



Crawfordsville Community School Corporation

The Athenian Oracle

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
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May 14, 2026

Share feedback with
Superintendent, Dr. Ryker
[We'd love to hear from you!](#)



Student artwork heading to D.C.

Crawfordsville High School senior Bristol Presley won the Congressional Institute's Art Competition for Indiana's Fourth Congressional District and will have her artwork displayed in Washington D.C. for a full year. Presley will also get to travel to Washington D.C. this summer for an awards ceremony and reception.



Bristol Presley

Each year in the spring the Congressional Institute sponsors a nationwide high school visual art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent across the nation and in each congressional district. Students submit entries to their representative's office and from there panels of artists select the winning entries.

PURE JOY!

All-Star Field Day highlights teamwork, celebration of abilities

It was an incredible morning at the All-Star Field Day — an event designed to provide an inclusive, fun-filled experience for students with disabilities while promoting physical activity, teamwork, and meaningful social interaction.

Students from the West Central and Wabash River Indiana Special Services Cooperatives came together, representing CCSC schools along with Covington, Southeast Fountain, Turkey Run, and North Vermillion. The energy, enthusiasm, and joy were evident in every activity throughout the day.

Originally planned for the outdoors at the Crawfordsville High School football field, the event was moved indoors to the North Montgomery High School field house due to weather, ensuring the day continued without missing a beat.

Student volunteers from Crawfordsville High School, Crawfordsville Middle School, Southmont, North Montgomery, and Park Heritage played a key role in the event's success, assisting participants through obstacle courses, cornhole, kickball, bowling, and more. Their leadership and support helped create an encour-

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New members inducted to National Honor Society

The following students were inducted into the Crawfordsville High School chapter of National Honor Society on April 21st. In order to be considered for NHS, students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5, and be selected by the faculty based on character, leadership and service. Students are then required to complete 20 service hours each year to

remain active in the organization. NHS is the oldest and most widely recognized high school honorary organization in the United States.

Seniors: Tran Duong, Andrew Hurt, Aime Macegoza, Diego Velasco. Juniors: Jakub Brewer, Caroline Cox, Melanie Dowd, Konner Ellsbury, Shylah Hall, Addison James, Olivia

Jett, Kaydee Kelso, Madison Martin, Jazmen Russell, Carissa Wills. Sophomores: Elizabeth Gabriela Barrera Chinchilla, Caroline Bowling, Taylor Bray, Averie Davies, Karen Dominguez, Gabriel Elizondo, Aiden French, Maria Gonzalez Lopez, Silas Hartnett, Baela Hensley, Jazmine Hernandez-Zavaleta, Eleanor Hesler, Mabel Hoar,

Addison Huber, Dario Huesca, Molly Hunter, Ledger Lyons, Graeme Mason, Carter McDorman, Cameron Morgan, Ella Patton, Mazi Perry, Owen Pierce, Alexis Ratcliff, Sebastian Rice, Ryan Rohr, Gabriella Saidian, Alea Seward, Jack Sweet, Marshall Templeman, Olivia Todd, Keira Toomey, Tori Truax.

Honor Night celebrates senior accomplishments

The Class of 2026 Honor Night took place recently, celebrating achievements of our talented senior class. Local community organizations including the Montgomery County Community Foundation (MCCF) were in attendance to present numerous scholarships to seniors continuing their education. Approximately 80 scholarships totaled more than \$160,000.

Athletic Director, Mr. Barton, presented athletic awards including the Anita Rugar Award, Crawfordsville Booster Club, Sara McGaughey Award, Pete Vaughn Award, and the Nine Letter Award.

Seniors also received specific cords in preparation to wear at graduation. Cords included Military Cords, Honor Cords, High Honor Cords, Core 40 with Academic Honors Diploma, and Core 40 with Technical Honors Diploma.

This year's Salutatorian, Isla Seward and Valedictorian, Katherine Novak, were also announced and given academic medals.

Congratulations to all of the Class of 2026 on your achievements and success!

Next up is the CHS Class of 2026 graduation scheduled for Friday, May 29 at 7:00pm at CHS.



Mother-daughter duo have heart for teaching

After recently celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week, those at Crawfordsville Community School Corporation know that teachers are the backbone of our school corporation. They are on the front lines each day helping students feel safe, supported, and loved while encouraging them to achieve, grow, and have fun while learning.



Jenny Veatch



Sidney Veatch

Students are inspired by their teachers to pursue their passions, learn classroom and life lessons, and sometimes the inspiration leads into becoming a future educator. What is more unique is if that teacher is also your mom! Learning from an educational influence at home, getting to visit their classroom growing up helped lead to making education a passion of her own. This unique mother-daughter teaching duo is Jenny and Sidney Veatch and we're fortunate to have each of them at CCSC!

Jenny has been teaching for 31 years, 27 of which have been in the CHS science department teaching Earth Science, Biology, Honors Biology, and Biology II. Her love for science came from her own high school science teacher who demonstrated a great passion for the subject. Despite her many years of experience, each year remains exciting. "Every class has a unique personality and has a unique set of challenges, so each day, and honestly,

each class period is different and requires me to be on my toes. I also love getting to know the students and trying to instill some of my passion for a subject I love into them," she said.

