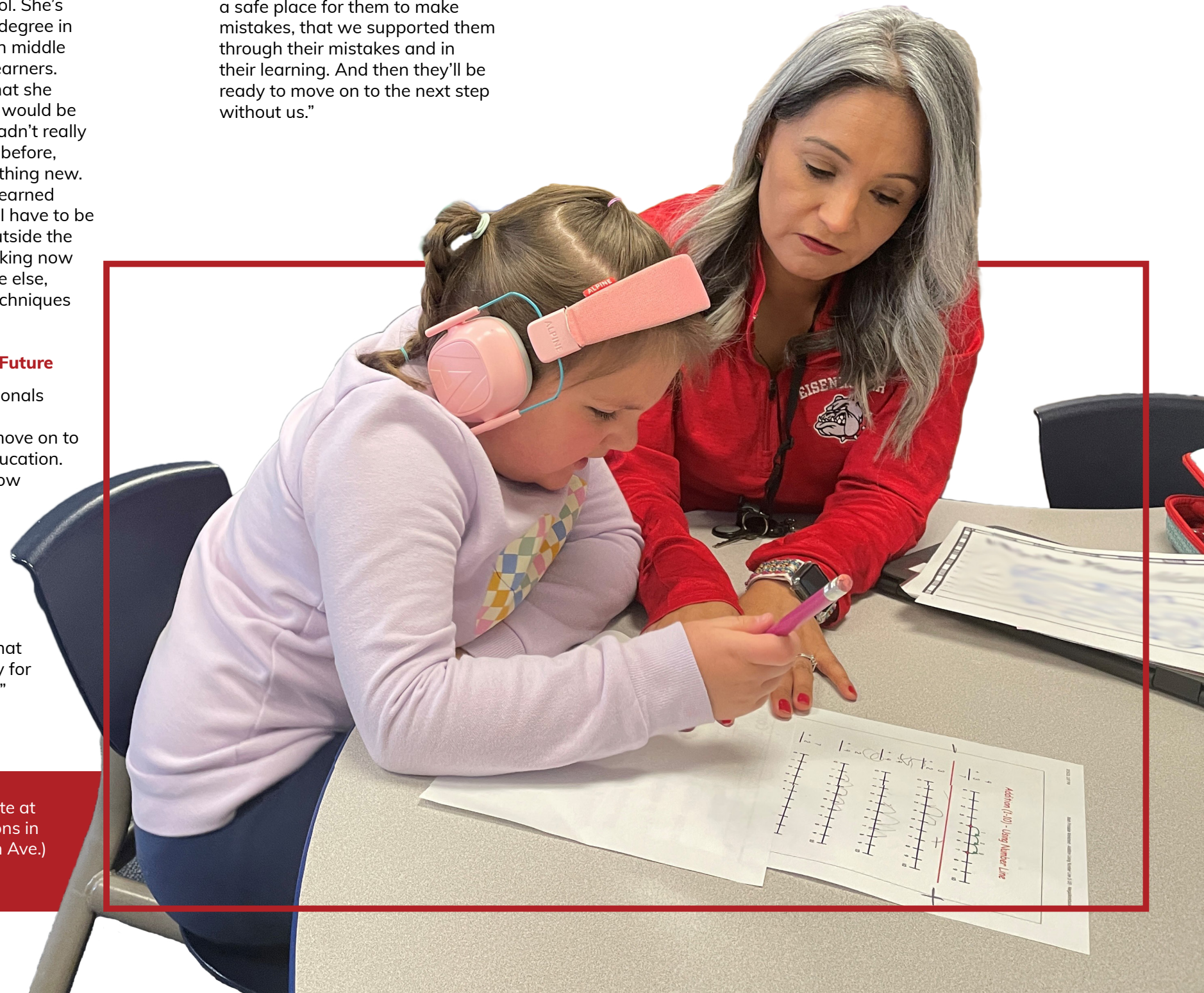
Encouragement for the Future

The work of paraprofessionals helps establish a strong foundation as students move on to the next stage in their education. "I think people should know that this job is not 'just a para,'" Marina said. "You really have to step in and work for students. It's like being a second caregiver for them when their parents aren't here, and part of that role is getting them ready for whatever is coming next."

