



Crawfordsville Community School Corporation

The Athenian Oracle

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
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www.cville.k12.in.us



June 12, 2025

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Superintendent, Dr. Ryker
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Congratulations to the Class of 2025



Above: Valedictorian, Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, speaks at graduation.

On the evening of Friday, May 30, 2025, the 154 members of the Class of 2025 gathered together to celebrate the end of their four-year high school education.

The Crawfordsville High School wind ensemble, directed by Jon Tebbe, began the graduation procession with the playing of "Athenians March" followed by "Pomp and Circumstance."

Attendees were welcomed to the event by class president, Max Brumett. Assistant Principal Kris Simms introduced the class valedictorian, Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, and the title of her speech, "A Step Forward." Following Schmitzer-Torbert's speech was class salutatorian, Caedence Brown's speech, "Finding the Power in Adversity."

After the speeches, the CHS choir, directed by Jennifer Swick, sang "I see Colors" and "For Good."

Following the speech of Principal Jay Strickland, the class was presented and awarded their diplomas as their name was called. Superintendent Dr. Rex Ryker followed with the official congratulations and declaration of the graduates to the class of 2025.

Closing remarks were given by senior class vice president, Ellie Walker just before the CHS Wind Ensemble closed the ceremony with "Onward C'ville."

Congratulations to the class of 2025 and their families!

If you were unable to attend, you can [view the replay on the CHS Hudl site](#).



Three schools advance to HRS Level 2

At this time last year, the partnership of Crawfordsville Community School Corporation and Marzano Resources led to all schools within CCSC having completed the Highly Reliable School Level 1 Certification, which focuses on a safe, supportive, and collaborative culture. Now this year Crawfordsville High School, Crawfordsville Middle School and Nicholson Elementary have reached the Level 2 Certification, which focuses on effective teaching in every classroom

Marzano Resources is a nationally recognized educational research organization providing best practice solutions for teaching and learning. All CCSC schools proudly display their banners of their level certification. CMS and Nicholson will soon display their new Level 2



banner.

Further details of Level 2 include the following:

1. Focusing on Instructional Excellence (Level 2)

For Level 2, the focus shifts to improving teaching practices We:

- Created a clear instructional model that all teachers follow.
- Established collaborative teacher teams to plan, reflect, and grow together.
- Built systems for feedback, coaching, and observing effective teaching in practice, helping teachers continually improve their practice.

2. Collecting and Analyzing Evidence

Throughout this journey, we collected evidence of our progress — from lesson plans and student work samples to teacher collaboration logs and classroom observations. This evidence was submitted to Marzano Resources for evaluation.

3. External Validation

After a rigorous review process, including feedback from external evaluators, schools received confirmation that all indicators for Level 2 certification had been met.

- Built in professional growth goals for every staff member

- Used teacher goals to develop job embedded professional development for staff

- Used student data regularly to adjust instruction and meet individual learning needs.



Left to right: Sophia Pond, Elizabeth Nunan, Anna Boyd, Claire Dennison, and Shaeleigh Hreskowsky are Runners-up at the Indiana Junior Academic Super Bowl

Academic team wins Runners-Up

The Crawfordsville Middle School academic team competed at the area competition on Saturday, May 3. Elizabeth Nunan, Claire Dennison, Anna Boyd, Shaeleigh Hreskowsky, and Sophia Pond competed in math, social studies, English, and the interdisciplinary category. The English and social studies teams earned second-place scores, and the interdisciplinary team defeated all other competitors to take first place in the competition. Even without the fourth team covering the science information, the team scored high enough to tie with the state champion team in their class. With the tie-breaker formula, these amazing ladies, with only 3/4 of a team are the 2025 Indiana Junior Academic Super Bowl Interdisciplinary Runners-up!



CMS honors students at Spring awards program

Crawfordsville Middle School held its honors and awards ceremony in May honoring students for numerous academic and athletic achievements. This year's American Legion Award winners, pictured with their parents from left to right, were Alexandra Cox, Kaito Koyanagi, and Kenley Lain.