Sidney is finishing up her first year of teaching first grade at Hose Elementary and has loved it.

"My first year of teaching has been nothing short of amazing! I adore my kiddos and the staff here at Hose is truly the best of the best. I've never felt alone, and everyone is always reaching out to help, check up, or share different activities with me," Sidney said.

Sidney wanted to become a teacher because she has always loved children, watching them grow, and seeing personalities blossom.

"I just have a maternal instinct towards elementary aged kids and love all the hugs, hand holds, and high fives I can get!" she said. "I am always having fun and getting to know my kids on a more personal level which many other jobs don't allow."

Both had the opportunity to cadet-teach during high school, which made a lasting impression too. Sidney was able to cadet teach with her own Walnut Elementary teacher Erin Barry, a great mentor for her. The experience truly inspired her to pursue education.

She sees the influence her teaching mom had on her too. She noted her mom helped push her at an early age to learn, get homework done or get extra practice or tutoring when needed and their house was full of books. She reflects that "While in the moment that was not the coolest thing ever, I am incredibly grateful for it now because I would not be where I am today without it."

When she was young, occa-



Top: Jenny Veatch points out specific areas while students dissect a pig. Bottom: Sidney Veatch leads her first graders through a fun outdoor activity.

sionally Sidney's school, in the South district, wouldn't have school, so occasionally she got to go along to Crawfordsville to see her mom in the classroom.

"I got to see how much she loved her job and I aspired to feel the same about mine!"

Jenny stated she wasn't surprised when Sidney decided to pursue education. When asked about her reaction, Jenny said, "I was thrilled. I know firsthand how tough this job can be, especially over the last decade, where more and more is being asked of teachers, but I honestly never

saw Sid doing anything else."

Jenny recognized Sidney's love for kids growing up. She said she was the first one to sit on the floor with the cousins or play with her coaches' kids so it wasn't a surprise when elementary teaching was Sidney's first choice.

Both Veatch ladies recognize the advantage of being at CCSC!

Jenny credits the staff and co-workers. "The staff, from top down. I wouldn't have stayed at the same school if I didn't feel

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Volunteers for Mental Health support CMS

Crawfordsville Middle School is grateful to the Volunteers for Mental Health in Montgomery County for their generous support of student wellness. CMS school counselors Emily Mickle and Lindsey Mauntel recently submitted a prioritized wish list of materials to create a sensory room designed to support students' emotional and mental health needs.

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of the VMHMC Board, every item on the list was fulfilled—totaling more than \$1,000 in sensory support materials. This donation will have a meaningful impact, providing students with a safe, calming space to regulate emotions, refocus, and build coping skills throughout the school day.



Pictured are the individuals who came together to provide and help meet the needs of CMS students. Left to right: Amber Reed (Director of Student Wellness), Caroline Erdahl (VMHMC board member), Grace Brewer (VMHMC board member), Emily Mickle (CMS counselor), Luke Walker (VMHMC board member), Jordan Chandler (Mental Health Coordinator), and Tami Haas (CMS Principal).

“We are incredibly thankful for VMHMC’s commitment to supporting the well-being of our students. Their

generosity is a powerful reminder of how a caring community can come together to make a lasting difference,” Mickle said.

Veatch . . .

supported and respected. I’ve been in on a lot of the interviews to bring new people to CHS. When they ask what makes us different/why I am here, I say without hesitation, “It’s like a family,” she said.

Jenny reflected on her first early years of teaching and the mentors that helped her.

“I was blessed to have some amazing teachers in my life along the way who modeled great teaching. The first year at any job is always a bit rough, but I had people like Larry Pyle (the CHS teacher who took me as a student teacher) and Pru Phillips (a former chemistry teacher and legend at CHS) showing me what great teaching should look like.”

She sees the same support system at Hose Elementary for Sidney. Jenny praised the Hose staff and Principal Adam Welcher being positive and supporting her in her first year.

Sidney recognized the difference between her student teaching placement and Hose during her interview. She credits Hose for feeling like home and a tight knit family!

“The second I had my interview with Adam and a few other awesome people in our building, I was crossing my fingers that it would happen,” she said.

Now that the two are in the field together, they share stories, challenges, joys, and success. Elementary and secondary are quite different day to day, but each values listening to each other in support. Sidney recognizes having her mom’s listening ear is a comfort, or a surprise Dari-licious vanilla Coke after a challenging day is always appreciated. Jenny said she’s always had the utmost respect for elementary teachers and seeing her daughter now in the role only validates it more. Jenny sees Sidney’s consistent hard work to prepare for each day, holiday, and special event, and in general working with the high energy and inquisitive first graders!

Sidney joked that while she receives more advice than she gives, she does help mom with some technology and ParentSquare, CCSC’s new communication platform.

