

“
Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.
 ”

-Warren Buffett

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Cory-Rawson Local Schools strive to develop productive citizens through an engaging, enriching education.

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CORY-RAWSON LOCAL SCHOOLS | FALL 2022

Two Cory-Rawson Educators Golden Apple Semifinalists



Bucher



Lee

The Findlay Rotary Club announced two Cory-Rawson educators have been named semifinalists for the organization's annual Golden Apple Awards.

Congratulations to semifinalists CRHS teachers Becky Bucher (family and consumer science and business) and Andrea Lee (junior high English language arts). Both will be interviewed and have their classrooms visited by the Golden Apple committee. A total of nine semifinalists (three elementary, three middle school and three high school) were identified. The Golden Apple winners will be announced on October 19.

Girls Soccer academic success recognized

The Cory-Rawson High School girls soccer team was awarded the United Soccer Coaches team academic award for a fifth year. A total of 307 soccer teams (118 boys, 189 girls) throughout the United States have earned the United Soccer Coaches High School Team Academic Award for exemplary performance in the classroom as a team during the 2021-22 academic year. To qualify for the award, the team must have a minimum grade point average of 3.25 for the entire academic year.



**Inside...
 Cory-Rawson Local Schools
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Athletic Department unveils "The Dom"



At the August 19, 2022 home football opener versus Bluffton, the weight room facility was officially dedicated as the "Dominic M. Francis Weightroom", which will be affectionately referred to as "The Dom". Dominic was tragically killed in the line of duty as a Bluffton police officer earlier in the year. Many community members, classmates of the class of 1998 and family members discussed how to best honor Dominic, and agreed honoring his name on our weightroom was fitting as he was a regular fixture there while coaching.

Dominic's wife Ricki and stepdaughter Taylor Born cut the ribbon to the renamed facility prior to kickoff. Dominic's classmates in the CRHS class of 1998 presented a specially-designed football from Wilson Sporting Goods to CRHS Principal Brianna Gerten and Superintendent Jay Clark at halftime.

Thank you to Athletic and Facilities Director Caleb Scott for planning the event and to the Cory-Rawson Athletic Boosters and Masterpiece Signs for their generosity in making this special tribute a reality.

CRHS students selected for Hancock Youth Leadership



Bacon



McVetta



Oman



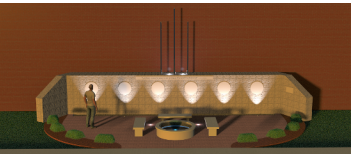
Skulina

High school students Olivia Bacon, Chelcie McVetta, Makayla Oman, and Carson Skulina were selected to be part of the Hancock Youth Leadership class of 2023.

The Hancock Youth Leadership program through the Findlay-Hancock Chamber of Commerce provides a select group of high school students hands-on experiences they need to develop their leadership and communications skills to create positive role models and future leaders committed to civic responsibilities.



**Scan to learn more about the
 Cory-Rawson Community
 Armed Forces Honor Garden**



Cory-Rawson Local Schools Annual Report 2021-2022

Where are we headed? The Cory-Rawson school community shaped a strategic plan over the last several years and we're now committed to putting that plan into practice and being accountable for outcomes. The below areas - culture, student learning, student experience, and communication - and related vision statements guide our efforts to continually improve. We're excited to share a snapshot of our progress thus far.



Strategic Plan +
Portrait of a
Graduate

Video: Small
school. Big
opportunities.



CULTURE

Develop a respectful, responsible, and safe learning environment.

A Video's Worth a Thousand Words: A district "culture video" was produced in spring 2022 and used to begin the 2022-23 school year.

Keeping a List: The "Pride in the Hive" documents each student and staff achievement throughout the school year and is live on our website.



Ken Rood, Director of Business Development and Sales at DNC Hydraulics, talks with CRHS students during our featured speaker series. A list of over 80 community and alumni connections has been created to provide real-world connections for our classrooms.

COMMUNICATION

Ensure transparent communication and promote dialogue within our community.

We're Becoming More Social: The district uses social media on a regular basis and has a reach of nearly 60,000 individuals between three different platforms.

Website Updated: The district website was updated in August 2021 and ties social media, push notifications, email, and text messaging together for efficiency.

Monthly Blog Published: The Buzz, a monthly online newsletter/blog is used to communicate upcoming events and share community announcements.

Into Mailboxes: The Voice was reinstated in winter 2022 to provide a vehicle to communicate with all district residents and partners in print form sharing progress on the district's goals and celebrating student and staff achievements.

STUDENT LEARNING

Provide student learning opportunities designed to prepare every student for future success.

Aiming to Improve: CRES uses Aimsweb student growth data to target interventions; holding regular data team meetings to identify effective instructional strategies. Students take Aimsweb assessments three times annually to help teachers identify gaps and determine student growth.