This award represents the highest honor that a student can achieve at Crawfordsville Middle School. It is awarded to students who exhibit the highest levels of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship, and service throughout their entire career at Crawfordsville Middle School. The American Legion Award has been given every year since 1963.



Debbie Brading
Crawfordsville Middle School



Brian Miller
AVA & CHS



Stephanie Totheroh
Crawfordsville High School

Congratulations to our 2025 CCSC retirees!

We would like to congratulate all of the CCSC retirees for their dedication and commitment to education. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many students during your years of service. We wish you the best in your retirement!



First Multilingual Proficiency Certificate attained at CHS

Angie Lopez del Rio is Crawfordsville High School's first student to receive the Certificate of Multilingual Proficiency, as CHS is a new participant in this Indiana Department of Education Program in 2025.

To earn this achievement, the student must attain a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. The certificate serves to certify the attainment of multilingual proficiency in each language through the student's test scores and coursework. It is a statement of accomplishment that helps to signal evidence of a student's readiness for career and/or college, and for engagement as a global citizen. Lopez del Rio is a 2025 CHS graduate who has attained fluency in English and Spanish.



Rogers earns language award

Crawfordsville High School junior Marcus Rogers was given the McClelland-Long World Language Award which is awarded to a French, Japanese, or Spanish student who demonstrates both achievement in the classroom and a desire to communicate and implement that which he or she has been learning. Rogers studies both Spanish and Japanese.

The award recipient also experiments with foreign language for the joy of communicating and self-expression while interacting with teachers and peers, and is genuinely curious of new words, idioms, and culture.

The CHS World Language Department chooses the recipient of the cash award each year, which this year is \$125. The department hopes for the recipient to continue a love of foreign language as they pursue their degree, enter the military, or join the workforce.



CCSC officially opens new administration building

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation employees and members of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce celebrated the official grand opening of the CCSC new administration building before the May monthly board meeting.



Top 10 Athenians invited to Kiwanis

The top ten students at Crawfordsville High School were invited to a Kiwanis Club breakfast to celebrate and congratulate them on a job well done. Front row, left to right: Frida Palacios, Sophia Melevage, Caedence Brown, Emma Buser, Lily Bridgham. Back row: Adah Westphal, Shayla Ingram, Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, Jaylinn Servies, and Max Brumett.

Norman reaches top 10 in Colts' Quarterback Program

Hayley Jarman / Journal Review

Cyndi Norman, a longtime special education teacher at Meredith Nicholson Elementary, has been named a top 10 finalist in the Indianapolis Colts' Classroom Quarterbacks program, presented in collaboration with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Norman, who has dedicated 33 years to teaching special education at Crawfordsville schools, currently leads the Essential Skills class at Nicholson. Throughout her career, she has taught at all three Crawfordsville elementary schools.

"Special education is exactly what it means. It's specializing and being there for kids of many abilities," Norman said. She emphasized the importance of love and flexibility in her teaching approach. "I come into it with a lot of love for these kids, and passion for them. I want to see them be successful, whether it's something small or something big. I'm proud of them, because

they work hard."

Norman's impact on students is one of the biggest highlights of her career. She said that she has students she's taught that are now in high school and knowing that they remember her and she has made a lasting impact only furthers her passion for teaching.

Her commitment to students goes beyond the classroom. Norman is actively involved with Special Olympics, Autistic Rhythm, a golf fundraiser organization, and respite care services for families of children with disabilities. She's even opened her home to a mother and child in need.

"I want to make a change for someone, and I want to help them," she said.

Norman, who earned her undergraduate degree from Anderson University and a master's in Special Education from Ball State University, said the recognition as a Classroom Quarterback is shared.



Photo by Hayley Jarman/Journal Review

Mrs. Norman spends time with one of her students. Norman was a top 10 finalist for the Indianapolis Colts Classroom Quarterback program.

"This recognition isn't just mine. I couldn't do what I do without my two aides and support from other educators."

Her dedication to her students is echoed in her personal life, both of her daughters are teachers, one of which teaches special education alongside her at Nicholson.