When asked what they each hope for their students, Marina, Terri and Emily all shared encouragement for bright futures. "I hope they feel we have taught them to be more independent," Terri said. "But I also hope they know it is ok to ask for help if they are struggling."

"I want them to be set up for success as they go out into the world," Emily said. "I want them to know that their time here was a safe place for them to make mistakes, that we supported them through their mistakes and in their learning. And then they'll be ready to move on to the next step without us."

a SAFE place to make mistakes



If you're interested in learning more about becoming a paraprofessional with CPCSC, visit our website at www.cps.k12.in.us/para or call 219-663-4330 for more information. Open interviews for para positions in the 2023-2024 school year will be held July 18 and 19 at the CPCSC Learning Center (130 Harrington Ave.) from 8 am to 3pm. Interested applicants should bring a resume to their interview.



Top: Officer Jeff Spicer helps a student tie his tie before career day. "If I can get one student a year to say 'I changed my mind about cops,' then it's been a pretty successful year," Spicer said.

Above: SRO Leslie Malerich is also an assistant coach for the CPHS girls softball team. In the summer, she continues working with Crown Point PD and Project L.O.V.E., which provides help for parents or caregivers who are traveling without proper use or installation of a child safety seat.



beyond the badge

The addition of SROs (school resource officers) in recent years to schools across the country sometimes comes with questions from parents and community members. "There's a misconception that we're here to just arrest students or that we're waiting around for an intruder every day," SRO Leslie Malerich said. "The bigger picture is about being proactive. Our job is about being here for the community, which includes our schools."

In Crown Point Community School Corporation, the district's SROs are officers with the Crown Point Police Department who are stationed inside the schools. Through this partnership, officers have the opportunity to develop strong relationships with students and parents. "Sometimes a parent will ask if they can speak to a real officer because they aren't aware that we're part of Crown Point PD," Malerich said with a laugh. "But I think people need to know

that we aren't here to get kids in trouble, it's just the opposite. I interact with a lot of students to help them understand that they have choices, and we talk through the choices. Hopefully, they choose whatever gives them the opportunity to live a good life."

At the middle school level, Col. Wheeler Middle School SRO Jeff Spicer ensures students understand his role from day one. "I start each school year by going class to class and introducing myself to the sixth grade students. Some students have negative views of police officers or feel some tension because there is an officer in their school, so we want to make sure kids know that we're here to help. They can come talk to us. Throughout the year, students learn that we're approachable. They start to open up and become proactive about reporting concerns or seeking out help."

While both Malerich and Spicer said there is no "typical" day for an SRO, they usually start

with greeting students and completing safety checks throughout the building. With the many construction projects throughout the district, SROs make sure evacuation and safety plans are always up to date and collaborate with school officials on drills and trainings for staff. As a liaison with the Crown Point Police Department, they walk new officers through the buildings so they understand the layout should an emergency arise. SROs also review police reports each day so they know about the issues impacting the community and potentially some students. Throughout the day, they monitor safety cameras as needed.

Officer Spicer says being an SRO wasn't something he pictured himself doing. "If you asked me 10 years ago about the job, I probably would have laughed. I didn't know what to expect. Now, I have no regrets. It's one of the most rewarding jobs I've had in my career."

2023-2024 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

RETURNING STUDENTS

Online registration for returning students will open at 9 a.m. on the following days based on the beginning letter of the registering parent's last name. Registration will be completed via PowerSchool, a new student information system that replaces RDS. More information will be on the district's website at www.cps.k12.in.us/register.

- Tuesday, July 25: A – G only
- Wednesday, July 26: H – P (along with A-G)
- Thursday, July 27: Q – Z (along with A-P)

Online registration is for all RETURNING students including kindergarten & preschool students who pre-registered in the spring of 2023. New students or students who were withdrawn during the school year must follow new student procedures below. Students who changed schools as part of the redistricting process are NOT considered new students.

