CRAWFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
FOR LITERACIES AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Cultivate Change.
Lead with Impact.
Achieve Excellence.

Making Our Mark

Creating a Better Future Starts Here

At Crawford Middle School Leadership Academy for Literacies and Civic Engagement we develop thoughtful citizens who take ownership of their learning and actively contribute to a better world.

Student leadership is at the core of Crawford. Students can serve on school action teams, engage in student-led service-learning projects within the community, and showcase their mastery of learning to staff, families, and community partners. At Crawford, we provide students with grade-appropriate assignments, strong instruction, deep engagement, and hold ALL students to high expectations.

Through real-world application, we empower students to emerge as compassionate, adaptable leaders equipped to excel in an ever-changing world.

Our Vision

At Crawford, students become compassionate, adaptable leaders who possess the skills and knowledge to actively engage in their communities, solve complex problems, and inspire meaningful change for a better future.

Our Mission

At Crawford, students are empowered to cultivate meaningful change as informed, thoughtful citizens, lead with impact through purposeful action, and achieve excellence by taking ownership of their learning.

Cultivate Change.
Lead with Impact.
Achieve Excellence.

Core Values

Student Leadership & Voice

We believe every student is a leader empowered to make a positive impact. Through opportunities such as student-designed initiatives, civic discourse, and collaborative projects, we cultivate the skills, confidence, and critical competencies needed to thrive in today's world. Leadership at Crawford is about recognizing your strengths, making a difference, and empowering others to create meaningful change.

Deeper Learning

We foster deeper learning through our innovative curriculum that aligns PBL and mastery learning with Kentucky Academic Standards. Students not only master the standards, but also learn to apply their knowledge to new and novel situations, gaining a deeper understanding of the content. By connecting rigorous academic concepts to real-world applications, students develop critical literacies, leadership skills, and the ability to solve complex challenges, preparing them for success in an ever-changing world.

Access to Opportunities

We are dedicated to creating a school environment where every student has the access, opportunities, resources, and support they need to succeed. We celebrate diversity, focus on community building, and create a space where all voices are valued, respected, and empowered.

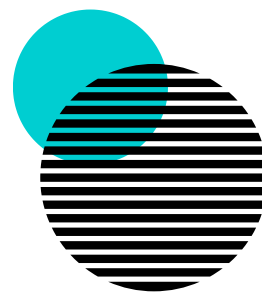## **Staff Empowerment & Voice**

We are committed to fostering a culture of professional growth, collaboration, and innovation for our staff. Through learning cohorts, professional learning communities, and deep study workshops, we provide ongoing opportunities for development and leadership. These initiatives ensure educators are equipped with the tools, strategies, and support needed to inspire and empower students, creating a dynamic and impactful learning environment. By inspiring excellence and fostering community, we celebrate achievements, cultivate a positive culture, and strengthen the bonds that make our school a thriving place for both educators and students.

Civic & Community Engagement

We cultivate meaningful civic and community engagement through a curriculum designed to foster critical thinking, knowledge transfer, and active participation in society. By collaborating with families, local organizations, and community leaders, we build enriching connections that enhance the educational experience and prepare students to thrive as engaged citizens.

Through service-learning and community-based activities, students develop a deep sense of responsibility to both their local and global communities. We also engage stakeholders with events, tours, and open dialogues, ensuring every voice helps shape our school's vision and success.

Student
Leadership & Voice

- **Beta Club**: Promotes academic achievement, character development, and leadership through service projects and activities.

- **Student Lighthouse Team**: A leadership group that amplifies student voice, strengthens school culture, and organizes events and initiatives.

- **Civics Bee**: A competition where students demonstrate their knowledge of civic processes while engaging in meaningful discussions about community issues.

- **Student Action Teams**: Groups where students identify and implement projects that address real-world challenges and positively impact their community.

- **STLP: The Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP)** empowers students to use technology creatively and collaboratively to solve real-world problems, showcase their skills, and develop leadership abilities.

- **KUNA**: **The Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA)** is a student-led program that immerses middle and high school students in global issues through a simulation of the United Nations, where they represent countries, debate international topics, and develop leadership skills.

- **KYA: Kentucky Youth Assembly (KYA)** is a student-led program that provides middle and high school students with hands-on experience in democracy, allowing them to engage in mock legislative sessions, debate real-world issues, and develop leadership skills.

- **Student Ambassadors**: A select group of students who serve as the welcoming committee for Crawford. They give school tours to prospective families and students, providing a firsthand look at campus life, and offer mini-orientations to help newcomers feel at home. Ambassadors play a key role in making Crawford a friendly and inviting place for all.