However, Sidney is grateful for her mom’s advice too. “One thing I’ve taken away from her is to enjoy my job and be present. As a teacher we always have a never ending to-do list, which is very easy to get caught up and overwhelmed in, but as long as I’m present, in the moment, and connect with my kids I am setting myself up for success!”

All-Star Field Day . . .

aging and engaging environment for all. Adult volunteers from ASI, Special Olympics, and staff across participating school corporations also contributed their time and energy to make the event truly special. The morning concluded with a well-deserved pizza lunch for everyone.

Assistant Director of Special Education Liz All said, “The All-Star Field Day really showed what inclusion looks like in action. CHS and CMS student helpers (and many more) brought so much energy and kindness. A lot of them had never even met before, but they connected right away with our students in our Essential Skills classes and made everyone feel included and celebrated.”

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our generous community partners for their support in making this event possible. Tee-Rific Designs created and donated colorful t-shirts for all students, and additional sponsorships from State Farm – Chad Budreau, Town & Country Homecenter, Pizza Hut, and anonymous donors helped cover meals and event expenses.

This day was a powerful reminder of what can happen when schools, communities, and organizations come together to create opportunities for every student to shine.

Instructing students starts with empowering teachers

Enriching student education starts long before they enter the school building. At Crawfordsville Community School Corporation, we value building up our teachers through training and professional development. These opportunities help us fulfill the CCSC motto to better educate our students: 'Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve.'

Earlier this month, twelve CHS AP teachers representing 18 AP courses and two additional ELA teachers attended a workshop with a College Board consultant on cross-curricular skills. In the morning session, teachers in ELA, world language, social studies, and Capstone subjects attended a workshop called "Developing Evidence-Based Written Arguments in AP Courses." In the afternoon, teachers in science, math, economics, psychology, and Capstone subjects attended "Analyzing and Interpreting Quantitative Data in AP Courses."

In both, CHS teachers examined ways

their courses shared skills, such as supporting claims with evidence or describing data from a table or graph. They shared common student misunderstandings and instructional strategies to teach, assess, and develop these skills. Collaborative discussions targeted areas where teachers can reinforce transferable skills across their classes.

AP teachers Bob Topping from Florida and Kurt Smart from California led the workshops, sharing resources and strategies from their experiences as classroom teachers and exam readers. Wabash Valley Education Center assisted with the coordination of the local event.

CCSC Superintendent Dr. Ryker said, "Investing in our teachers is the best way to invest in our students. Opportunities like this professional development day allow our educators to collaborate and sharpen the skills our students need to excel. As we grow professionally, we help every Athenian Enter to Learn and Go Forth to Serve."



CHS, CMS team up to present online safety

CHS Interact Club partnered with the CMS A-Team as part of this year's Interact local project to raise awareness about online safety among younger students. Interact President Isla Seward and Vice President Caroline Novak took the lead in creating and organizing an engaging and informative presentation designed for 7th and 8th graders.

On April 24th, Interact members visited CMS and presented with A-Teamers during advisory classes, helping students better understand how to stay safe and make responsible choices online. This collaborative effort highlights student leadership and the positive impact CHS students are making within the school community.



Care Cabinets eliminate worry, meet needs

One of the areas the entire Crawfordsville Community School Corporation prides itself on is the outstanding care among our students, among our educators and among our entire community. We see it daily in the classroom in instructional settings, we see it throughout our extracurriculars, and we see it in ways that students, educators, and the community step up to help each other.

One extraordinary visual of care is the Care Cabinet located in Mrs. Hodge's classroom at Crawfordsville Middle School. The Care Cabinet is filled with hygiene and miscellaneous items often small, but always helpful. Hodge began the cabinet when she transferred from Nicholson to CMS in January of 2025 after seeing the idea on social media from another educator.

"I knew that it would be something that our students would greatly benefit from. I believe students have a harder time focusing on learning when they are worried about personal hygiene or are low in self-confidence," Hodge said. "Students already have a lot of worries. My goal is to simply remove any unnecessary barriers that

could get in the way of their comfort levels, confidence, or their education."

She said it's a "no questions asked and take what you honestly need" resource.

Hodge saw a need and set out to rally co-workers, friends, family, and the community around her to help fulfill a need. The Care Cabinet holds various items a young middle schooler might find themselves in need of—whether it's an emergency, a forgotten item, or an item that's not stocked regularly at home. Items include hair ties, stain wipes, dental supplies, feminine hygiene products, deodorant, shampoo & conditioner, and various other items.



Hodge said, "The Care Cabinet allows them to have access to everyday essentials that help them feel comfortable, confident, and ready to learn without drawing attention to their needs."

Hodge recently shared with her community via Facebook that somewhere between 2,100 to 2,500 essential items were shared with the Care Cabinet this year averaging around 70-80 items used each week. Incredible!

She said the student response has been overwhelmingly positive. It took some time for students in all grades to learn about the cabinet and feel comfortable using it, but by now it is familiar and appreci-

ated. Students know the cabinet is open

"One of the most rewarding parts has been seeing students build enough trust and comfort to ask for help when they need something that I do not keep stocked, such as socks or other personal items. Knowing students feel safe coming to me for support means more to me than I can express. It shows the Care Cabinet has become more than just a resource, it has become a source of trust, dignity, and support for students," Hodge said.

