



# Crawfordsville Community School Corporation

## The Athenian Oracle

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation  
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April 10, 2025

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## STATE CHAMPIONS!

### *CHS Color Guard team completes fantastic season*

The Crawfordsville High School Color Guard has had a phenomenal season finishing the regular season undefeated at 5-0. The team was ranked for state at the state preliminaries and becoming the State Champions at the state finals competition. The Athenians defeated 77 other Color Guard teams for the title.

Director Jonathon Tebbe said, "I am so proud of these girls. This proves to each one of them that they can achieve anything that they put their mind and energy into. I cannot wait to see what new heights we can continue to achieve."

The following members make up the Color Guard team: Abigail Coffey, Bristol Presley, Crystal Gonzalez, Elicea Flores, Emily Crawford, Feliz Montero, Georgianna Hernandez, Jaylynn Wilson, LiLi Yeung, Olivia Pettit, Ruth Garcia, Shayla Ingram, Tommie Truitt, and

Vanessa Pettit. Staff members include Thomas Hillenbrand, Color Guard Director, Lee Gibson, design, Joshua Fullerton, Equipment Choreo, Alexis Howard, General Technician, and Tebbe, Director/Logistics.

"This year was truly special from day one. The students wanted this really bad and their work ethic came through day after day. I am lucky to have Tom Hillenbrand at the helm of this group. He is a legend in the color guard community and in conjunction with Lee Gibson, who is also a legend in this community, they consistently put high quality on the field. Our teaching staff is top notch and the level of instruction that these girls receive is one in a million. This also could not be possible without the support and work from our parents as well, especially Jill Pettit, who leads the charge," Tebbe said.





# CCSC schools present at MCEF breakfast

The Montgomery County Educational Foundation had its annual breakfast to highlight the many great things teachers and students are doing as a result of the more than \$40,000 in grant money that it provides to enhance education in our community.

Crawfordsville Community School teachers received more than \$15,000 to support teachers at Hose, Nicholson, Hoover, CMS, and CHS students. CCSC had nine presentations of how our students are benefiting.

Several students attended the breakfast to help their teachers demonstrate and explain how some of the grants were used.

Fourth graders showed their Kiwi Company STEM kits that students built. Kits ranged from basic to advanced, with some of the advanced kits including label makers, pencil sharpeners, and similar advanced challenges.

Hose Elementary teachers Mrs. Hensley and Mrs. Rohr, along with a couple students, shared about their literacy-focused partnership with the Wabash College basketball team.

Mr. Swank presented about his students' opportunity to cre-



Fourth grade students present at the Montgomery County Educational Foundation breakfast showcasing STEM projects that were made possible through the MCEF teacher grants.



ate their own book.

Nicholson Special Education Teacher, Ms. Ponto, shared her presentation about making phonics accessible to students in special education.

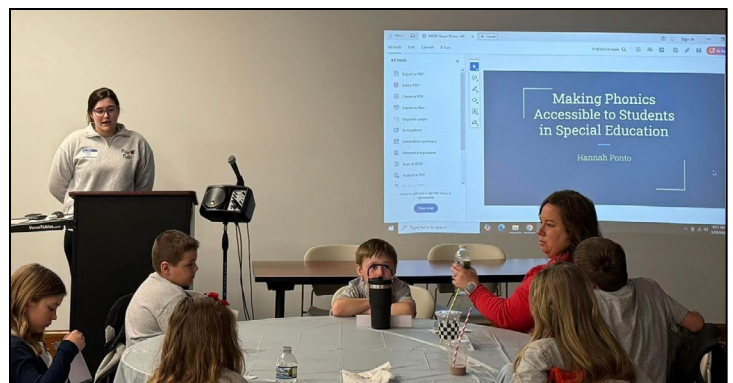
CMS teachers Mrs. French, Ms. Kyger, Mrs. Vellner, and Mrs. Whitecotton and many of their students presented the research, outcomes, and products made possible by the grants.



Mrs. Hensley and Mrs. Rohr help their students present.



CMS staff and students proudly display products made possible by the MCEF grants.



Nicholson's Ms. Ponto presents about the grant for her special education class.