This year is especially emotional for Norman as she prepares to say goodbye to one of her students who has been with her for four years. "She'll be going to Hoover. It's hard without her," Norman said. "Because she's come so far. Coming from

a child that couldn't do a whole lot, that is actually walking up and down the halls and doing things now that she couldn't do. They're all different, and it's different with each child. But I enjoy seeing them grow."

As a Classroom Quarterbacks finalist, Norman received two tickets to the Colts' first regular-season home game, a \$100 Amazon gift card, a \$50 Walmart gift card, a swag bag, and other prizes.

She lives by a favorite quote from Helen Keller: "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."



CHS students win Darst Public Speaking Award

The Samantha Darst Public Speaking Award sponsored by Psi Iota Xi, recognizes students who have demonstrated excellence and persistence in public speaking in Montgomery County high schools. This year's awards go to CHS students Tryston Sauer, left, Hutton Haas, and Zoe Abbott.



CMS co-workers of Molly Whitecotton (left photo) and Nicholson co-workers of Steffanie Brumett captured special moments during the 2025 Senior Walk hugging their own seniors, Katy Grace Whitecotton and Max Brumett.

Athenians Senior Walk

Seniors walk through all buildings receiving cheers from teachers and younger students

[See the video as they entered Crawfordsville Middle School](#)



Willson Preschool celebrates graduates

Willson Preschool Academy held a graduation ceremony for 85 students who are eligible to move on to kindergarten in August 2025. Students invited their families to attend the ceremony and celebrate alongside them. Students wore caps and gowns while entering the gym with "Pomp and Circumstance" playing. Students were awarded a certificate and a book to take home.

"We are proud of the accomplishments these students have shown this school year. The Willson Preschool Academy Staff sends best wishes as the students explore their next adventures during Kindergarten," Willson Preschool Director, Heidi Plunkett, said.



Choir department racks up performance awards

The Dynamic Expressions, C-Ville Singers, and Golden Grecians traveled to compete at Music in the Parks at Kings Island and came home with some hardware. In their respective categories, the Dynamic Expressions and C-Ville Singers received first place and the Golden Grecians won second place.



CMS and CHS perform Fairy Tales Spring Concert

The Crawfordsville High School and Crawfordsville Middle School performed their final Spring concert showcasing their hard work and talent for all in attendance. The theme for the event was Fairy Tales.



Hoover Elementary celebrates end of year

Field Day activities are a blast!

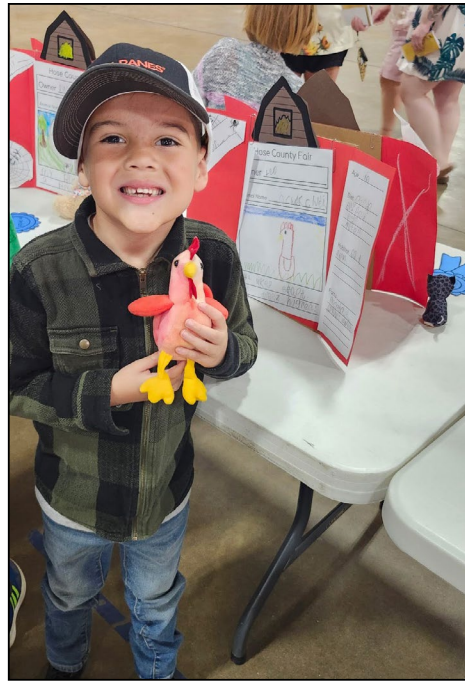
Pictured Above: The Hoover Elementary school staff wore their tie-dyed Hoover Tiger shirts for field day and led the students through a variety of outdoor fun activities and obstacles.



5th Grade Cookout invites family, friends to celebrate

Below are photos from the 5th grade cookout which was still a success despite the rainy weather. Dr. Ryker and Dr. Bokhart spent their day grilling burgers for the event. Activities were moved indoors to classrooms and the gymnasium for students and their guests to enjoy their time together.