Now that we are approaching the end of the school year, Hodge would like to expand the need and provide Summer Care Boxes to students who could use these items and benefit during the summer months too. This past winter break was the first time Hodge organized items for a break out of school.

Currently Hodge has 32 students signed up for the summer program and is in need of additional items to fulfill the boxes. If you'd like to donate, here is a [link to an Amazon list](#) with a few items still needed. If you have questions or would like to contribute to the Care Cabinet, please contact Mrs. Hodge at mhodge@cville.k12.in.us.

Looking to get involved?

Visit the [Care Cabinet Amazon Wish List](#) to purchase items.



4th graders tour the Indiana Statehouse

Hoover Elementary 4th Grade students toured the Indiana Statehouse this week learning about state government, seeing the beautiful architecture, and learning about some of the inside workings of the Hoosier state.





Photos by Kim Johnson, Wabash College

Culture Night full of entertainment, learning

Once again, the annual Culture Night did not disappoint—it was bigger and better than ever! Students from Crawfordsville High School and Wabash College came together to create an evening filled with rhythm, diversity, and incredible food from around the globe.

Guests enjoyed a vibrant celebration featuring a live DJ, a mariachi band, cultural games, henna artists, and unique dances to both watch and learn. The event also showcased an amazing variety of

cuisine, ensuring no one left hungry!

Culture Night is always open to everyone and continues to be a meaningful opportunity each year to come together, celebrate diversity, and foster understanding within our community.

Photos were taken by Kim Johnson, Director of Communications and Marketing at Wabash College. [Visit our reel on CCSC Facebook to see additional pictures.](#)



Hoover Ag Day

Hoover Elementary enjoyed the annual agriculture day that was held at the Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds.



Knights perform for families

Third grade students showcased their talents during the 3rd Grade Fine Arts Night in April. Families enjoyed an evening filled with music as each class performed a variety of songs they had been practicing throughout the year. Students also demonstrated their cardio drumming skills, a unique collaboration between the physical education and music education programs that combines rhythm, movement, and teamwork. The cardio drumming program was made possible through a Montgomery County Education Fund grant.

Social Studies team is State Runner-up!

On Saturday, May 2, the CMS academic teams traveled to Klondike Middle School in West Lafayette to compete in the area competition. The teams competed fiercely against other strong students from around the state. The English, math, science, and interdisciplinary teams all placed near the top half of the state rankings.

The social studies team of Nathan Tucker, Brady Cord, Anniston Miles, Jo Hesler, and Vedanti Kiran, coached by Dr. Nunan, fought their way to the top and walked away as the 2026 Indiana Junior Academic Super Bowl State Runner-up in Class 2! Out of 51 teams, they matched the best score of the state champion and only fell short in tie-breaker number three! These students earned the plaque in the CMS trophy case, and they can proudly wear their team medals! Congratulations, scholars!



The CMS social studies team pictured left to right: Vedanti Kiran, Brady Cord, Nathan Tucker, Jo Hesler, and Anniston Miles.

A-Team organizes lunch for support staff

In 2017, A-TEAM members set out to recognize the incredible middle school support staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes and are often overlooked. They decided to honor administrative assistants, nurses, and aides with an annual appreciation luncheon centered on CMS core values: character development, respect for all, problem-solving, and social and civic responsibility.

Each year, A-TEAM collaborates with cafeteria staff to plan the menu, select a theme, and organize gifts. Past themes have included Hollywood, Winter Festival, and Spring Fling. This year's gifts featured sweet Hershey Kisses, savory Goldfish snacks, small knitted items with uplifting messages (such as pickles, potatoes, and avocados), and appreciation coasters.

Approximately six weeks before the event, co-sponsors Mrs. Vellner and Mrs. Hudson gathered the names of all support staff. A-TEAM members earned the opportunity to serve as hosts or hostesses based on points accumulated throughout

the school year. Students dressed professionally, practiced proper table manners, and focused on building conversation skills—learning how to engage in friendly dialogue by asking about interests, backgrounds, and experiences. During the luncheon, students sat with their assigned staff member, refilled drinks, and worked to create a welcoming and memorable experience.

This year's event took place on Tuesday, May 5, in the LGI with a Blue and Gold theme. The menu included salad, pasta with alfredo or red sauce, breadsticks, and make-your-own brownie sundaes, all prepared and served by Chef Cunningham and the cafeteria team.

A-TEAM extends its sincere gratitude to the CMS support staff for their dedication, flexibility, and countless contributions. Your hard work keeps the school running smoothly—CMS truly could not function



without you.

