



# Crawfordsville Community School Corporation

## The Athenian Oracle

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation  
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## Many CCSC winners in contest

Each year the Foundations for Life essay contest, organized by the Montgomery County Leadership Academy, offers students in grades 3-12 and in Montgomery County, the opportunity to write and reflect on various quotations and provide their views on their own Foundations for Life. The contest allows students to reflect on their guiding values and challenges them to put it in essay form.

As stated in the contest instructions, "Foundations for Life is a maxim-based essay program that helps prepare students for crucial tests, improves their reasoning and writing skills, and inspires them to reflect upon, express, and commit to profound and enduring truths that will guide them in making ethical and effective choices throughout life."

The Montgomery County Leadership Academy board then selects winners in each category of elementary, middle school, and high school and are awarded cash prizes. Crawfordsville Community School Corporation had a great representation with several winners.

At the high school level, CHS sophomore Maesa Horton won 3rd place while CHS senior Aleyah Jones won 1st place.

Their English teacher, Ms. Race attests, "These two young women are both reflective, earnest, and industrious. They show remarkable character in our school community. It is fitting they would be recognized for this honor, and I'm proud of them both."

Horton wrote her essay on the Charles Buxton quote, "You will never find time for anything. You must make it." Horton wrote about the challenge and importance of responsibility in time management and establishing good habits.

Jones wrote on a Benjamin Franklin, "Dost thou love? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of." She wrote about spending valuable time with loved ones.

In the elementary division, Wyatt



Top photo left to right, Aleyah Jones, Maesa Horton, and Ms. Race. Bottom photo, left to right, Monte Brumett, Aria Seward, and Wyatt Perry.

Perry, a 4th grade student at Hoover, won first place focusing on the quote, "It's not enough to know how to ride - one must also know how to fall." He described getting frustrated with learning new skills like riding a bike and playing basketball and sometimes wanting to give up. However, continuing through the struggles, he could and did improve those skills.

Aria Seward, also a 4th grader, won 2nd place with her essay on the quote, "Two wrongs don't make a right." She described how she used this advice to better get along with others.

The third place winner was fifth grader, Monte Brumett, who also wrote his essay on, "Two wrongs don't make a right." He explained how someone might want to retaliate after someone has done something wrong, but he explained that won't solve the issue. He advises seeking adult involvement to talk through it with their help.

## Statehouse honors MC United Band

The Montgomery County United Marching Band was recently honored at the Statehouse for its great work over the past several years. State Senator Brian Buchanan (R-Lebanon) and Spencer Deery (R-West Lafayette) created the Senate Concurrent Resolution 26 congratulating the band and its collaboration in Montgomery County.

Buchanan said, "I am honored to represent these hardworking students and faculty who have made this marching band a great symbol of Montgomery County."

The band was created in 2017 and is made up of students, faculty, and supporters from Crawfordsville, North Montgomery, and Southmont. Last year the band participated in the AES 500 Festival Parade. Prior to that in 2021 and 2022, the MC United Winter Winds group won first place at the Indiana Percussion Association's State Finals.

In addition, Deery had great things to say about the group.

"Seeing students from across Montgomery County working together toward a common goal is a great example of one of the things I love about the county," Deery said. "The students and faculty at these schools should be proud they are represented by this band and I am happy to honor them."

Co-director Jon Tebbe said of the recent recognition, "I am extremely honored that Senate Resolution 26 authored by Senators Brian Buchanan, Spencer Deery, and sponsored by Representative Beau Baird was presented this week. Creating a successful marching arts organization takes so much work for all of us involved from the students, parent volunteers, and directors. I am so proud of what my co-directors, instructional staff, and I have accomplished in the three years that I've been in Crawfordsville, and it is amazing to see that work be recognized on the floor by our congressmen. I encourage these congressmen to use our organization and the many amazing educational organizations in their districts as motivation when they are faced with tough, life changing, decisions on the floor each and every day."