2nd Annual Hose County Toy Fair welcomes guests

The second annual Hose County Toy Fair was put on by Mrs. Hensley's, Mrs. Rohr's, and Mr. Swank's classes. The three classes read the classic story, *Charlotte's Web*. Wilbur went to the county fair, and so did the Hose classes. Each student had a farm toy

animal exhibit and artwork at the fair. Family members and other classes were invited to see the exhibits, exhibitors, and artwork. Hose was thankful to the Montgomery County Purdue Extension for allowing them to use the Montgomery County 4-H building.



Nicholson awards quarter four Noble Knights

Nicholson Elementary completed the year awarding its Noble Knight winners for quarter four. These students exemplified N.O.B.L.E characteristics which include **Natural leader**: leads by example; looks out for others; **Outstanding citizenship**: regularly demonstrates good stewardship; **Balanced-minded**: fair, rational, promotes harmony; **Love of learning**: responsible student; puts effort & pride into learning; **Encourages Others**: promotes/supports peers; recognizes others' effort/accomplishments. Front row left to right: Jonas Carlson, Luke Bell, Jayden Martinez, Izabela Brewer, Kain Mann, Lydia Palmer, Monica Garcia Posadas. Middle row: Genesis Cifuentes Garcia, Brayleigh Brumley, Lidia Torres, Christopher Johnson, Brooklynn Ferguson, Paige Wolf, Charlie Hill, Sarayah Light, Nyla Hamilton, Benjamin Record. Back row: Ariane Ortiz Ayala, Paisley Anders, Michael Kalua, Penelope Cornewell, Camila Velasquez Sanchez, Amanda Jarquin Amador, Victor Carrillo Garcia, Teagan Endicott, Jesus Baca, Madalyn Mefford, Graham Lower, and Eli Norman.



National School Lunch Hero Day

We are thankful for our CCSC lunch heroes who serve our students so well

On May 2, cafeterias across the country turned up the cheer for National School Lunch Hero Day and Crawfordsville Community Schools were no exception! This year, the incredible Chartwells café teams were honored with heartfelt surprises and

sweet celebrations. At Hose Elementary, kitchen staff walked into a colorful display of student artwork decorating the café walls, each student personally signed and gave thanks for their daily dedication. Across all schools, team members were treated to fun,

custom t-shirts and delicious, freshly made cakes, a small token of appreciation for the big impact they make every day in the lives of Crawfordsville students. When it comes to nourishing minds and bodies, our school lunch heroes truly serve with heart!



Pioneer Day Lunch

Hoover Cafeteria joined in the fun of the school's annual Pioneer Day with a hearty, themed meal that took students on a tasty trip back in time.



National BBQ Day

CHS and CMS students were treated to chicken wings on National BBQ Day. The feedback was positive and they're expected to return next fall.



Charcuterie catered for opening

Chartwells catered the grand opening of the new CCSC administration building. Hose Elementary chef and kitchen manager, Josh Cunningham led the planning and presentation.



Girls track wins SAC Conference, Sectional Title

The CHS girls track team has shown great success this season with championship titles, records broken, and state participants! The girls won the Sagamore Athletic Conference championship knocking out Lebanon by 54.5 points. The last time the girls earned the SAC title was in 2004. There were six first-place finishes at the SAC meet, which included the 4x100m relay, 100m, 300m hurdles, high jump, and the long jump.

The team had high expectations going into the Sectional

meet at Lafayette Jefferson High School and proved another successful night as they came home Sectional Champions for the first time since 1996 and only the second time in school history. The Athenians scored in all 16 events and 13 events qualified for Regionals the following week. Those events included: 4x100m: Lily Hummel, Ally Strickland, Bea Swick, and Na'arah Byard; 4x800m: Melevage, Novak, Novak, Melevage; 4x400m: Caroline Melevage, Ally Johnson, Alea Seward, Guinever

Schmitzer-Torbert (Champion); 800m: Sophia Melevage; 100m: Byard; 200m Seward (Champion); 100m Hurdles: Schmitzer-Torbert (Champion) and Aubrey Lowe; 300m Hurdles: Schmitzer-Torbert; Long Jump: Byard (Champion) and Sydney Elizondo; High Jump: Riley Gardner (Champion) and Elizondo; Discus: Campbell White; Pole Vault: Johnson.