The support staff members were Alex Burke, Amy Bales, Caleb Cochoran, Catie Cox, Concetta Horman, Emily Daley, Ginger Collins, Julie Randles, Kiersten Stevens, Lisa Warren, LuLu Angelo, Madison Dossett, Megan Mell, Melanie Baldwin, Renee Berg, Bre Taylor, and Ally Wemer. A-TEAM

members serving as hosts and hostesses were Vivian Hoar, Samiyyah Hamilton, Jo Helser, Josie Dowell, Aubrey Geneau, Angie Cervantes, Vedanti Kiran, Ella Seward, Kendall Heeke, Elliott Hamilton, Julius Jones, Braelyn Johnson, Anna Lindsey, Alice Cunningham, Harper Kohl, Hayleigh Huber, and Brooklyn Wilkins.



Special Persons filled Hose Elementary

Hose Elementary completed the 2026 Second Annual Special Persons Day recently and once again the students and their guests had a great time!

Kindergarten and 1st Grade students were

allowed to invite up to two people to share a special day at the school that included classroom activities and lunch.

Hose Elementary and CCSC would like to thank the following businesses for gener-

ously helping provide the chips and hot dogs for all the adults to eat for free at the Special Persons Day. These businesses include: Cain Farms, Mishler Dental, Prime Cut 41, Big Dipper, Pizza King, and Smitty D's.



Hoover goes back in time for Pioneer Day

Hoover Elementary enjoyed a beautiful day for the Annual Pioneer Day which involved students visiting various stations learning about how things were done a long time ago. Students dipped

their own candles, learned about old nursing tools, "churned" their own butter by shaking small jars of cream, listened to stories and music, played old fashioned games, and so much more.

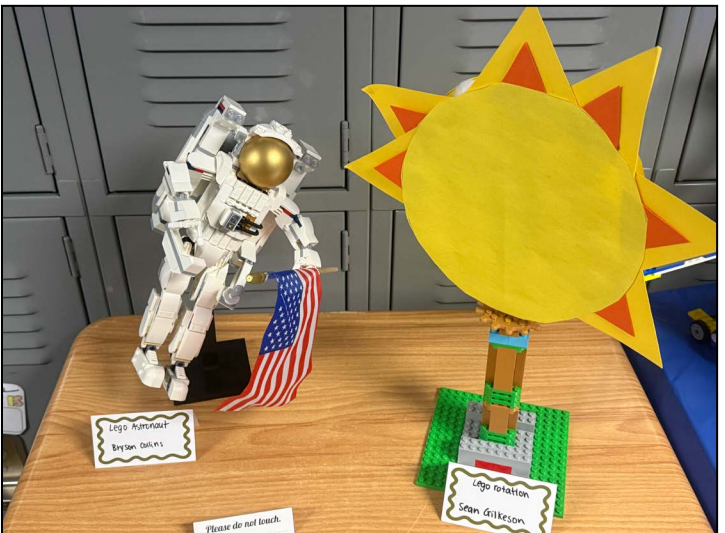
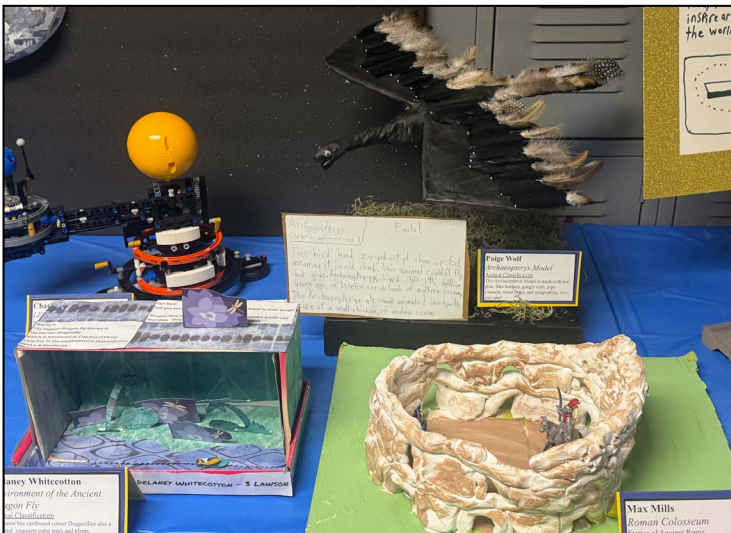


Peterson's class studies human body systems

Mrs. Peterson's class at Nicholson Elementary has been studying the human body in their most recent CKLA unit. Throughout the unit, students learned about the different body systems and the

important organs that help those systems function. As an end-of-unit project, students used their knowledge and creativity to create life-size diagrams of the human body,

showcasing what they learned about anatomy and how the body works together. The hands-on activity was a fun and engaging way for students to bring their learning to life!



Nicholson students' impressive projects on display

For the Spring Fine Arts Night at Nicholson Elementary, third grade students were asked to create a project representing one of the CKLA units they studied during English Language Arts. Some of the units represented include Human Body, Solar

System, Animal Classification, and Ancient Greek Civilization. These projects filled the hallways of the school so parents and community members could walk around enjoying the students' hard work.