## Science teachers earn awards

The Hoosier Association of Science Teachers hosted their state conference presenting awards to Indiana teachers, including two of our own. Crawfordsville Middle School science teacher Shannon Hudson was awarded the Edward L. Frazier Service Award while Crawfordsville High School science teacher Jenny Veatch was

awarded the Clyde Motts Award for Outstanding High School Science Teaching. Uniquely, Tyler Hudson, a former student, CHS graduate, and son of Shannon Hudson presented the awards. Congratulations, Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Veatch. We are thankful for your great work and that you are a part of CCSC!



## CCSC travels to National Summit

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation has partnered with Marzano Resources to become certified as a Highly Reliable School. High Reliability School (HRS) certification is an intense professional development and learning process used to provide a framework of support for staff and students. CCSC is currently focusing on certification of HRS Level 1, Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Culture. A team of principals and teachers recently attended the National HRS Summit in San Antonio where they got to hear from some of the top speakers and minds in education. This team will be a great resource as CCSC continues to enhance its framework for supporting staff and students in the classroom.

## Mr. Kaminski receives all-star award

Crawfordsville High School teacher Mr. Kaminski recently received an Academic All-Star Certificate of Merit in recognition of his contribution to the education of Indiana's young students.

Kaminski was nominated by CHS senior, Whitman Horton.



## Whitman Horton ends great season at state meet

Senior Whitman Horton ended a great CHS swimming career at the state meet finishing in the consolations of the 200 IM in 11th place with a time of 1:53.78 and winning the consolations in the backstroke with a time of 50.47 and taking 6th place overall. Horton's backstroke time set a new school record breaking his own previous state finals time in 2023.



## 5th straight sectional champs

The CHS boys swimming and diving team won its fifth straight IHSAA sectional title and its ninth title in the last ten years!

# ATeam helps at AWL fundraiser

The Crawfordsville Middle School ATeam Service Club partnered with the Animal Welfare League fundraiser and provided help at the Paw Print Day of Service to community members and their dogs. The community was invited to bring their dog to Runnings, formerly, R.P. Home and Harvest, to make an air-dried clay paw print keepsake for a \$5 fee or free will donation.

Also on site were pets available for adoption and the opportunity to donate supplies to the Animal Welfare League.

Thank you to the CMS ATeam for their service at the event!



Pictured above is the CHS brass quintet who received a silver rating recently.

## Band one step away from All-Music Award

In February, CHS band had multiple students compete at the ISSMA District Solo and Ensemble contest. CHS had 27 students in total receive Gold Ratings. Two ensembles and two soloists qualified to participate in the state contest at the end of February at North Central High School. At state, the Woodwind Ensemble and Brass Quintet earned silver ratings while both soloists, Georgianna Hernandez and Ruth Garcia, received Gold Ratings.

On March 1st the CHS Swing Band traveled to Kokomo High School to participate in the ISSMA Jazz Band festival. In only their second year of participation in the contest, the ensemble

received a Gold rating from all three judges. Ethan Owens, Ian Hurt, Danny Wills, Feliz Montero, Colten Brock, and Georgianna Hernandez were also honored for outstanding improvised solos.

Both of these accomplishments have helped the band come one step closer to achieving their overall goal of receiving the prestigious All-Music Award from ISSMA. The qualifications for All-Music are Gold Ratings in Marching Band, Jazz Band, Concert Band, and having a solo and an ensemble qualify for state contest. The only remaining requirement for the CHS Band to fulfill is the Concert Band contest on April 13th.



## Hoover basketball champions

Congratulations to Mr. Mason and the Hoover Elementary 5th grade boys basketball champions! All four teams had a great season with a hard-fought championship game. The future of Crawfordsville High School basketball is bright! Way to go Hoover Tigers!



# Mrs. Hodge's class learns about our body systems

Mrs. Hodge's third grade class has been learning all about the human body and the various systems.

Recently they learned about the lungs, how they work and they had a chance to test their lung capacities. Students tested their lung capacities in a variety of situations from standing, sitting, lying flat on their back, after singing the ABC's three times, and after 50 jumping jacks. With a partner they measured circumference and diameter of balloons to measure their capacity. They also made a set of lungs with paper bags and straws drawing the features of the lungs.

