



# Crawfordsville Community School Corporation The Athenian Oracle

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation  
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Above is the projected design of the new Crawfordsville Community School Corporation building, which will be located at the north end of the Crawfordsville High School athletic track. Below: Superintendent Dr. Ryker addresses the crowd. Bottom photo, left to right: Assistant Superintendent Dr. Bokhart, school board members Monte Thompson, Kathy Brown, Steve McLaughlin, Susan Albrecht, Kent Minnette, and Dr. Ryker dig their shovels in dirt at the groundbreaking ceremony.

## Ground breaking begins administration project

The new Crawfordsville Community School Corporation administrative building project is one step closer as the school board and administrative staff ceremonially broke ground Wednesday, April 10.

The new one-story brick building will be approximately 6,200 square feet providing ample space and an increase from the current outdated 3,500 square feet. The building will house offices for the superintendent and assistant superintendent, curriculum director, food service director, accounting and payroll, the corporation treasurer, and the receptionist. It will also include a lobby, large conference room, board room, and storage space.

Superintendent Rex Ryker expressed the big-picture purpose of the new administration building.

“From this site, future boards and administration will cast the vision, plan the mission, and carry out the duty of providing each student in our community with a foundation for a successful future as a responsible, productive citizen in a global society,” Ryker said.

The \$3.8 million project will be completed by Kettlehut Construction, from Lafayette. Kettlehut has completed previous work at Crawfordsville High School. The construction phase is estimated at 12 months.





# CHS Travel Program visits Europe for Spring Break

Over spring break, Crawfordsville High School kicked off its first trip with 35 students and six chaperones traveling to explore Ireland, Wales, and England.

Trip organizer and CHS science teacher, Chloe Carter, said, "This was a fantastic experience for chaperones and students alike!"

The program has prepared for the trip over the last year-and-a-half with parent meetings and partnering with EF Tours, which provides travel insurance and emergencies. Trips are open to CHS sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have upheld their behavior contract prior to travel.

The trip was documented on the [CHS Travel Program Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages with details and photos of each day's activities. Below is a summary of the day-to-day opportunities.

Day 1: The students left CHS at 7:40 am on Sunday, March 24.

Day 2: Three quarters of the students began early for a morning adventure to see Howth, a small village on the east coast of Ireland. After rejoining with the whole group, they explored Bunratty Castle learning about the castle's history, climbing to the very top, and below down to the dungeon all before exploring the folk village afterward.

Day 3: Some early-riser travelers ventured on a horse-

drawn cart ride through Killarney National Park before everyone began the day with a journey around the Ring of Kerry. The group visited a bog village, the Bay of Dingle with an authentic lunch with beautiful views. They also visited the town of Sneem before heading back to the hotel with a stop in Killarney National Park to see a beautiful waterfall.

Day 4: The group began by exploring Blarney Castle, challenging those brave enough, to climb 128 steps on the spiral staircase to kiss the Blarney Stone. Exploring the castle grounds led to discovering fairy trails and wishing stairs among the natural flora and fauna of Ireland. Following the castle, the group saw many rainbows on the way to Dublin for a traditional dinner experience. That night they stayed in the Trim Castle Hotel, which was a four-star hotel with a castle directly out their windows.

Day 5: This day was filled with activities seeing Dublin which included the morning sunrise over Trim Castle, a bus tour of Ireland's capital city seeing the Phoenix Park, Guinness Brewery, and a walking tour of St. Patrick's Cathedral learning about the building history. Following the tour, there was some free time with the group splitting up for options including the Archaeological Museum to see



bog bodies, the art gallery, and to the Custom House and Jeanie Johnston Famine Ship. When the entire group reunited, they learned about Irish emigration at the EPIC Museum followed by an Authentic Irish Dancing experience where everyone sang, danced, and laughed learning the new style. Dinner was in the Temple Bar district with amazing Irish stew.

Day 6: The day began early with a ferry ride from Ireland to Wales. The first stop was in a town with an extra long name, Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysilioogogoch. Following the stop, they explored Conwy Castle and its grounds and again a rainbow-filled ride to England. The group stopped in Chester before having dinner in Birmingham.