Willson Preschool Prom brings many smiles

Willson Preschool Academy held a Preschool Prom in April, and this year's 2026 theme was *Zootopia*! Students enjoyed an unforgettable evening filled with dancing, limbo, and delicious "pawsicles" inspired by the movie. One of the highlights of the night was meeting a baby chick and Officer Hopps' cousin, Nymph! Students also decorated their own crowns to become Prom Kings and Prom Queens for the evening. To complete the celebration, each student received a police badge to help protect the animals of Zootopia. The event was a fun-filled evening of imagination, creativity, and memories for our youngest learners! Pictured top right: Claire Eslinger holds the baby chick at prom.



Preschoolers experience hatching chickens

Willson Preschool Academy had a fun-filled week of learning about life on the farm in April! Preschool students had the exciting opportunity to watch chickens hatch from eggs in an incubator and continue to grow throughout the week in their classroom tubs.

By the end of the week, many preschoolers were able to gently hold the baby chicks, creating a memorable hands-on learning experience for students. The chicks later went on to join a family farm the following week.

It was a wonderful way for students to learn about animals, growth, and life cycles through interactive experiences!



Hoover mathletes win their division

Congratulations to the Hoover Elementary Mathletes who won 1st place in their division at the Math Bowl competition!



C-ville Singers receive Gold awards at ISSMA

C-Ville Singers earned a Gold with Distinction and a Gold in Sight-reading in Group 2 at ISSMA contest on Saturday April 18.



CHS band wins All-Music Award for 3rd year in a row

The Crawfordsville High School band students received the All-Music Award for the third consecutive year.

The band students have received Gold Ratings in;

Marching Band, State Qualifying Solos, State Qualifying Ensembles, Group 3 (2x) & Group 1 Jazz, Group 3 (2x) & Group 2 Concert.



All three groups win first place at Kings Island

It was a great weekend for CMS and CHS show choirs and concert choir! Golden Grecians, Dynamic Expressions, and C-Ville Singers all took first place in the respective categories on May 9 at the Music in the Parks Competition at Kings Island.



GIRLS TRACK: Undeclared, MAC Champs, County Champs



The CHS girls track team are undefeated heading into sectionals, are County Champions, and are the first track conference champions for the new Monon Athletic Conference.

Six individual girls events and one boys' event finished as Conference Champions:

4x800 (10:36.72)

Katherine Novak
Caroline Novak

Maesa Horton
Caroline Melevage

4x100 (51.32)

Olivia Abney
Ally Strickland
Bea Swick
Alea Seward

4x400 (4:15.98)

Caroline Melevage
Ally Johnson
Maesa Horton
Alea Seward

High Jump

Olivia Jett 4'10"

Long Jump

Sydney Elizondo 16'4"

200

Alea Seward (26.63)

100H

Aubrey Lowe (16.86)

1600

Josh Inskeep (4:37.64)



1 Doubles are MAC champs

The girls tennis team finished 4-1 in conference play losing only to Greencastle.

This week Alayna Hall and Isla Seward captured the Monon Athletic Conference Doubles championship with a 3-set victory over Greencastle. They avenged a loss from earlier in the season to the same doubles team.



COUNTY CHAMPIONS!

Girls Track

The girls track team are the County Champions after edging out North Montgomery during the county meet at Southmont on May 2nd.

Girls Tennis

The girls tennis team claimed the County Championship title last week with a 3-2 victory over Southmont and a 3-2 victory of North Montgomery earlier in the season.

CARA receives literacy grant for ELL program

Crawfordsville Adult Resource Academy was selected as the recipient of the 2026 Indiana Literacy Association Grant. This funding will provide updated instructional materials and additional support resources for CARA's English Language Learning (ELL) program.

The grant will help expand access to high-quality, engaging materials designed to strengthen English language acquisition, digital literacy, workplace readiness, and everyday communi-



cation skills for adult learners. Updated classroom resources will support students at multiple language proficiency levels and enhance both in-person and independent learning opportunities.

CARA continues to see growing enrollment in its ELL program and remains committed to creating welcoming, supportive learning environments for individuals and families in our community. The Indiana Literacy Association Grant will help ensure that



Crawfordsville Adult Resource Academy

students have access to modern, effective instructional tools that support educational and workforce success.

CARA is grateful to the Indi-

ana Literacy Association for investing in adult learners and helping programs like CARA continue empowering students through literacy and education.

CARA receives literacy grant for ELL program

This April, eight CARA staff members had the opportunity to attend the COABE National Conference thanks to a generous grant from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. The conference provided valuable professional development and networking opportunities focused on strengthening adult education programs and student success.

During the conference, staff attended sessions on adult literacy instruction, workforce readiness, digital learning strategies, student persistence, AI and technology in education, integrated education and training (IET) programs, and innovative approaches to English language learning. Team members also explored best practices for student engagement, data-driven instruction, grant development, and partnerships that connect adult learners to career pathways.

In addition to attending workshops and keynote presentations, CARA staff connected with adult education professionals from across the country to exchange ideas, share successful program strategies, and gather new resources to bring back to our students and community.

The experience reinforced CARA's commitment to providing high-quality instruction, expanding workforce opportunities, and continuing to empower adult learners throughout Montgomery County and beyond.