The class also studied the digestive system and each component. Each student drew the system on an apron to visually see it.



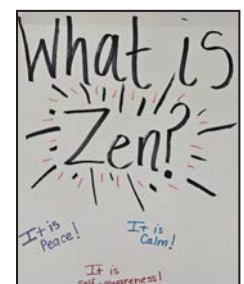
# Nicholson shares sock cupcakes with The Lane House residents

During Kindness Week at Nicholson Elementary, the students completed a project focused on others. For their service project to celebrate being kind, Discovery Club students made sock cupcakes for each resident of The Lane House nursing home.



# Ferguson's class practices Zen

The week before iRead testing, students in Mrs. Ferguson's class practiced finding their Zen to relax and find their "calm" ahead of their testing week.





## CHS National Honor Society supports charity

Members of National Honor Society at CHS recently had a fundraiser to support a local charity. Students sold ice cream sundaes and raised money for Pam's Promise, a local women's shelter.

Earlier this fall, students collected donations during Homecoming week to benefit the Carrie Saunders' family.

NHS is a prestigious honor society where students are selected by the faculty

based on scholarship, leadership, character, and service. Members of NHS participate in school and community service projects and complete volunteer work throughout the year.



## Two represent CCSC at Regional Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our representatives for the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee in West Lafayette. Hoover Elementary fourth grader, Graham Petrie made it all the way to round four of the elementary competition while Taylor Bray, a Crawfordsville Middle School student finished 5th in the middle school division.



## Families enjoy game night

Crawfordsville Elementaries held a Family Game Night at Hoover Elementary, sponsored by Title I.

Families and students enjoyed snacks and various board and card games throughout the building and games of bowling and corn hole in the gymnasium.



## Cville dance teams conclude another great season

The Crawfordsville Dance Teams have concluded another great season. Most recently at the State competition, CHS Blue Illusions won 4th place A Jazz and 5th place

A Hip Hop while the CMS Starlettes won 2nd place JHA Jazz and 3rd place JHA Hip Hop.

CHS hosted the Regional competition the week prior to state where the Blue Illusions

were Regional Champions in A Hip Hop and 2nd Place in A Jazz. The CMS Starlettes were 2nd place in JHA Hip Hop and 2nd Place in JHA Jazz.



## County & Conference Champions!

### *CMS girls swim team finish season with a bang*

The girls middle school swim team won the County Championship title and won 10 out of 12 events including all three relays. Team members include Jade Brattain, Mabel Hoar, Mila Blackwell, Quinn Olofson, Alaina Parker, Jo Hesler, Sarah elevage, and Marley Dewey.

The girls then capped the season with a conference championship win where every individual placed in the top 16 and scored points! The following were race champions: 200 Medley Relay - Jade Brattain, Mabel Hoar, Mila Blackwell, Quinn Olofson; 100 IM - Mabel Hoar; Diving - Alaina Parker; 50 Fly - Mila Blackwell with a new CMS Top 10 Time! 100 Free - Quinn Olofson; 200 Free Relay - Jade Brattain, Mabel Hoar, Mila Blackwell, Quinn Olofson; 100 Breaststroke - Mabel Hoar

The boys team finished in second place in the county meet. Individual event winners included Grant Schroeter, Jayken McFarland, and Steven Vo. At the conference meet, the boys' team finished 3rd. Grant Schroeter was the conference champion in the 200 Freestyle and 50 Butterfly.



## Hose has great Fine Arts Night

The evenings of March 5th and 6th, Hose Elementary students performed during Fine Arts Night for their parents and guests. Kindergarten students performed a variety of songs and movements relating to being "Very Hungry Kindergarteners" with songs about food and even doing the dishes. First grade students put on a performance of "Books with Musical Hooks" involving singing and instrument performances under the direction of music teacher Kathy Kern.



## CMS ATEAM selects teacher grant winners

The Crawfordsville Middle School ATeam has been busy recently with an important job of reviewing, discussing, and deciding upon teachers' mini grant applications. The grants are made possible from the CMS Winter Dance, which typically raises around \$1,000. Teachers have the opportunity to apply for a grant to be used towards items outside the scope of their school budget. In the past, teachers have applied for items like tables, cushions, book sets, and other extra items to support their curriculum and classroom.

