

# Crawfordsville Community School Corporation The Athenian Oracle

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### Crawfordsville High School ranked among 2023-24 Best High Schools

Crawfordsville High School has recently been awarded and announced as one of the 2023-24 Best High Schools for high National and metro-area rankings, according to U.S. News and World Report.

This national ranking puts CHS in the top 40% from approximately 18,000 public schools across the nation. The rankings are created based on data including college readiness, breadth of college curriculum, assessment proficiency, assessment performance, and graduation rate.

Principal Jay Strickland said, "It is an honor for CHS to be recognized by U.S. News and World Report for earning high National and metro-area rankings in the 2023-24 Best High Schools. This honor is a reflection of our dedicated,

passionate and caring staff at CHS and the variety of learning opportunities they provide our students. Our students are motivated to learn and take full advantage of these opportunities

which prepare them for success in many different areas after graduation. I could not be more proud of our CHS team and our students. I am excited to see our school continue to grow, improve and strive for excellence."

In addition to high national rankings, Crawfordsville High

School ranks 121st in the state of Indiana and #1 in the

Crawfordsville Metro Area High Schools. CHS provides Advanced Placement opportunities and

has a 32% participation rate in AP. Most notably is the amount of AP classes offered to our students for the size of our school. Few schools our size offer multiple courses, but CHS offers 14 AP courses.

CCSC Superintendent Dr. Rex Ryker was pleased with the acknowledgement stating, "I am proud of this recognition as it acknowledges the exceptional opportunities our skilled and caring teachers across the corporation provide for our talented students in our efforts to cultivate their intellect during their academic careers. We add this recognition to a proud tradition of prestigious awards. I am genuinely excited because I know our current efforts to improve in all areas will only enhance our future rankings and recognition. It's great to be an Athenian!"

#### **Eleven students receive national recognition**

ANKINGS

2023-2024

Congratulations are in order for 11 CHS students who received National Recognition from the College Board because of their high grade point averages of 3.5 or higher and outstanding performances on the PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and/ or the AP Exams. This honor can be listed to stand out on college applications. Awardees at Crawfordsville High School are listed below in the following areas, Award Key: National African American Recognition Award (NAARA); National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA);

National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA); National

- Indigenous Award (NIA)
  - Elizabeth Jeffries: NRSTA
  - Elizabeth Turner: NRSTA
- Emily Rivera: NHRA
- Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert: NRSTA
- Jaycie Myers: NRSTA
- Lilyann Bridgham: NRSTA
- Nivek Witt: NRSTA
- Patrick Corado: NHRA,

NRSTA

- Tyson Fuller: NAARA, NRSTA
  - Zari Freeze: NRSTA
  - Zion Zacarias: NHRA



#### CARA a top leader in Indiana

The Crawfordsville Adult Resource Academy (CARA) has earned the designation as an Indiana Adult Education Program of Excellence for the 2022-23 program year. This designation is given by

the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and is given to adult education programs that go above and beyond the state goals and expectations. Programs of Excellence are highlighted for exceeding in multiple areas of performance and are recognized as model programs.



Most notably, Indiana as a state leads the nation in serving adult learners and has led all states for the past five years in percentage of students achieving outcomes. Indiana is also a national lead-

er in "high school equivalencies earned, integrated education and career training, and employer partnerships."

CARA will be recognized as a Program of Excellence at the Indiana Association of Adult and Continuing Education awards ceremony on September 28.

#### **Quality Leader badges earned**

Hose and Hoover Elementaries and Crawfordsville Middle School were recently named 2023 Quality Leaders in the Indiana Afterschool Network for their dedication, leadership, and support to students in their Afterschool programs. The badge represents the committed time, talents, and resources that are put together to create topnotch programming, safety, caring staff, and assessment.