Dr. Nunan receives grant for travel club

The Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Committee has awarded Crawfordsville Middle School teacher, Dr. Seth Nunan, the Gedalyah Engel Education Award, a grant that he will use to support more than 50 students on an educational trip to several World War II and Holocaust sites, including Auschwitz-Birkenau, in 2027.

The committee believes this experience is vital to bringing Holocaust education to the coming generations in a way that will allow students to walk in the footsteps of those of whom they have met in text only. With bravery, humility, and strength, this history must be shared to build an informed, mindful, and compassionate future.

Nunan said, "There is a limitless world beyond Crawfordsville that many people will never experience. It is an honor and privilege to provide an opportunity for students to experience a



mere morsel of that captivating world and the rich history tied to it. Since many of our students have never left Indiana, let alone the United States, passports are a necessary additional cost for this trip. The Engel award will allow me to provide proper documentation for approximately a dozen of my student travelers who do not already have it."

Enrollment is still open with 10 spots remaining. The link is www.eftours.com/2933266CJ

Anyone with questions can reach out to Dr. Nunan at snunan@cville.k12.in.us.





Athenian Way awards given for quarter 3

Collin Simpson (Nominated by Kris Ervin): Collin has been the voice of the CHS daily announcements for two years. His commitment to reading the announcements has been evident in how he rarely missed a day, showed up with enthusiasm, and brought a great sense of humor. He handled last minute changes & additions, and typos with ease and professionalism. In addition, his ability to read some of the announcements in Spanish truly made a difference. Collin's enthusiasm, pride, and involvement have been greatly appreciated!

Izabella Fernandez (Nominated by Amanda Ellenberger): Izabella is a wonderful student. She is kind and always respectful. She is also incredibly talented in art and is always trying to get better.

Maria Barco DeLeon (Nominated by Amanda Ellenberger): Maria is such a great kid. She is always kind and respectful. I appreciate her hard work and positive attitude.

Averie Davies (Nominated by Eric Danforth): I am nominating Averie Davies for the Athenian Way award. Averie works very hard at school and has shown the trait of being will-

ing to improve. Additionally, she has proven to be very considerate of others and is never an interference to the learning of others - she is a very good citizen here at CHS. Finally, Averie always shows good teamwork during group activities or competitions. It is for these reasons that I am putting Averie's name forward for the Athenian Way award.

Travis Roach (Nominated by Amanda Ellenberger): Travis is a sweet kid. He is always working so hard and is respectful. He gets his projects done on time and often does extra art on his own time.

Kensington Willhite (Nominated by Amanda Ellenberger): Kensi is always so polite and respectful. She is a great kid. I appreciate her positive attitude.

Hailli Omundson (Nominated by Amanda Ellenberger): Hailli is a fantastic kid. She is smart, a hard worker, and motivated. She is also very kind and respectful.

Tyler Hinton and Maxximo Jacome-Huesca (Nominated by Matt Dickerson): It has been a privilege to work with these 2 young men for the last 9 months. Both have taken pride in every

task they have been given and have not hesitated to get involved in all of the different jobs that being a Facilities Technician involves. They have both been respectful to me as their supervisor and the rest of the staff at SSC. Maxx and Tyler are very intelligent hard workers and I wish them nothing but the best in their future endeavors.

Sean Gerold (Nominated by Keri McDonald, Stacey Jackson, and Nicole Hathaway): He's been our savior and the one we can count on when having any issues we may need help with as a student. He'll pop in every once in a while to say "HI" and give fist bumps to our students. That act alone makes our students feel on top of the world. Your kindness is not unnoticed.

Murphy Cokel (Nominated by Shelley Clouser): Murphy has been a leader in my 4th period English class this year. He models the Athenian Way daily by demonstrating Grit, Pride, Respect, Involvement, and Kindness. He works hard every day and is focused on succeeding in school. Keep up the great work, Murphy!

Kent Calvert (Nominated by Jenny Veatch): Kent is one

of the kindest and most hard-working students I have. He consistently completes his work, isn't afraid to ask for help, and approaches everything with a positive attitude. What truly stood out to me, though, happened during our owl pellet lab. As he was preparing to join his usual group of friends, he overheard another student mention that their partner was absent and that all the groups were already full. Without hesitation, Kent stepped in and said he would be happy to work with him. This simple but thoughtful gesture speaks volumes about his character. Many high school students would choose to stay with their friends, but Kent willingly gave that up to make sure another student felt included. His kindness and empathy are a true reflection of the person he is.

Emily Roche (Nominated by David Pierce): Emily is a student that represents all the characteristics of the Athenian Way daily. She is respectful, kind, and demonstrates pride in her school work every day. I have watched Emily show grit throughout the year as she fights through the normal struggles of the school year. It's a pleasure

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to have Emily in class!

Lilly Peebles (Nominated by Emily Race): Lilly challenges herself in her coursework to improve her skills and critical thinking. She thoughtfully applies herself to new challenges and embraces the process.