Every teacher has the opportunity to fill out a Google Form to complete the grant. Following the deadline, ATEAM volunteers work together to review them. The students are taught what to look for in an ideal grant application, which includes a clear explanation of items and how they'll be used and a reasonable and matching budget. They also consider if the grant benefits as many students as possible at CMS.

Once the ATEAM selects their winners, they recommend the list to administration for the final approval and then teachers are notified and congratulated. Part of the grant requirements also include teachers to submit a final report within three months of receiving their desired items.

This year's grant winners

include Alyssa Powell, Cindy Pierce, and Molly Whitecotton. Powell's Family and Consumer Science classroom will receive items to help prevent water spills on the counters and floors of the classroom ultimately preventing accidents. The kitchen stations will receive draining wash basins eliminating the need to move, carry, and dump the wash basins. The kitchen stations will also receive silicone drying mats replacing oversized drying racks which are too large for the current counters and sinks. The mats are absorbent, heat resistant, easy to clean, and take less storage space.

Cindy Pierce, Language Arts Interventionist will receive a small table for a brain break station for puzzles and other activities. It will service a wide range of students in lab, power hour, and advisory.

Molly Whitecotton, ELL teacher, will be using her grant for welcome bags for new ENL students. The bags will have a new shirt, pencils, pens, folders, notebooks, a water bottle, and various items helpful to new students, which has been 20 new ENL students this year. Whitecotton plans to have ATEAM write notes to be included in the middle school student bags and the National Honor Society will include notes to the CHS students.



## Leadership and Literacy grant brings students together

Mrs. Gilland's kindergarten class at Hose Elementary has partnered with the CHS boys golf team for literacy games with kids. Montgomery County Educational Foundation helps fund this program with a grant called Leadership and Literacy. Once every two weeks during the season, the team visits to work with their kindergarten buddies. "My goal was to have someone for the kids to look up to," Gilland said. "We want them to know literacy is important and motivate them to do better."



## Hose celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday

During the week of March 4th, Hose Elementary students celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss with spirit days such as wearing stripes or hats or having a Wacky Wednesday. Classrooms read a lot of Dr. Seuss books and worked on skills like rhyming.



# Congrats to Athenian Way winners!

**Manuel Olvera Castellanos**  
(Nominated by Amy Carington-CMS)

In the past couple of months, we have seen a rise in the number of refugee families enrolling in the CCSC school district. In many cases, these families arrive in Crawfordsville weary, tired, and, more often than not, traumatized from the arduous journey they encountered and from the conditions they were escaping when leaving their home country to begin with. We want these families to know they have arrived at a generous and loving school community that cares for each other. Manuel Olvera Castellanos absolutely embodies this sentiment.

When our most recent refugee family arrived in Crawfordsville from Venezuela and enrolled a high school-aged student, we did not have to think twice about who we would like to greet this new student and show him the ropes. Manuel was an obvious choice. He is a star both on the soccer field and in the classroom. He has also never forgotten what it was like to be the “new kid” in a new country and tasked with learning a new language, culture, and a typical academic load--all at the same time. Manuel greeted our new student the moment he arrived at CHS for the first time, showed him around, introduced him to key staff members, and introduced him to other Spanish-speaking students. As sweet and kind as all that was, Manuel took it one step further. Although he is able to leave for the day after 5th period, he stayed until the end of the day the first two days the new student was at CHS and sat in class with him the last



two periods of the day just to help him feel more comfortable. When staff told him that that was above and beyond what he had to do, his only response was, “I just couldn’t leave him.”

Actions like this not only demonstrate to our newest members of our school community what the Athenian Way really is, but it also sends a strong message to all that our community is enriched by every new family we welcome to our community as they start their lives over again. Way to go, Manuel!

