

Report to the Parents 2021-2022

Catawba Ridge High School SIC, August 2022

Be The Why

The Catawba Ridge School faculty and staff set high expectations for all students in academics, the arts, athletics, character, extra-curricular activities, and community involvement. This school year the faculty and staff continued to grow the #BeTheWhy culture by creating opportunities for students to be selected as Students of the Month. These students are voted on by each department and embody the culture of #doright with positive attitudes, kindness and citizenship. The students receive a shirt that says, "I Am The Why," a certificate and free entry into athletic events for that month.

Also new this school year, CRHS students were afforded the opportunity to connect with local/state/national businesses & military to correlate what they are learning in the CTE and STEAM classes to future career opportunities. On May 6th CRHS hosted a STEAM day in collaboration with Celebrate Freedom Foundation, Duke Energy, Michele Branning (Keller Williams Realty) and Fort Mill School District. The stations allowed students to have conversations with professionals about Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math.



STEAM
 DAY 2022 @CRHS
 FRIDAY, MAY 6

ENGINEERING
 MATHEMATICS
 ART
 TECHNOLOGY
 SCIENCE

THE RIDGE

CATAWBA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
 1180 Fort Mill Pkwy
 FORT MILL, SC 29715

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

SPRINGS NOVANT HEALTH PIT DUKE ENERGY

Designed by: Ben Mattox // Digital Art + Design 1



**Daimler Truck
Station**



**Celebrate Freedom
Drone Tent**



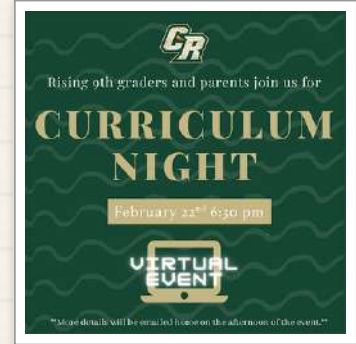
**Celebrate Freedom
Static Helicopter**

steam day 2022



Excellence in Academics

Whether preparing for college, service in the military or the workforce, Catawba Ridge provides students with the education they need to pursue their future goals. College readiness curriculum, vocational education opportunities, and military experience are all available for students to explore.



AP/Dual Credit

<https://sites.google.com/fmsdmail.org/crhaspdvirtualnight2/home>

Open House

<https://sites.google.com/fmsdmail.org/crhs-virtual-open-house/home>

Curriculum Night

<https://sites.google.com/fmsdmail.org/crhascurriculumnight2/home>

CRHS JROTC Program



Our young, but mighty, Corps of Cadets competed at Nationals in Pensacola and earned the designation as #12 JROTC Corps in the Nation! HUGE Achievement for our young Corps of Cadets, and the ONLY Navy NNDCC Unit to ever make it to Nationals! The unit was awarded the Excellence plaque as well as the prestigious Captain James Harvey Award, which is awarded to the unit that most exemplifies precepts similar to our CR mottos of "Do Right" & "BeTheWhy".



CR JROTC Area 6 Drone Champions



NJROTC Annual Military Inspection

Our Corps of Cadets underwent a personnel inspection by Navy Captain McKemey (Ret.) and performed for students, staff, parents and district representatives as part of their Annual Military Inspection. The Cadets were ALL IN! as they showcased their skills and talents.



NJROTC: Back to Back Champs at Area 6 Meet

<https://youtu.be/AA9ZP8KTUTI>

National Merit Scholar

Congratulations to Sam Rich, our finalist in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Competition.

High School students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT as a Junior. The selection of some 7,500 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of more than 15,000 Finalists is now in progress. In March, NMSC will begin notifying scholarship winners. **Please join us in celebrating Sam in this very prestigious competition!**



Excellence in CTE



Catawba Ridge News

Our Media Technology (television) program, CopperHEADSUp!, through CRN-TV, received numerous awards including 5 Best of Show and the highest rating of All Southern at the Southern Interscholastic Press Association Conference in March. In addition to the daily morning show, CopperHEADSUp!, CRN provides leading edge reporting on school and community events, as well as entertaining features throughout the school year. Example of such excellence in reporting may be viewed at the [Catawba Ridge News channel on YouTube](#).



Digital Art & Design

Katherine Mann and Emma Peleponuk were recognized by the FMSD board for their design of the FMSD 2022-23 [Program of Studies](#).