Reed Gorham (Nominated by Emily Race): Reed is respectful and determined. His senior year, he has diligently worked to meet expectations and attain his goals. He advocates for himself when needed, and he treats both students and teachers with respect.

Colten Custer (Nominated by Emily Race): Colten is a student who challenges himself and holds himself to a high standard. Students in his classes see his example and push themselves, too. He also is a leader in helping students understand assignments or tasks, leading discussion, and setting a tone of engaged interest. He is always respectful to students and staff and seeks new opportunities to grow and learn.

Sami Maurer (Nominated by Emily Race): Sami comes to class every day prepared and excited to learn. She is always excited to discuss literature or learn a new writing skill to level up her abilities. She treats students and staff with respect, and engages enthusiastically with the curriculum, whether it's learning countries on a map, reading a novel with a friend, or giving feedback on writing.

Sami Maurer (Nominated by Craig Carrell): Sami Maurer is an outstanding nominee for the Athenian Award because she consistently exemplifies "The Athenian Way" through her pride, respect, grit, involvement, and kindness. As a student in my Algebra 1 class, Sami has distinguished herself through both her academic excellence and her character. Sami takes great pride in her work and consistently performs at a high level. She approaches each assignment with focus and determination, demonstrating the grit needed to

maintain her success. She is highly involved in the classroom, actively participating and staying engaged in her learning. What truly sets Sami apart is her respect and kindness toward others. She is always respectful to both her peers and teachers, and she willingly steps in to help classmates who may be struggling. Her positive attitude and willingness to support others contribute to a strong and encouraging classroom environment. Sami's combination of academic excellence and strong character make her a truly deserving recipient of the Athenian Award and a great example of "The Athenian Way."

Krystal Rogers (Nominated by Emily Race): Krystal has so much kindness and respect for her students. She holds them to a high standard, but she is always there to help them reach it. She supports our students in activities as a sponsor, and she supports our teachers as a TOR and sometimes co-teacher. She always strives to do her best and to level up what that best looks like. CHS is lucky to have her.

Olivia Jett (Nominated by Craig Carrell): Olivia Jett is a deserving nominee for the Athenian Award because she consistently demonstrates "The Athenian Way" through her pride, respect, grit, involvement, and kindness. I have had the pleasure of teaching Olivia in Algebra 1 as a freshman and now again in SAT Math Prep as a junior, and her growth over that time has been truly impressive. Olivia takes great pride in her work and is committed to improving, especially in a subject that can be challenging. She



shows grit by persevering through difficult concepts, particularly in Algebra 2, never giving up when the work becomes demanding. Instead, she actively seeks help, asks thoughtful questions, and puts in the effort needed to succeed. She is always respectful in the classroom, both to her peers and her teachers, and contributes positively to the learning environment. Olivia is also involved and engaged, consistently participating and striving to do her best. Beyond her academic efforts, she shows kindness by encouraging others and helping create a supportive atmosphere. Olivia's dedication, positive attitude, and work ethic make her an excellent example of "The Athenian Way."

Jazmine Hernandez (Nominated by Alyssa Powell): It is my pleasure to nominate Jazmine Hernandez for the Athenian Way Award. Jazmine demonstrates the core value of respect—for both others and herself. She has a gentle spirit and leads by example. She consistently shows respect and kindness in her daily actions. Jazmine shows respect to adults and teachers by saying "please" and "thank you," including others, and completing her work on time with excellence. She also has a strong sense of self-respect, following her moral compass with integrity. From this, a sincere kindness toward others naturally flows. Whether she is saying hello, sharing her warm smile, including others, or offering a note of encour-

agement, Jazmine consistently demonstrates the core value of kindness. It is a delight to have Jazmine in class.

Princy Patel (Nominated by Craig Carrell): Princy Patel is a highly deserving nominee for the Athenian Award because she consistently lives out "The Athenian Way" through her pride, respect, grit, involvement, and kindness. As a teacher assistant in my 6th period Analytical Algebra 2 class, Princy plays an important role in supporting both myself and her peers. Princy takes pride in her responsibilities and can always be counted on to complete any task I ask of her with a positive attitude. Her involvement goes beyond basic expectations, as she actively looks for ways to contribute and make a difference. What stands out most is Princy's respect and kindness. She is consistently respectful to everyone in the classroom and is always willing to step in and help students who need extra support with Analytical Algebra 2 concepts. Her patience and willingness to assist others create a welcoming and productive learning environment. Princy's reliability, servant-hearted attitude, and commitment to helping others make her an excellent representation of "The Athenian Way" and a truly deserving recipient of the Athenian Award.

Shawna Dowell (Nominated by Kelli Bowling): Shawna has embraced the challenge of taking honors English this year. She shows pride in her work by putting a great deal of effort into growing her writing skills with each essay over the course of the year. She shows respect and kindness in her interactions, especially in class discussions. From the beginning of the year, she was eager to participate in all aspects of class even if she was moving out of her comfort zone. As the year has progressed, she has grown into a skilled writer as a direct result of her diligent commitment to improving!