To receive these awards, CCSC staff members work with Indiana Afterschool Network to establish standards for the programs and perform a thorough evaluation and questionnaire process of the strengths and weaknesses of each site. The evaluation provides an honest look at ways to improve the program at each school. This process and submission of reports demonstrates the efforts to meet the program standards and why all the programs received the Quality Badge.



#### **Veatch named Emerald Educator**



Congratulations to CHS teacher Jenny Veatch (third from left) who was selected as a 2023 Chamber of Commerce Emerald Educator last week at the Chamber of Commerce annual awards banquet at Stone Creek Lodge. The Emerald Educator award recognizes the outstanding innovation, adaptability, and organization shown by K-12 educators. Jenny continues to be a highly effective educator and great leader in the CHS building. She is a great representative for The Athenian Way!







#### Chaney's class visits local museum

Mrs. Chaney and her Hose Elementary first grade class had a great experience at the Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County.

Students were able to explore The Amazing Castle exhibit which allowed them to explore the seven citizens of the castle community. Citizens included the blacksmith, the cook, sewing, entertainer, and more. Each area had hands-on fun to pretend, dress up, and learn together.

#### CHS starts new staff tradition

With the 2023-24 school year off to a great start, Crawfordsville High School has started a new tradition among its staff members of passing "The Athenian Torch." The torch represents a staff member who has made a difference, helped out a student or co-worker, or deserves some recognition or praise. After the torch is presented to a staff member, he or she displays the torch proudly for two weeks before choosing the next staff member to pass the torch on to.

To kick off the year, Principal Jay Strickland presented "The Athenian Torch" to Renae Bronnenberg, who handles the



CHS Principal Jay Strickland started the tradition of The Athenian Torch by acknowledging Renae Bronnenberg for handling the main office with professionalism, positivity, and enthusiasm. After two weeks, Bronnenberg passed the torch to Kris Ervin for her support and flexibility.

main office duties with professionalism, pride, and enthusiasm. Strickland said, "Renae is the definition of GRIT and toughness and handles adversity calmly and effectively. We can always count on her positive attitude and smile. She is a true asset to CHS and welcomes everyone to CHS!

Bronnenberg has had the opportunity to choose the next honorary staff member to represent and display the torch. She selected Kris Ervin for her flexibility and support. Bronnenberg said,

"I appreciate that no matter

how many times a day I call her (it's a lot) she's always happy to help. She supports not only us in the office, but the entire school. So many kids come through her office everyday for advice or with questions and she's always there! Thank you so much Kris!!"

#### CMS A-Team raises \$2,522.50 for comfort carts

In 2018, the Crawfordsville Middle School service-learning club ATEAM members developed an idea to help patients at Franciscan Health Crawfordsville and their families feel more at home with a cart loaded with toiletries and comfort items. The goal was to offer the bare necessities for those people or children who come in with a loved one and don't have time to pick up those items to allow them to feel human in a time of stress.

Each August, a coin collection competition is held to restock the cart. While the event started out slowly, the rivalries have increased, and the total amounts collected have skyrocketed. This year, an astounding \$2522.50 was collected, with Mrs. Powell's and Mr. Surber's advisories tying for first place. Dr. Nunan's advisory placed third.



Mr. Surber's advisory class, left photo, and Mrs. Powell's advisory class, tied for first place in the coin collection contest.



#### Senior parking spaces showcase creativity

The Crawfordsville High School parking lot has had a flash of color the last few years at the start of school. This year about 44 students paid the small fee to let their creativity shine while also claiming their spot in the high school parking lot. The small fee covers mainteance each year to prepare for the next eager senior class's designs. Students and their families spend hours perfecting their spot with bright colors, clever sayings or quotes, creative play on last names, and fun designs. Be sure to check out their work the next time you're at a high school event!



#### Students enjoy lunch with Wabash football players

#### Photos by Wabash College

On Friday, September 8, students at Nicholson Elementary enjoyed outdoor lunch with Wabash College football players. Students were able to chat during lunch and then enjoy some football related activities.





## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

