- **Student Government**: A student-led organization that empowers students to have a voice in shaping school policies, events, and activities. Student government members will also have the opportunity to contribute to resolving issues on campus by serving peer review board, and promoting fairness and accountability within the school.

Four Houses
One School

The House of Givers

The House of Friendship

The House of Courage

The House of Dreamers

What is the House System?

Crawford has four houses: Altruismo, Amistad, Isibindi, and Rêveur. These houses make up smaller communities within our school. Every staff member and student belongs to a house so that everyone feels a sense of belonging. Each house represents different traits, but, when we all embody each of the main characteristics, it will make us all more successful!

Scan the QR Code to learn more

Why the House Sytem?

- It builds character and school-wide community.
- It provides opportunities for students to socialize with peers outside of their classes and with positive adult role models beyond just their classroom teachers.
- It provides student leadership opportunities.
- It promotes a culture of constructive competition--students learn how to be team players and contribute their efforts toward a group.
- It fosters a culture of supporting one another and learning how to gracefully handle defeat.

How are students sorted?

Students will be sorted at random! Students should not feel "assigned" to a house, but "chosen" by one! This is a huge moment for students and they will be surrounded by other students and staff cheering them on as they are sorted into their house!

Which house will **choose** you?

Deeper Learning

Our Goal

Our goal is to develop leaders who read, write, think, and act with purpose and passion. We provide unique opportunities for deeper learning by integrating various literacies throughout our curriculum that are intentionally woven into all aspects of the learning experience.
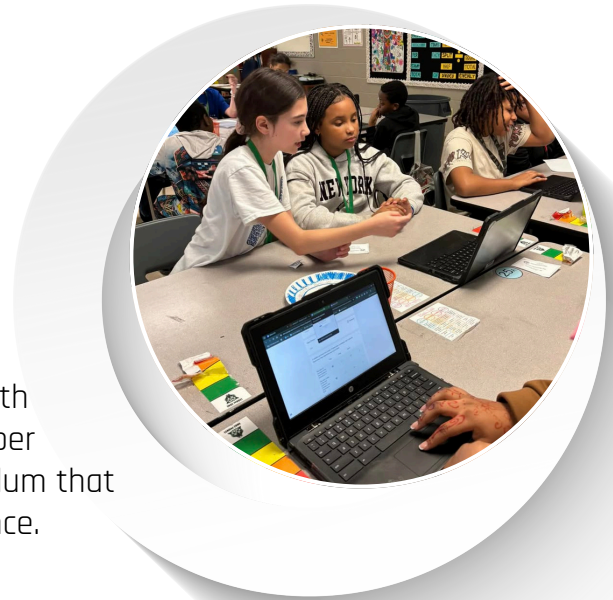
Our Approach to Learning

In addition to offering a variety of High School credits in multiple content areas, <u>Crawford is the only FCPS middle school offering students the opportunity to earn the Kentucky Civic Seal and high school credit for Civic Literacy.</u>

Our innovative curriculum aligns project-based learning (PBL) and mastery learning with Kentucky Academic Standards, enhancing critical literacies, leadership skills, and civic engagement. We are dedicated to fostering an environment where every student has access to opportunities, resources, and support for success.

Project Based Learning (PBL)

At Crawford Middle School, we are committed to providing an education that goes beyond memorization and standardized tests. Deeper Learning equips students with essential competencies such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and problem-solving—skills that prepare them for success in school, careers, and life. Through inquiry-based learning and Design Thinking, our students engage in hands-on projects that encourage creativity, innovation, and real-world problem-solving. Learning is not just about getting the right answers—it's about asking the right questions and thinking critically about solutions.

We believe in a culture of continuous improvement, where students are encouraged to take ownership of their learning, reflect on their growth, and develop resilience. Our school community plays a vital role in supporting students as they explore new ideas, challenge themselves, and prepare for the future.

Access to
Opportunities

Learning for All

We are dedicated to creating a school environment where every student has the access, opportunities, resources, and support they need to succeed. We celebrate diversity, focus on community building, and create a space where all voices are valued, respected, and empowered.

At Crawford, We Are Leaders! We...

Listen (seek first to understand)

Engage (synergize)

Advocate (think win/win)

Develop (begin with the end in mind)

Empower (be proactive)

Reflect (sharpen the saw)

Succeed (put first things first)

What You'll Love About Crawford:

Accelerated
Learning
Opportunities

- **Accelerated Math**: Tailored to meet all needs, students will build a strong foundation in mathematical concepts, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, preparing them for higher-level math courses, offering opportunities for high school-level credit in Algebra I and Geometry.