**Manuel Olvera Castellanos**  
(Nominated by Kris Ervin)

Manuel volunteered his time for several days to befriend and assist a new Spanish-speaking student. He gave the student a tour of CHS, introduced him to teachers, and explained several important aspects of CHS. I appreciate Manuel stepping up to make the student feel welcome. Both students made a new friend in the process!

**Emily Powell** (Nominated by Alfredo Villalpando):

On Tuesday January 9th, Ms. Emily Powell, located a student sitting on the stairwell crying during 4th period. Ms. Powell took it upon herself to get involved and help the student. She showed kindness to the new student and took him into the lunchroom where she found a friend who could communicate with him. Ms. Powell and her

friends were able to get the student situated and help him get through his first day at CHS. For her kindness, respect, and compassion I nominate Ms. Emily Powell to receive “The Athenian Way” award.

**Sergio Manzanares Garcia**  
(Nominated by Ryan Hall):

Sergio is a pleasure to have in class! He is always willing to help his classmates out. No matter what I ask Sergio to do, he is willing to give it a try. He will help his classmates to classes, he will help guide them in the classroom, and he overall cares for them.

**Addison Steward** (Nominated Shelley Clouser):

Addison Steward exhibits all of the Athenian Way, every day. She is always respectful to her teachers, coaches, classmates, parents, and everyone she comes in contact with. She shows kindness to everyone, every day of the week, and is always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need- with an ever-present smile on her face. I can always count on Addison to be engaged in the classroom; her hard work is never ending. She LOVES to run and always displays grit during Cross Country and Track at CHS. Even after suffering a knee injury she continued to push herself daily. Addison puts forth her best effort in everything she does 365 days a year, seven days a week. She is a model Athenian

Way student!

**Jude Hurt** (Nominated by Craig Carrell)

Jude, is a tremendous student in the classroom. He displays what the “Athenian Way” is everyday. He takes great pride in his work, and is really respectable toward teachers and classmates. Jude is involved in basketball, track, champions club, and frisbee golf. Jude displays “The Athenian Way.”

**Kaya Money** (Nominated by Craig Carrell)

Kaya shows true GRIT in Algebra 1. She earned a 97% score for the semester. She always helps students with their homework questions. Kaya is very respectful and kind. Kaya is a member of the tennis team. Kaya shows each day what “The Athenian Way” is!

**Kaden Patton** (Nominated by Gary Linn)

Kaden is one of the most respectful and kind individuals I’ve ever had the pleasure of teaching. I had him as a student in my AP US History class last year, but he continues to stop by every day to say hello to me. He is definitely involved as a three-sport athlete, while maintaining a good GPA. He is exactly the type of individual we want representing our school, whether it be now or in the future.

**Betty Stonebraker** (Nominated by Lucy Becker)

Betty has truly impressed me

throughout this last semester. She came into Specialized PE not knowing what to expect and has grown so much in such a short time. She is kind and respectful to classmates in the weight room and has shown how hard of a worker she is. I appreciate her willingness to try something new and has taken the steps to deepening her knowledge of weight training! Betty has shown that she can hang with the big dogs in the class and continues to amaze me and classmates! Thank you Betty for being willing to go outside your comfort zone! Betty also made a huge statement by making it into the Top 10 of the Athenian Power Club by the end of her first semester! Way to go Betty!

**Zoe Abbott (Nominated by Jennie Swick)**

Zoe lives "The Athenian Way" every day. Zoe is dedicated to her academics and activities. Zoe is a member of C-Ville Singers and Dynamic Expression and the musical. She has become a vocal leader this year in both groups and is always will to take on any challenge I place in front of her! She is kind to her peers and she often gets us all laughing at some point during the class period. She take great pride in growing her skills to become a better musician and student. She is an essential member to our choir and I am proud of the Athenian she has become and will continue to be.

**Armando Munoz Gutierrez (Nominated by Peyton Suiter):**

Armando has been a model student here at CHS in more ways than one. Armando has been a great presence in my classroom, always having a positive attitude, a great work ethic, and also helping other students in the classroom with their math. Armando has also been a part of two of the most successful sports teams this year in the boys soccer team and the wrestling team, qualifying for regionals individually as a wrestler. Armando has had a major impact on Crawfordsville as a Freshman with a



very bright future ahead of him.