Day 7: The group spent time in Stratford-upon-Avon visiting Anne Hathaway's cottage and Shakespeare's birthplace. The group had a traditional meal of

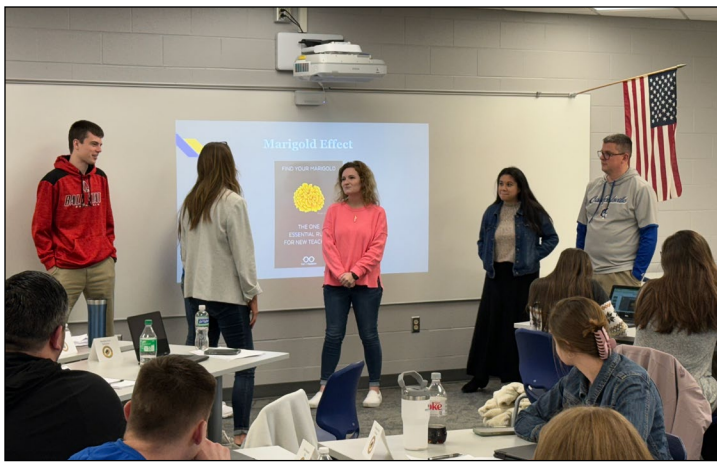


bangers and mash at Cafe Rouge.

Day 8: The last day in London was spent touring the city and the sites of Piccadilly Circus, Buckingham Palace, and seeing the changing of the guard. Following the tour, students had the option to tour Windsor Castle or try out the underground tube system to see Abbey Road and the National Gallery. The group joined together in Covent Gardens for dinner and enjoyed the evening on the south bank of the Thames. A few also rode the London Eye.

Day 9: The group traveled home and arrived at CHS at 8 pm on April 1.

Program organizer Carter said she hopes to expand the program and add club meetings throughout the year to learn about each destination, its culture, and other traveling skills. She is seeking board approval to offer trips every other year and is proposing a trip in 2026 to the Mediterranean Coast with stops in Italy, France, and Spain.



## CCSC supports staff with New Teacher Institute

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation kicked off its New Teacher Institute on March 12th with a Professional Seminar. CCSC is excited to be able to offer and support a level of professional development for its staff that promotes collaborative learning.

CCSC administrators presented about key topics such as teacher evaluations, high reliability schools framework, and breakout sessions on GRIT and Marigold Effects. CCSC teachers attending the seminar demonstrated great commitment in being the lead learner of their classroom as an outstanding example of The Athenian Way! It was a great day; full of learning and laughter.

## Volunteers needed to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week

Crawfordsville Elementary School PTO is working hard making plans for Teacher Appreciation Week, which is May 6 through May 10 for the elementary schools. This year's theme is "Fill Your Cup" and will feature various surprise items including snacks, coffee, and prizes for teachers to fill their new Crawfordsville-themed cup.

In order to best celebrate our teachers, we need additional parent volunteers to make it all run smoothly. The PTO is looking for volunteers to visit each elementary building for a short period each day to set up, prepare, and/or serve the daily surprise to our wonderful teachers. Volunteers have the option to help for any certain amount of time or on a specific day.

To volunteer or for any additional questions, please contact PTO at [ptocville@gmail.com](mailto:ptocville@gmail.com) or reach out on Facebook messenger on the [Crawfordsville Elementary PTO Facebook page](#).

The next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, April 30 at 5:00 pm at the Nicholson Elementary library. Parents and volunteers are welcome to attend.

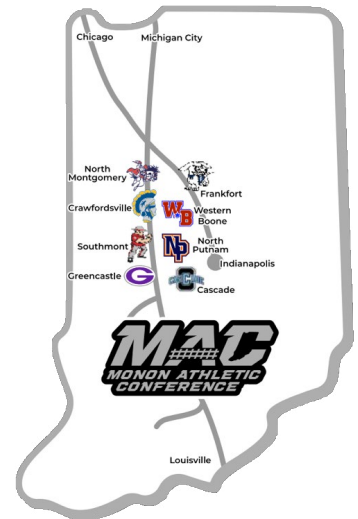
If you would like to help in some way, but are unable to volunteer, monetary donations can be made at the [Autobook link](#) and will help provide items and supplies for teacher appreciation items. In addition, an [Amazon Wish List](#) has been set up to purchase specific items for Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you for considering!



## The new Monon Athletic Conference set for 25-26

After plans to depart from the Sagamore Athletic Conference, Crawfordsville along with the seven other schools, will now be a part of the Monon Athletic Conference. The name and logo were released at the end of February stating the name was chosen as a symbol of history and connection. Each of the eight founding schools are located directly along or within the old Monon Railroad corridor that connected Chicago to Indianapolis to Louisville. Competition among the schools will begin in the 2025-26 school year.