If you are moving over the summer, you must update your address before August 10. This can be done by visiting your child's school and providing proof of address. If you submit a change of address after August 10, transportation will be available starting August 22.

NEW STUDENTS

New elementary and middle school students can pre-register by contacting their school. New middle school students will receive a call to set a scheduling appointment. New elementary students will receive an email with instructions to finalize your registration.

Crown Point High School: High school students new to the district may register at Crown Point High School throughout the summer on Mondays. An appointment is required. Call 219-663-4885, ext. 11028.

New students who pre-register after Thursday, August 10, 2023, will not receive transportation services until August 22, 2023.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The regular business meetings of the CPCSC Board of School Trustees are held the fourth Monday of the month at 6 p.m. Meetings are at the Administrative Service Center at 200 E. North Street. The public is invited to attend in person or watch the livestream on CPCSC's YouTube channel. Board meeting agendas and policies are available on the CPCSC website at www.cps.k12.in.us/board.

CPCSC Board of School Trustees: Scott Angel, President; Brian Smith, Vice President; Scott Babjak, Secretary; Danielle Bazin; and Tim Vassar.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus routes will be posted the afternoon of Monday, August 14. **You must complete registration or address changes before August 10 to have transportation on the first day of school.** Students who pre-register or make a change of address after August 10 will have transportation starting August 22. A practice bus ride for kindergarteners will be held on August 15. More information is available at www.cps.k12.in.us/transportation.

FOOD SERVICES

If your child purchases breakfast or lunch, you will need to put money in their account via My MealTime. **Applications for free and reduced lunch are available on the food service department website.** Find more info at www.cps.k12.in.us/food.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Middle & high school students will receive supply lists from their teachers the first week of school. Supplies vary based on each course. Please come to school with the basics the first week (pencil/pen, paper, folders).

Most supplies for elementary students are paid for by the district. Students will also need a backpack (no wheels), pencil case, headphones or earbuds, and a reusable water bottle. A Chromebook case cover is strongly recommended. Chromebook dimensions are 12 x 9 inches.

CHILD FIND

Child Find is a program to identify, locate and evaluate all children who are suspected of having a disability. Any individual (parent, teacher, principal) who suspects a student may have a disability and could benefit from special education services should initiate a referral by contacting the the building principal to share specific student concerns.

CHILD CARE

CPCSC offers a before/after school child care program (also called Latch Key Care) at each elementary before school from 6-9 a.m. and after school from 3:45-6:30 p.m. On scheduled e-Learning days, child care will be available from 6 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. at Solon Robinson and Jerry Ross Elementary Schools.

Child care fees are \$7 before school each day and \$7 after school each day. On e-Learning days the fee is \$7 for up to 4 hours, \$14 between 4 and 8 hours, and \$21 for more than 8 hours. There is an annual \$10 non-refundable sign-up fee. To register for child care and to find more information about the program, visit the CPCSC website at www.cps.k12.in.us/childcare.



CROWN POINT COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

200 East North Street, Crown Point, IN 46307

save the DATE

Please check your school's website and back-to-school newsletters for more information about each item below.

- **July 25-27** - Registration window opens depending on last name (see p. 18)
- **Thursday, August 10** - 6th grade Bulldog Rush; Middle school parent meetings
- **Friday, August 11** - 7th/8th grade Bulldog Rush; CPHS freshmen Bulldog Rush
- **Monday, August 14** - Open Houses at MacArthur, Lake Street, and Timothy Ball
- **Tuesday, August 15** - Open Houses at Eisenhower, Jerry Ross, Solon Robinson, Winfield
- **Wednesday, August 16** - First day of school!
- **Thursday, August 17** - Open Houses at Taft and Col. Wheeler Middle School
- **Wednesday, August 30** - CPHS Open House

On the cover: CPHS senior Elisha Lane helps with the sound and camera equipment during a program in the auditorium as part of the Radio & TV II course.

we are CP is published by Crown Point Community School Corporation and mailed to residents in Crown Point, Winfield, and Cedar Lake.

Find us on social media and online
at www.cps.k12.in.us