The Athenians continued on as a team to Regionals where they competed well and advanced both Byard and Gardner in the Long Jump and High

Jump. In addition, Schmitzer-Torbert broke the 300H school record with a time of 46.46.

Seniors Byard and Gardner competed at the state meet on Saturday, June 6.

Gardner finished 11th in the State high jump. She ends her career a 4x Conference Champion, 4x County Champion, and 2x Sectional Champion.

Byard finished 20th in the State long jump. Byard ends her career leaving three school records which include the long jump (17 ft. 10.5 in.), 100m (12.63), and 4x100 (50.32).

Boys team advances eight to Regionals

The CHS boys track team competed well and tied for third place out of 12 teams at Sectionals in May. Eight of the boys advanced to Regionals in the following events: 4x800m: Jantzen Thayer, Cole Capper, Josh Inskeep, and Max Brumett; 110m Hurdles: Alec Saidian; 200m: Huntlyr Miles; Shot Put: Wyatt Million; and High Jump: Wyatt Motz.

The following week at Regionals the Athenians showed a great effort with several individual personal records. Here are the results of each event. Alec Saidian: 5th in the 110m hurdles (PR); Huntlyr Miles: 11th in the 200m (PR); Wyatt Million: 13th in Shot Put (PR); Wyatt Motz: 10th in High Jump; and Max Brumett, Jantzen Thayer, Cole Capper, & Josh Inskeep: 16th in the 4x800m





Girls tennis team is SAC, Sectional Champs

For the fifth straight year in a row the Crawfordsville Girls Tennis team are the Sectional Champions after defeating Lebanon, 5-0. The Athenians advanced to Regionals, but were defeated by Carmel.

The team is also the 2025 Sagamore Athletic Conference Champions, which is their 27th title in the last 49 years of SAC competition.



Photo by Susan Ehrlich

Photo by Susan Ehrlich

Senior Jude Coursey tags the Guerin Catholic runner out at second.

CHS baseball advanced to Sectional Championship

On Monday, June 2 the CHS baseball team traveled to Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory High School for the opening round of Sectionals against current conference opponent, Tri-West. Coming into the match-up, Tri-West had defeated Crawfordsville twice during the regular season. However, the Athenians came away victorious with a win by score of 3-0.

Crawfordsville moved on to the Sectional Championship that evening against Guerin Catholic, after Guerin Catholic defeated Brebeuf 5-3. The Athenians were defeated by Guerin Catholic 1-10 in the championship.

Welliever celebrated for 40 years of coaching

The Crawfordsville baseball program celebrated long time coach Rhett Welliever's milestone of 40 years of coaching during Crawfordsville's home game against Frankfort.

Welliever threw out the honorary first pitch of the night as players, fans, and coaches reflected on his countless hours spent developing athletes, being a mentor and role model, and sharing his love of baseball.



Photo by Susan Ehrlich



Athenians claim County Chase title

With the conclusion of the 2024-25 athletic seasons, the Crawfordsville Athenians have once again captured the championship title for the Journal Review's County Chase competition. Based on match-ups among the three county school corporations, the following points are as follows: CHS-50, North- 36, and South- 34. Congratulations, Athenians!

Athenians to continue athletic career in college

Several athletes had their official signing days to commit to playing their sport at the next level. The following are pictured: Alec Saidian - track & field at Wabash College; Sophia Melevage - swimming & diving at Carthage College; Riley Gardner - soccer and high jump in track & field at Illinois College; Keegan Cokel - football at Wabash College; and Reagan Cox - tennis at Franklin College.



Alec Saidian - Track & Field (Hurdles) at Wabash College



Sophia Melevage - Swimming & Diving at Carthage College



Riley Gardner - Soccer & Track & Field (High Jump) at Illinois College



Keegan Cokel - Football at Wabash College



Reagan Cox - Tennis at Franklin College



Spring Sports banquet celebrates athletes

Student athletes in a spring sport along with their friends and family gathered in early June for the Spring Sports Banquet to highlight the many successes of each sports program.