# Hose reader wins trip to Disney!

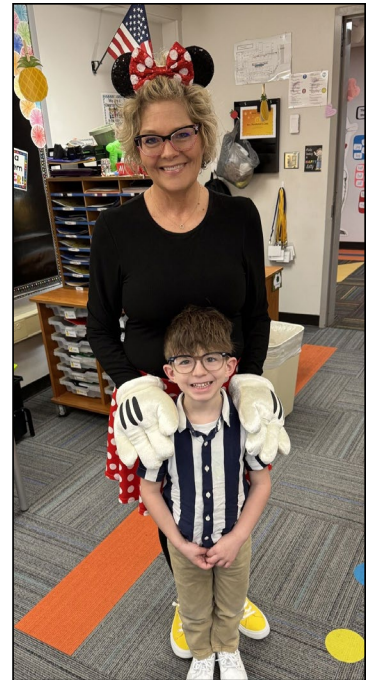
One lucky Kindergarten student at Hose Elementary, Kayson Oresik-Teeguarden, has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to go to Disney World after he won the Disney sweepstakes prize from the National Read-A-Thon fundraiser!

Hose Elementary had a special convocation on Friday before spring break when representatives from Disney came to announce the

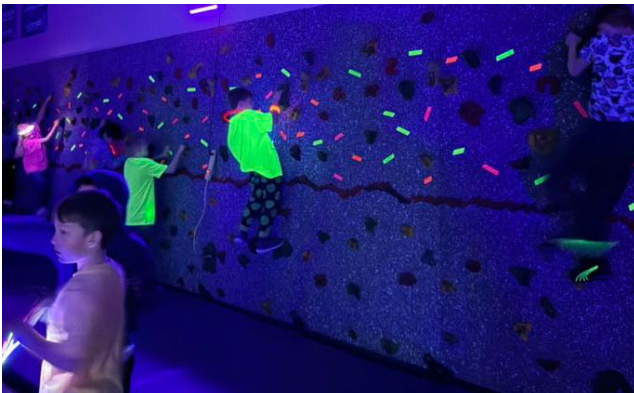
great news to Kayson! Several family members and friends of Kayson came to celebrate with him.

Hose staff planned Friday's underground spirit day to dress up all things Disney so it went perfectly with the surprise announcement.

All CCSC elementary schools participated in the annual Read-A-Thon Fundraiser earlier this year.



Kayson celebrated with family and his teacher, Mrs. Pendleton, right photo, after learning about his free trip to Disney!



## A Glowing Celebration!

Nicholson's Student Council hosted a school-wide glow party to celebrate completing IREAD testing earlier this month. The classes, during their allotted specials time, had a blast in the gym with glowing items, bright shirts, and tons of fun activities!



## Hose visits animals at North Montgomery

Mrs. Krug, Mrs. Phelps, and Mrs. Carrell, three teachers at Hose Elementary, took their classes to North Montgomery High School where the FFA had several farm animals for the students to explore, pet, and learn more about them!



# Nicholson collaborates for One Author, One School

During the month of March, Nicholson Elementary participated in One Author, One School, where the entire school focused on a chosen author's books and joined together doing various activities relating to the books. This year's author was Kate DiCamillo who has a variety of titles including, *Because of Winn Dixie*, *The Tale of Despereaux*, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, the *Mercy Watson* series, and many more.

Nicholson chose mainly to focus on the *Mercy Watson* series, but teachers had the option to choose any of DiCamillo's books. *Mercy Watson* is a lovable pig who loves buttered toast and often finds herself in comical predicaments. Each classroom received *The Mercy Watson* series and the *Decka-woo Drive* series for their classroom library collections to be used for read-alouds during the month.

One morning the students got to have buttered toast, like *Mercy*, during breakfast with bread and butter provided by Chartwells. Each teacher brought their toaster and helped students make toast.

Each class also decorated their doors to display favorite books by DiCamillo or a favorite scene. Librarian Mrs. Palmer created a fun scavenger hunt activity based on the classroom doors so classes could explore and find clues throughout the building.

At the end of the month, students had a special treat when Hoover teacher, Mrs. Angie Griggs and her husband Greg, brought two of their four pot belly pigs to the school! After reading about a pig, the students loved watching real pigs and learning about the Griggs' lovable pets.



Nicholson Elementary read Kate DiCamillo books during the month of March as part of the One Author, One School program. Classes decorated their doors with book themes, had a scavenger hunt and other activities related to DiCamillo's books. The main book series, *Mercy Watson*, is about a fun-loving pig so as a special guest, Hoover teacher Mrs. Griggs brought two of her pot belly pigs for everyone to see and learn about.