- **Accelerated Literacy and Language**: An opportunity designed to boost language proficiency through high school courses in Spanish 1, Spanish for Heritage Speakers, and Chinese 1, focusing on reading, writing, speaking, and cultural understanding. Students can also earn high school-level credit in English 1, strengthening their literacy skills in reading, composition, and analysis preparing students for success in a globalized world while deepening cultural appreciation.

- **Accelerated Pathway Offerings**: Focused on critical thinking, writing, and public speaking, our elective programs prepare students for future academic success. Students also have the opportunity to engage in high-school-level courses in digital, financial, and civic literacy. *<u>**Crawford is the ONLY FCPS Middle School to offer the opportunity for Civic Literacy**</u>.

- **Accelerated Health and Physical Education**: Designed to challenge students with a comprehensive curriculum that integrates advanced topics in health, fitness, and wellness. This opportunity emphasizes physical conditioning, nutrition, mental health, and lifelong wellness strategies, offering high school-level courses in Health and PE that build a foundation for active, healthy living.

Staff Empowerment
& Voice

- **Commitment to Professional Growth**: We are dedicated to fostering a culture of continuous learning and development for our staff. Through structured opportunities, we support educators in refining their skills and expanding their knowledge to enhance student success.

- **Collaborative Learning Communities**: We believe in the power of collaboration. Our professional learning communities (PLCs) bring educators together to share best practices, analyze student outcomes, and develop innovative teaching strategies. These communities cultivate a supportive environment where teamwork drives improvement.

- **Recognizing Excellence and Fostering Community:** We prioritize a supportive and uplifting work environment where staff feel valued and appreciated. We celebrate achievements, milestones, and contributions through recognition programs, team events, and a culture of gratitude. By fostering a positive and encouraging atmosphere, we strengthen our community, boost morale, and create a workplace where educators feel inspired to grow and thrive.

- **Impact on Student Success**: By investing in our teachers, we create a dynamic learning environment that empowers students. Our professional growth initiatives ensure that educators are equipped to inspire, innovate, and drive meaningful change in the classroom.

Civic Engagement

Transformative Learning Opportunities That Inspire Excellence

We offer an educational experience beyond the ordinary, inspiring students to achieve their fullest potential while fostering leadership, critical literacies, global awareness, and active citizenship.

Comprehensive Civics Curriculum

We provide a civic engagement curriculum uniquely tailored to our students:

- Grade 6: Who Has Shaped Our State? Kentucky's Change-makers: Past, Present, Future
- Grade 7: How Do I Raise My Voice? Communications and Multimedia
- Grade 8: How Do I Make a Change? Civic Leadership & Engagement

This curriculum focuses on exploring Kentucky's history, developing communication skills, and fostering civic leadership to inspire meaningful action.

Community
Engagement

Community Engagement Opportunities

Service Learning

Our students lead service learning projects that combine community service with meaningful learning experiences. Through these projects, students will deepen their understanding of their responsibilities as active members of their local community and broader world.

Partnership with Community Organizations

Our students actively collaborate with our local community organizations to enhance their personal learning experience. Through these partnerships, students engage in real-world projects, gain experience working in the community all while making positive connections within our community.

Project-Based Learning with Real World Application

Project-based learning offers students the chance to tackle real-world challenges and apply their knowledge in practical ways. Through hands-on projects, students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills that are directly related to everyday life. This approach prepares students to navigate and succeed in the world beyond the classroom, fostering a deeper understanding of how their learning connects to the real world.

What You'll Love About Crawford:

Cultural Exchange & Global Connections

- **Cultural Exchange**: Students explore possibilities for cultural exchange opportunities.
- **International Collaborations**: Virtual projects with classrooms around the world, bringing global perspectives into the learning environment.

Enriching Experiences Beyond the Classroom

- **8th Grade Leadership Trip**: An all expenses paid, capstone experience where students travel to explore cultural landmarks, participate in team-building activities, and reflect on their growth at Crawford. This trip is designed to celebrate their achievements and prepare them for the transition to high school, all while giving students an opportunity to build everlasting memories with their peers.

- **Community Partnership Projects**: Opportunities to collaborate with local organizations on initiatives that make a difference in our community.

Leaving
Our Mark

Crawford is more than a middle school—it's a launchpad for empowered, thoughtful, and informed leaders ready to make their mark on the world.

Schedule a visit today to see how we can inspire your student's potential.

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APPLY NOW
FOR 2025-2026

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FOR LITERACIES & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

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