In addition to Crawfordsville, schools include Cascade High School, Frankfort High School, Greencastle High School, North Montgomery High School, North Putnam High School, Southmont High School, and Western Boone Sr. High School.



School and Western Boone Jr.-Sr. High School.

The remaining Sagamore Conference members include Danville, Lebanon, and Tri-West Hendricks. Joining them will be Lafayette schools, Harrison and McCutcheon



## Hoosier Heartland winner donates to CHS band

In March, the Crawfordsville bands were given a \$1,000 donation from Hoosier Heartland State Bank as part of their Shared Values banquet. HHSB employee and band parent Jill Pettit was selected as one of the finalists for the HHSB award. In recognition of her hundreds of hours of service, she was able to choose a heart-string charity to receive this donation in her honor. In attendance at the event were, left to right, Band Booster President Ryan Brant, Band Director Jonathon Tebbe, HHSB Award Recipient Jill Pettit, and Student Leaders Ruth Garcia and Olivia Pettit.



## Color Guard back to state in second season

The CHS Color Guard completed their competition as back-to-back state finalists on March 9th at Franklin Central High School. In just their second season of competition, they have cemented themselves as strong competitors in their class.

At the state finals, the Athenian Color Guard placed 4th, just missing out on a podium finish, to a solid Plainfield group in the finals round.

Color guard program manager, band director Jonathon Tebbe was pleased with their results.

“I am incredibly proud of the work and dedication that these girls put in this season. Last year was a bit of a whirl-

wind being our first year and very admittedly shocked that we made state. The girls knew that this year they had to put in the work to ensure a similar result and they certainly rose to the occasion,” Tebbe said.

The color guard is coached by Thomas Hillenbrand, a legend in the color guard circuit.

“The color guard program was very fortunate to hire Tom last fall. He is a huge asset to our program,” Tebbe said.

Color Guard is open to any 7th through 12th grade student without audition. Tebbe said anyone who has a strong work ethic will find a place. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Tebbe at [jtebbe@cville.k12.in.us](mailto:jtebbe@cville.k12.in.us).



## Hoover 5th graders visit middle school

Hoover Elementary 5th grade students had a chance to experience Crawfordville Middle School as they look ahead to next year.

Various staff and the CMS student council spoke to students about middle school and Hoover students also had the opportunity to listen to CHS marching band and choirs.

## Read-a-Thon raises \$7,034

Crawfordville Elementary School students and families participated in a Read-A-Thon where students collected sponsors and kept track of their reading minutes. Students who met certain milestones in fundraising and/or reading were eligible for prizes provided by the Crawfordville Elementary PTO. “Community support is so important through fundraisers like the Read-A-Thon,” said PTO treasurer Nikki Keller. “It provides opportunities to support and celebrate the students and staff.”

Students raised \$7,034.40 which will be used to fund climate and culture activities for the students and staff at all three schools. Thank you to the students who participated and the parents and community members who made this a successful event. Keep reading Athenians!



Prizes were handed out at each elementary school for the Read-a-thon. Pictured above are Hose Elementary students.

# Thomas Bowling is overall essay winner

The National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution and the Dorothy Q Chapter honored its annual three high school students from Montgomery County's high schools including CHS winner, senior Thomas Bowling. Bowling was also the overall essay winner so his work will move on to the state level.

Each year since 1936 schools name its good citizens to participate in a 500-word essay contest on the topic, "Our American Heritage and Our Responsibility for Preserving It" with a focus of, "What are the civic responsibilities of a

good citizen and why are these duties, activities and behaviors important to the shaping of the America you hope to experience?"

Bowling and the other two winners receive a monetary gift, a DAR Good Citizen lapel pin, and certificate and wallet recognition card.

The scholarship contest is to encourage and reward high school seniors that possess the qualities of good citizenship. This award recognizes these students who demonstrate outstanding qualities in their homes, schools and communities by; Dependability (truth-



fulness, loyalty, and punctuality) Service (cooperation, courtesy, and consideration of others) Leadership (personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility) & Patriotism (unselfish interest in

family, school, community and Nation).

The North Montgomery High School winner is Brent Runyan and Southmont High School's winner is Jessica Bradley.