CMS students have the opportunity to earn the chance to become Principal for a Day learning the inner workings of the school. Principal Tami Haas is pictured with students from left to right Elizabeth Nunan, Claire Dennison; Zoey Zacarius and Sophia Williams; and Kane Gardner and Romeo Fernandez.

## Students experience day as the Principal

At Crawfordsville Middle School, students are getting a unique opportunity to step into the shoes of school leadership — and it's all thanks to their hard work and positive behavior. Through the school's PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program, students earn stickers for demonstrating the school's core values, making academic progress, and having a positive impact on their classmates and school community. These stickers can be used to purchase

items from the Athenian Central store, but one of the most exciting rewards has quickly become the chance to be Principal for the Day.

For just 75 stickers, students can redeem this coveted experience and spend the day alongside Mrs. Haas and Mr. Surber. As Principal for the Day, students get a behind-the-scenes look at how the school operates. They observe classes, assist teachers in the classroom, help with hall duty, monitor the lunchroom, and even make

important announcements. It's a hands-on leadership experience that gives students a new perspective on the daily responsibilities of running a school.

Since its introduction in December, the Principal for the Day reward has become the most popular item in the Athenian Central store. Over 30 students have already had the chance to step into this leadership role, and the excitement continues to grow. Not only is it a fun and memorable experience, but it also teaches

students valuable leadership skills and gives them a greater appreciation for the hard work that goes into making Crawfordsville Middle School a great place to learn.

The Principal for the Day program is a testament to the positive impact of the PBIS program, motivating students to strive for excellence while reinforcing the school's core values. It's clear that Crawfordsville Middle School is building not only strong students but also future leaders.



## Willson Preschool welcomes author

Author, Chris Stuart visited Willson Preschool Academy to read some of his children's books with the students.

He is the author of three children's books: "Raphael Raccoon Makes a Mistake," "Raphael Raccoon Learns Everyone is Different," and "Raphael Raccoon Doesn't Like Change."

The kids loved listening to the stories about Raphael!





# Tri-Kappa awards CHS art show winners



Pictured above are the annual Tri-Kappa Art Show award winners. Winners were awarded cash prizes from Tri-Kappa.



## Mrs. Bowker's class visits Wabash College

Mrs. Bowker's class was excited to visit with Wabash College Artist in Residence Julian Jamal Jones last week.

Students were able to view his exhibit which included several quilt and paper works inspired by personal stories and observations. Students also enjoyed seeing quilts on display by our local Sugar Creek Quilters.

After viewing the galleries, students were invited to design their own quilt squares by gluing pieces of fabric to mat board. The squares will be on display as part of Community Quilt Day at the gallery. The experience provided students with many opportunities to integrate reading, writing, creativity, and social studies in the classroom.







## Hoover Tigers display music, art talents

Hoover Elementary had their 4th and 5th grade Fine Arts Nights to display all of their hard work and efforts in music and art class. Students enjoyed showing their parents artwork and stopping by the cafeteria for a variety of activities including race car painting shown above.



## Freedom Crossing Day provides interactive learning

Volunteers, CHS students, and Hoover staff led another great Freedom Crossing Day allowing a fun and interactive day learning about the Underground Railroad. CMS teacher Shannon Hudson started the day with a presentation, other volunteers were dressed in character to tell stories, and many more activities helped students learned about prominent people during the times of the Underground Railroad.



## Statehouse visits begin for Hoover 4th graders

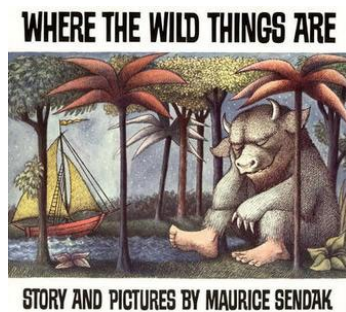
Each year the Hoover 4th grade students get to take a field trip to the Indiana Statehouse. A few classes took the trip recently while the remaining classes will visit next month in May.