ECE & DAAD

Our Digital Art & Design group designed a Thanksgiving project in collaboration with the Early Childhood Education students and 4K students to create keepsake Thanksgiving placemats.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEw_Tafui7s&t=4s



Foods & Nutrition

Ms. Parra won a grant from York Electric. Ms. Parra will use the funds for a "Cooking in College" lesson in the Spring.



AgSci

Agricultural Sciences made good use of their greenhouse with the 2nd Annual Spring Plant Sale. The sale was open to community members to purchase items for their gardens or planters.



PLTW BioMed

PBS students collected baseline data for a polygraph experiment.

Excellence in our Staff

Our Faculty & Staff are the heart of our school. With over over 140 staff members in 2021-22, we served over 1,400 students by year's end. Each year in February, we vote on and honor a Teacher of the Year and Support Staff person on the Year.



**Christy Slater –
CRHS Teacher of
the Year**



**Rick Lewis –
SCHSL Region 4A
Athletic Director
of the Year**



**Libby Freeman –
CRHS Support
Staff of the Year**



Kay Connor – FMSD Student Nutrition

Congratulations to our Cafe' Manager, Mrs. Kay Connor, on being honored as the FMSD Student Nutrition employee of the year! Ms. Kay has been with FMSD Student Nutrition for 21 years and has served millions of healthy meals to our students.

Excellence in Athletics

Our athletics program continued to grow and excel this year with 21 of our 21 varsity sports teams qualifying for 4A playoffs. Cross Country boys were the 4A runner up in their division. Two of our teams played in the 4A upper state finals. We had 4 region player of the year winners and five coach of the year winners. We had 15 region championships this school year.

Team Records:

Baseball- 22-8 Region Champs, District 3 Championship Finalist

B Basketball- 20-6 Playoff Qualifier

W Basketball- 23-3 Region Champs, Upper State Finalist

Football- 6-5 Playoff Qualifier

B Soccer- 20-3 Region Champs, Upper State Championship Finalist

W Soccer- 16-4 Region Champs, Playoff Qualifier

Volleyball- 23-9 Region Champs, Upper State Championship Finalist

Softball- 22-4 Region Champs, Still in playoffs

W Lacrosse- 6-8 Playoff Qualifier

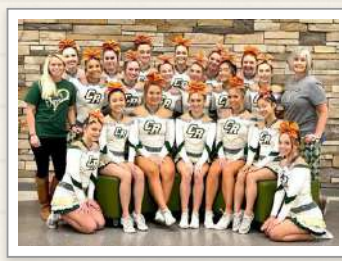
M Lacrosse- 7-8 Playoff Qualifier

M Tennis- 8-3 Region Champs, Playoff Qualifier
 W Tennis-14-4 Region Champs, Playoff Qualifier
 Wrestling- 19-7 Region Champs, Playoff Qualifier
 M/W XC Region Champs (M/W), 4A Runner up (Mens)
 M/W Track and Field Region Champs (M/W), State Championships in two weeks
 M/W Swimming Region Champs (M/W)
 M/W Golf Region Champs (W)
 Competitive Cheer- Region Champs



Ladies Golf

Our Ladies Golf Team came in 3rd at the State Championship at the Crescent Pointe Golf Club in Bluffton, SC.



Cheer

The CR Cheer Team came in 4th at State Qualifiers.



Cross Country

Our Boys Cross Country team earned 2nd Place and Girls earned 6th Place at the State Competition.



Girls Basketball Competed In Upper State



CR SWIM Region 3-AAAA championships.



CR Football Playoff Qualifier

Excellence in Performing Arts

BAND

The CR Band had a record setting year throughout the program.

- The marching band made the Bands of America Orlando regional finals, completing against some of the best bands in the Southeast placing 6th overall in finals. The marching band was also named the grand champion of the BandBeat Marching Band competition, beating both the Fort Mill and Nation Ford marching band. Finally, the

marching band won its first state championship, sweeping all competitive captions, the only band in the state to do so this year.

- The CR concert band, comprised mostly of Freshman, received superior ratings on stage at the South Carolina Band Directors Association (SCDBA) Concert Performance Assessment, and an excellent rating overall. The CR Wind Symphony received a superior rating with distinction, the highest award given by the SCBDA, at their Concert Performance Assessment in mid-March.

The CR Band also had record setting indoor seasons.