Following a dessert reception, everyone gathered in the main gymnasium 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, Regional results, State qualifiers, All Conference titles, and Academic All-State awards.

Highlights noted by Barton were of the girls tennis and track teams.

The girls tennis team won their 5th straight sectional title and number 27 out of 49 years. In addition, they are the last Sagamore Conference title winners.

For the girls track team, they also won the Sagamore Conference title for the first time since 2004. They were also Sectional Champions for the second time

in history with the first being back in 1996.

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

The following were first-time letter winners. **Baseball:**

Ethan Campbell and Jayden Jimenez;

Track & Field:

Aiden French and Vivian Ewoldt;

Girls

Tennis: Elliot Baker, Caroline Bowling, Silas Hartnett, and Abby White; **Boys Golf:**

Jude Hurt, Caiden Murry, and Owen Pierce; **Softball:** Hailli Omundson, Tori Truax, Jacey Crane, and Laikyn Dowell; and **Boys Volleyball:** Pujan Patel, Alan Campos, Nikolas Dimarzio-Gaskins, Tirsofer Hernandez, and Rafael Rojas-Jacome.

Conference & Sectional Championships were given to the following athletes;

Girls Track & Field- Na'arah Byard, Alea Seward, Ruth Garcia, Maesa Horton, Caroline Melevage, Sophia Melevage,



Olivia Jett, Katherine Novak, Melanie Dowd (Sec), Soren Olofson (SAC), Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert,

Aubrey Lowe, Camy Cutcliff, Lily Hummel, Ally Strickland, Bea Swick, Ally Johnson, Caroline Novak, Riley Gardner, Sydney Elizondo, Isabel Gerdes, Ellie Walker, Alayna Schroeter, Campbell White

Girls Tennis- Reagan Cox, CC Cox, Caroline Bowling, Isla Seward, Alayna Hall, Elliot Baker, and Emma Buser.

Mental Attitude Award Winners:

Baseball: Jude Coursey; **Track & Field:** Max Brumett and Na'arah Byard; **Girls Tennis-** Isla Seward; **Boys Golf-** Henry Hoar; and **Softball-** Delaney Spencer.

First and Second Team All-Conference: (First team are bold text)

Baseball- Jude Coursey, Henry Bannon, Sam Minnette
Softball- Christina Susdorf, Sabella Moore

Girls Tennis- Reagan Cox, CC Cox, Isla Seward, Alayna Hall, Emma Buser, Elliot Baker
Boys Golf- Tanner Gilland, Caiden Murray, & Owen Pierce

Track & Field- Aubrey Lowe, Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, Lily Hummel, Ally Strickland, Bea Swick, Na'arah Byard, Caroline Melevage, Ally Johnson, Alea Seward, Riley Gardner, Campbell White, Sophia Melevage, Katherine Novak, and Caroline Novak.

Academic All-State & Honorable Mentions: **First Team Academic All-State by the IATCCC:** Max Brumett, Drew Turner, Katherine Novak, Caroline Novak, & Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert. **Honorable Mention Academic All-State:** Na'arah Byard, Lily Hummel, Ellie Walker, and Cole Capper.

In addition, there were new track and field records broken by Ally Johnson in the pole vault with a jump of 9 feet, the Girls 1600 meter relay with a time of 4:08.13, which was run by Caroline Melevage, Ally Johnson, Alea Seward, and Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert, and the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 46.46 run by Guinevere Schmitzer-Torbert.

Crawfordsville Schools

FREE

SUMMER MEALS

for kids

No Cost For Kids 18 And Under

DATES AND LOCATIONS FECHAS Y ESCUELAS

**Nicholson Elementary (1010 Lane Avenue) and
Crawfordsville Middle School (705 Wallace Avenue)**

12:00 - 12:30 Mon - Fri

June 2nd - July 25th, 2025

Excluding July 4th, 2025

**El Programa de Almuerzos de Verano ofrece lonches gratuitos
para niños menores de 18 años**

El 2 de junio hasta el 25 de julio 2025, excepto el 4 de julio



chartwells
serving up happy & healthy