**Emma Adair (Nominated by Brayden Montgomery)**

Emma has been a great example of The Athenian Way this year. She frequently goes above and beyond in the classroom, which demonstrates pride in her work. Emma is a member of the dance team, spirit club, link crew, and has a job. In addition to all of those things, she takes multiple AP courses and excels in all of them. She has also attended many wrestling meets to support her brother, despite all of the things she does! Keep up the great work Emma!

**Brenden Warren (Nominated by Jennie Swick)**

Brenden is a true Athenian. He takes pride in everything he is involved in. Whether that is academics, dance, choir, or sports, he does everything to the best of his ability and that is going to lead him to a bright future. He is respectful and kind to his peers and teachers. He is always willing to help students in need and doesn't judge anyone for their differences. He also doesn't shy away from a challenge! He works hard to be the best for himself and the groups and teams he is involved in and does it without the need for recognition.

**Nicholas Beke (Nominated by Jay Strickland)**

Nick continues to live our The Athenian Way every day at CHS through the kindness he shows his classmates and our staff. I can always count on Nick to have a smile on his face and display excitement for being at school. I am fortunate to have daily interactions with Nick and look

forward to his animal facts and jokes each day. It is one of the highlights of my day!

**Aiden Stephenson (Nominated by Lucy Becker and Kris Sims)**

Aiden is our PE assistant during 3rd period and Mr. Sims and I have had him in PE. He is an exceptional worker and demonstrates leadership on a daily basis. He stays focused, disciplined, and leads by being a positive example. He is respectful to classmates and staff members. Aiden is very mature for his age and it shows in his work ethic. I have appreciated getting to know Aiden and I can confidently say he demonstrates The Athenian Way every day he steps into CHS! Thank you Aiden for setting the bar high!

**Nancy Blanchard (Nominated by Jenny Sims)**

Nancy is an outstanding young woman. Her quiet leadership is displayed by leading through example. She is a dedicated member of the yearbook and golf team. Nancy is dependable and always willing to help. Her work ethic is unmatched. She takes pride in what she does and does not let obstacles deter her from achieving her dreams. In addition to her activities at CHS, she is involved in the community through her church and youth group. She comes in every day with a smile on her face and kindness in her heart and has a special way of making everyone around her feel accepted. I am so lucky to have her as my student.

**Craig Carrell (Nominated by Jenny Sims)**

Craig is an amazing member of our staff whose dedication to the students, staff and families of the Athenian community does not go unnoticed. He displays the pride of our community and

upholds the values with his quiet demeanor. Craig commands respect through his dedication in the classroom as a teacher, always working to motivate and support students. As a multiple sport coach, he dedicates countless hours to the children and families working not only to help them improve athletically but as young men, serving as an excellent role model. Craig's quiet demeanor makes him an excellent listener and he constantly uses that skill to improve as an educator and coach. He shows tremendous grit juggling all his work and coaching responsibilities with family time with his wife and girls. He does this all without complaint and a smile on his face. So grateful to have him as a co-worker.

**Josajany Marin Zavaleta, Jatzira Zarate-Encarnacion, Jacqueline Sanchez-Vazquez, Oyyuki Arcos Hernandez, Eduardo Cesar Hernandez, Cristian Castilla, Joselyn Cortez-Tapia (Nominated by Kris Ervin)**

These students all volunteered their time for several days to befriend and assist a new Spanish-speaking student. They each gave the student a tour of CHS, introduced them to teachers, and explained several important aspects of CHS. I appreciate the way each stepped up to make the student feel welcome. All students made a new friend in the process!

**Cimbria Bowling and Hailey Doss (Nominated by Morgan Rainwater)**

I am nominating Cimbria and Hailey for "The Athenian Way" award because I have seen these two shine in the CTE Education Professions program, in their classes, and outside of school. Their involvement in and out of school shows their pride in being an Athenian. Their dedication to their Cadet Teaching and the kindness they show to their students at Hose makes me so proud. These two deserve to be recognized for their hard work and perseverance.