## State Rep. Baird attends callout

State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) (far left) joins Montgomery County United Marching Band and Guard directors after presenting them with Senate Concurrent Resolution 26, which he sponsored, to recognize their achievements during the organization's callout meeting Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at Crawfordsville High School. Pictured with Baird are (from left) North Montgomery MCU Director Andy Simpkins, Crawfordsville MCU Director Jon Tebbe, Southmont MCU Director Elizabeth Newnum and U.S. Rep. Jim Baird (IN-04).

Formed in 2017, the marching band and guard includes students, faculty and supporters from the Crawfordsville, North Montgomery and South Montgomery school corporations. Encompassing a marching band, indoor percussion, symphonic band and winter guard ensemble, they represent their communities at civic events and competitive festivals.

Among their achievements are the Montgomery County United Winter Winds ensemble winning the Indiana Percussion Association's state finals in 2021 and 2022, and being selected as one of nine marching bands nationwide to perform at the AES 500 Festival Parade in 2023.



## Crawfordsville Middle School band receives Gold rating

On March 16th the Crawfordsville Middle School Advanced Band, directed by Mr. Tebbe, traveled to Clinton Prairie for the Indiana State School Music Association Junior/Middle/Elementary School state band contest. The CMS Band received a Gold rating for their performance!

Mr. Tebbe said, "I am super proud of the work that the students have put into their performance this year. They have risen to the next level and want to be good and that attitude and mindset have paid off!"

# “Footloose: The Musical” receives rave reviews

Crawfordsville High School performed the well-known classic, “Footloose: The Musical” and was directed and choreographed by Lisa Warren and vocally directed by Jennie Swick.

This wasn’t the first time that CHS performed Footloose as it was done in 2012 and also co-directed and choreographed by Warren. However, new casts with different talents create a challenge to highlight new student strengths to ensure a top-notch performance.

Warren emphasized that “Footloose” is more than a dance musical with a storyline about healing and resilience.

Senior Thomas Bowling, who played Reverend Shaw, said “adds “My favorite part of being in this production is the empowering message that it holds. Obviously, at face value, it’s a show about dancing being illegal, but on a deeper level, it talks about family and community and



how important those two areas are for fostering growth.”

During rehearsal, all students reflected on their characters and how they can relate personally.

Brenden Warren (Ren) talked about how his character relates to him. “My character is someone who enjoys dancing and doesn’t like staying still and not moving. Anyone who knows me will think to themselves that’s Brenden alright.

Devan Johnson (Ariel) said “My character is definitely easy for me to relate to in the sense of attitude. I definitely am not afraid to clap back at people and I am told I may be a bit sassy at times.” Cimbria Bowling (Vi) adds “Vi is welcoming and motherly to everyone around her and I’m able to connect with her because of that.” Nivek Witt talks about the challenges of becoming Chuck Cranston. “My char-

acter is different from who I am. Chuck is hyper-masculine, and abusive, which is most definitely a challenge to wrap my head around.”

CHS dedicated this performance in memory of Mike McCord, who portrayed Chuck Cranston in 2012. Mike’s enduring legacy and impact on the theater and choir programs continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him.

# Future Athenians attend Kindergarten Round-Up

Each year students who will be in kindergarten at Crawfordsville Schools the next school year are invited to a Kindergarten Round-up event at Hose Elementary School. On Friday, March 15, 2024, we welcomed the class of 2037. Parents attended a meeting with school principal Jen Hall and other staff members to learn about being a parent of a kindergarten student and some of the things their future students will learn and experience once they begin school.

The future students each paired up with a current Hose Elementary teacher to answer some questions about what they already know and visit a classroom. Many had the opportunity to play in a kindergarten classroom and some met Alexander the Athenian during their visit. All students had their picture taken and parents learned about the school registration process.

We look forward to these future Athenians!



# Hoover 5th grade displays Fine Arts talent



Mollie B. Hoover Elementary students performed their musical skills and talents in front of family, friends, and community members during the 5th grade Fine Arts Night. The program was led by music teacher, Hannah LaFever.



Freshman Josh Inskeep, left, and Gavin Frets now have their names on the all-time record board for physical education.

## New records set in CHS P.E.

Crawfordsville High School physical education students are working hard and breaking records.

Two freshman have broken the all time records in the Pacer test and the Shuttle Run.

Josh Inskeep recorded 139 laps in the Pacer Test while Gaven Frets had a 4.17 second shuttle run.