Expanded Offerings: CRHS expanded electives courses including robotics and visual arts, and the addition of football and basketball officiating and financial literacy. A technology course offered for college credit and helps students obtain a technology graduation seal is new for 2022-23.

Lending Support: The district moved toward a Curriculum/ Instruction & Career Development Director to support staff in classrooms in growing student achievement and to align our efforts with employers and higher education to provide graduates with the expanded opportunities. This position was created through the reallocation of existing resources.

Midday Preschool Transportation: One roadblock for many families in accessing preschool programming was the lack of midday busing. A midday route was added for 2022-2023.

Students on track in reading - September 2021	53.3%
Students on track in reading - May 2022	74.3%
Reading improvement over 2021-2022	+21.0%
Students on track in math - September 2021	49.6%
Students on track in math - May 2022	80.3%
Math improvement over 2021-2022	+30.7%

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Provide a variety of opportunities for growth inside and outside of the classroom.

Painting a Portrait: A team of staff, community members, and partners created our Portrait of a Graduate, which will be used to better define student outcomes and connect our classrooms to enrollment in post-secondary training and education, employment, enlistment, and entrepreneurship. The committee identified communicating, building relationships, thinking critically, and resilience as essential for future success.

Student Voice: A CRHS student advisory group was initiated in winter 2021 to provide student voice and an opportunity for leadership.

Authentic Audiences: The joint academic fair and art show was piloted in spring 2022. The event was a success and we plan to expand the effort in spring 2023 to include PK-12 programs.

Community Kickoff: A PK-12 community fair and open house kicked-off the 2022-2023 school year. "Hornet Launch" provided an opportunity for families to meet our staff and involved a number of community partners, booster groups, and student activities.

Cory-Rawson graduates are...



Financial Update

General Fund (FY22)

Revenues

\$8,422,620 total

38%	Real estate taxes (including homestead and rollback)
32%	State funds
26%	Income taxes
3%	Other revenues *
1%	Federal funds

Expenses

\$7,997,383 total

55%	Salaries
23%	Benefits
11%	Purchased Services
8%	Other expenses**
3%	Supplies & Equipment

*Other revenues includes tuition from other districts, interest, payments in lieu of taxes (Board of Revisions), class fees, and FCC license contract

**Other expenses includes county auditor and treasurer fees for tax collections, Educational Service Center costs, and liability insurance premiums

Pandemic-related grants and funds provided our schools a safety net from deficit spending (higher expenses than revenues). The district's cash reserve, or savings, stands at just over \$5.9 million.

Savings Strategies

Schools are a "people business" and thus, over 75% of our costs are related to salaries and benefits. We are always reviewing staffing to ensure we operate efficiently while providing opportunities and support for all students.

The district is aggressive in pursuing federal, state and other grant funding. In 2021-2022, technology, safety, and enhanced learning opportunities were all realized with resources from grant funding. Some of the specific savings measures utilized over the last year:

- Built teacher professional development time into existing school calendar, eliminating the need for stipends.
- Offered a retirement incentive to eligible teachers.
- Evaluated and adjusted trash service, internet hot-spots, and Educational Service Center contracts leading to lower costs and/or reallocation of savings to better serve our students, families, and staff.

Facilities Update

Our school campus includes buildings built in 1951, 1979, and 2013. In the coming years, we anticipate a few large projects including the replacement of high school boilers; updating HVAC in the auditorium, commons, the Hive and Abbey gyms; and, other updates to the high school. A committee will begin determining next steps for these large projects and other maintenance issues related to the high school.

Permanent Improvement Projects

Projects, all of which were funded through our permanent improvement levy, completed during summer 2022 include:

- Roofing: The roof on the front section of high school was replaced. Roof replacement for our flat roofs is on a 20-25 year cycle.
- Drainage: A few areas with drainage concerns were addressed.
- Concrete: Sidewalks were completed around the soccer building. The apron outside of the bus maintenance shop was replaced and a walk to the Wagner memorial tree was added.
- Asphalt Maintenance: Our parking lots and access road had spot work done and cracks were filled.
- Waterline Replacements: Three main water lines serving the high school were replaced after asbestos was abated. These travel in a confined tunnel running the length of the building.



Window films applied to all front entrances are both attractive and functional.



72-year-old waterlines serving the high school were replaced over the summer

Safety and Security

Using safety grant funds, the district designated one entrance at the high school to be used during the school day and access is controlled through a two-way video/audio console at door B4. Additionally, graphic window films were applied to the front entrances of the buildings, also provided using grant funds.

Technology

Replacement Chromebook computers were purchased for grades K-6 using a federal Emergency Connectivity grant. Federal funds were also used to update the elementary school wireless internet (wifi) in late summer.