## Hose students receive their own “Wild Thing”

Hose art teacher, Ms. Nickle and CHS art teacher, Mrs. Ellenberger recently worked together with their students on a project involving little “Wild Things.” Nickle and her classes read “Where the Wild Things Are” by Maurice Sendak. Nickle said they looked closely at features and details of each monster in the story before students were asked to draw and name their own “Wild Thing” using pencils, markers, and crayons. Each drawing was then sent over to

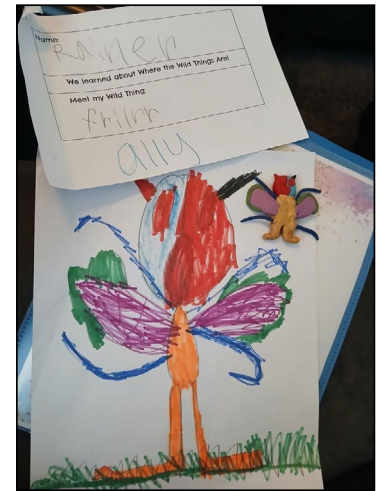


Crawfordsville High School to Mrs. Ellenberger’s Intro to 3D Art where her students created the “Wild Things” with clay to look just like their drawn

ideas.

“My students were constantly asking with excitement when they were going to receive their clay sculptures from the high schoolers,” Nickle said, ‘They loved showing their gifts to their friends when I surprised them on Thursday before spring break.’”

Mrs. Ellenberger’s students did a great job creating the matching monsters and loved creating them for the Hose students!



## Rowdie preps Nicholson for baseball season

Rowdie from the Indianapolis Indians, through the “Fun At Bat” program, visited Nicholson this week to help students practice various baseball skills. Everyone had a blast and the weather was perfect for fun-filled stations outside. Thanks Mrs. Newman for organizing the awesome day!







# Winter Sports Banquet honors athletes

Student athletes in a winter sport along with their friends and family gathered in March for the Winter Sports Banquet to highlight the many successes of each sports program.

Following a dessert reception, everyone gathered in the auditorium where Athletic Director Bryce Barton welcomed everyone in attendance, thanked coaches and assistant coaches, and got the evening started.

Each coach summarized their season with records and successes.

The following students were honored with Letter-Winners, Mental Attitude Awards, Conference and Sectional titles, All Conference titles, and Academic All-State awards.

Following the large group banquet, each team broke out into small groups to further discuss and celebrate the end of their season.

## First Time Letter-Winners

**Girls Basketball-** Laura Viveros

**Girls Swimming-** Mia Blackwell, Bella Hernandez,

Eleanor Hesler, & Mabel Hoar

## Boys Swimming-

Franco Marcelo Robles & Korbin Sanders

## Cheerleading-

Ashlyn Adams, Alexis Carpenter, Kyann Poppaw,

## Girls Wrestling-

Teo Brooks, Emely Herrera, Bri Morales, Roxanna Shahan, Bianca Montes, Brittany Crew, & Tia Jennings

## Boys Wrestling-

Phoenix Hill, Jamil Jimenez, Johnathan Pennington, George Mixtega, Aiden Hutchison

**Boys Basketball-** Johnovan Smith & Ayden Saunders

**Conference/Sectional Championship Team Patches**



## Girls Swimming (Sectional & SAC)

## Boys Swimming (Sectional)

## Wrestling

(Armando Munoz, Landon Vaught, Aiden Hutchison, Braeden Hites-SAC, Hites/Vaught Sectional)

## Recaps & Mental

## Attitude Award Winners

**Swimming-** Henry Hoar & Marie Hesler

**Girls Basketball-** Reagan Cox

## Cheer-

**leading-** Naarah Byard

**Gymnastics-** Lily Hummel

**Boys Wrestling-** Taiga Koyanagi

**Girls Wrestling-** Bianca Montes

**Boys Basketball-** Alec Saidian

**First & Second Team All-Conference. (First team is bold text)**

**Swimming-** Tryston Sauer, Adrian Medina, Shawn Ewoldt, Ellie Walker, Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, Sophia Melevage, Maesa Horton, Marie Hesler, Katherine Novak, Melanie Dowd,

**Girls Basketball-** Molly Pierce & Olivia Hedrick

**Wrestling-** Armando Munoz, Landon Vaught, Aiden Hutchison, Braeden Hites, Taiga Koyanagi, Blayze Robbins, Noe Torres, Keegan Cokel

**Boys Basketball-** Alec Saidian, Johnovan Smith, Mason McCarty

## Academic All-State & Honorable Mentions

Celeste Moore- ICGSA Honorable Mention Academic All-State

Taiga Koyanagi (1st team) Keegan Cokel & Jaziel Gil Herrera(2nd team)

Swimming Academic All-States are not named until later in March and April.