Inskeep beats Jantzen Thayer's record of 138 set in 2023. Frets beats Alex Sanchez's previous time of 4.22 set in 2023.

In addition to Pacer Test and Shuttle Run, other record-holding contests include Curl Ups, Push Ups, and the 1/2 Mile Run.

# CHS celebrates Athenians at winter sports banquet

Crawfordsville winter sport athletes and their families gathered in the CHS auditorium for the winter sports awards banquet celebrating the season's success.

Following the winter season, CHS has a commanding lead in the County Chase Cup, sponsored by the Journal Review. The Athenians lead with 38 points, South has 24 points, and North has 22 points. This is the largest lead CHS has had since the Chase was created.

Both head and assistant coaches were thanked for their time, effort and energy put into all programs. Athletic Trainer Dough Horton was also honored for the excellent care and training for all athletes. Head Coach David Pierce presented Horton with a gift on behalf of the athletic department.

The following awards were handed out:

**First Time Letter winners:**

Gymnastics- Helen Daron  
Girls Basketball- Yuli Torres, Shoniece Banks

Girls Swimming- Melanie Dowd, Samya Mason, Alayna Schroeter, Amelia Wilkinson

Boys Swimming- Konner Hartlep, Henry Hoar, Jackson Miles, Tryston Sauer

Cheerleading- Dravyn Thomas, Lily McCollum, Jaelynn

Thompson, Kourtney McKinney, Adyson Tinsley, Zoey Witherspoon, Kelsey Ramsey, Sariah Lolla-Martinez

Wrestling- Jo Jo Aguilar, Lily Coffman, Blayze Robbins, Tristan Hodges, Jackson Walter  
Boys Basketball- Samuel Sanchez Hernandez  
Conference/Sectional Championship team patches:  
Girls Swimming (Sectional)  
Boys Swimming (SAC & Sectional)

Each coach spoke about their team and results of the season. Coaches also presented **Mental Attitude Winners:**

**Swimming-** Adrian Medina & Ellie Walker

**Girls Basketball-** Celeste Moore

**Cheerleading-** Jaylinn Services

**Wrestling-** Kolin Moore

**Boys Basketball-** Ethan McLemore

The following athletes were **First and Second Team All-Conference players.**

**Girls Swimming-** First Team: Ellie Walker, Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, Sophia Melevage, Maesa Horton, Marie Hesler. Second team: Katherine Novak

**Boys Swimming -** First Team: Whitman Horton, Ryan



Miller, Campbell Mason, Adrian Medina, Daniel Surface. Second Team: Shawn Ewoldt.

**Wrestling -** First Team: Taiga Koyanagi, Braeden Hites, Ashton Wilson. Second Team: Armando Munoz, Landon Vaught

**Boys Basketball -** First Team: Ethan McLemore. Second Team: Tyson Fuller, Alec

Saidian. Academic All-State and Honorable Mentions were not complete yet for swimming or wrestling, however, for boys basketball Tyson Fuller was named Honorable Mention IBCA Academic All-State. Following the large group banquet each team met separately for their own celebration.

# Hendrick Regional Health physicals offered in spring

In an effort to help prepare for the 2024-2025 school year, Hendricks Regional Health has set up physical days to provide high-quality, low-cost pre-participation physical exams.

**Who**

2024-2025 middle school and high school students from Hendricks Regional Health-partnering schools needing a pre-participation physical.

**When/Where**

Sunday, April 21 at HRH YMCA Avon – 301 Satori

Parkway, Avon {Enter Door 15 on East side of the building}

Sunday, April 28 at DePauw University (Indoor Tennis and Track) – 100 W Hanna St, Greencastle {Enter off of W. Hill Street}

Sunday, April 28 at Wabash College Knowling Field House {Enter off Jennison Street Parking Lot}

Sunday, May 5 at Hendricks



Regional Health Danville Hospital – 1000 E. Main Street, Danville {Enter through East

Entrance} **Cost** \$25.00 A portion of the fee goes back to the schools.

**What to Bring** Physical Form — Completed printed paper copy of the [IHSAA Pre-Participation](#)

[History Form \(Spanish version\)](#)

Glasses/Contacts for vision testing (if necessary)

**Questions/Information**

No walk-ups will be permitted.

The complete physical exam will take approximately one hour.

The locations are only for use of the space and will not be able to answer any questions.

Link for scheduling the appointment.

<https://2024hrhphysicals.my-trs.com/>