- The CR Colorguard made finals at their first Winter Guard International (WGI) regional in Rock Hill, SC, placing 3rd out of 25 competing teams. The guard went on to win their first SCBDA Winter Ensemble Championship in Mid-March and finished their season winning a Carolina Winter Ensemble Association (CWEA) A class Gold medal.
- The CR Indoor Winds, a brand new performing ensemble to the CR band program, won their first SCBDA Winter Ensemble Championship in Mid-March. They also won the CWEA Open class Gold medal and placed 5th at the WGI Winds World Championships held in Dayton, Ohio in late April.
- The CR Concert Percussion Ensemble also won their first SCBDA Winter Ensemble Championship in Mid-March, won a CWEA Gold medal in World Class, and placed 3rd at the WGI Percussion World Championships held in Dayton, Ohio in late April.

Individually, the Catawba Ridge band had a record setting year with 27 students making All-Region Band, and 4 making All-State Band.

The CR Band also held several community blood drives, is hosting our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament, and the Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble are performing at the first ever Fort Mill School District Music Showcase at Walter Elisha Park in late May.

THEATER and CHORALE

The Choral Program produced two shows this year: a winter concert in collaboration with Forest Creek Middle School, and *Nonsense the Musical Comedy* in the spring. Four students auditioned and were accepted to the SC Choral Directors Association Honor Choirs and three students were accepted to the South Carolina All State Chorus. The choral department collaborated with theatre to produce *All Together Now!*, a musical revue global effort to raise awareness of the arts during COVID.

The Catawba Ridge Repertory Theatre had a massive production season. Everyone was so ready to be able to have an audience this year! In the fall, Theatre 3 performed *Peter/Wendy* in conjunction with *All Together Now*, a Broadway fundraising concert that celebrated the reopening of theatres across the country and the impact the art form has on students. Spring was also a busy semester for Theatre. In February, we performed *Puffs*, a parody of a certain boy wizard named Harry. In April, we performed *Legally Blonde: The Musical Jr.* to rave reviews. Additionally, students in Theatre 2 and Dual Credit Theatre performed class plays titled *The Audition* and *War At Home*, respectively on May 13th. Lastly, drama club members with enough accrued points were inducted into the International Thespian Society on May 14th. Next year, we will produce *Elf: The Musical* in December, a student directed one-act in February, and *The Diary of Anne Frank* in April.



**CR Percussion:
WGI World Class
Bronze Medalists**



Legally Blonde



Nunsense



**CR Percussion &
Winds 1st at CWEA**

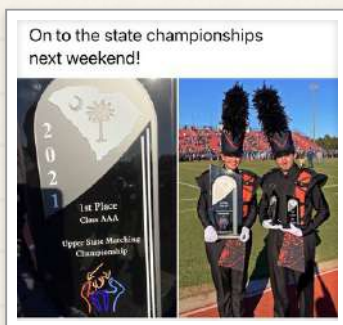


CR Winter guard

CR Winter Guard won their division (Class A) at CWEA Premier East at Corinth Holders HS in Wendell NC.



Puffs Performance



**Band 1st at Upper
State!**



**All Together Now
& Peter/Wendy**



CR BAND

Grand Champions and the Bandbeat Competition in Rock Hill!

Excellence in Visual Arts

The Catawba Ridge Visual Arts Program was actively involved in collaboration, community service, and cultivating a vibrant school culture. Visual Arts produced several gallery shows including Freedom Quilts, Design Principles, and an AP Art Showcase.



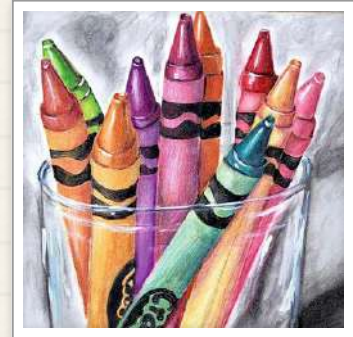
Gold Key Winner

10th grader Ethan Sellers Soto received a Scholastic Gold Key for three of his paintings and was recognized this week at the FMSD Board Meeting for his achievements. He is pictured with his art teacher, Mrs. Quinn. Congratulations, Ethan!



Culture Totems

Beginning Ceramics created Culture Totems. Each section is a representation of the students' heritage.



Drawing 1 Student Colored Pencil Art

Excellence in Organizations, Activities & Community

Clubs:

Clubs as diverse as our population. CRHS offers over 40 Clubs for every interest and passion. A complete list of clubs is listed on our webpage, including Diversity Club, Walk for Water, FCCLA, Sewing Club, Yearbook, Writer's Club, and Copperhead Cookie Club through Special Services. Club info was posted in the Art Gallery with remind or QR codes for more information.

Social Responsibility:

Our student organizations contributed to their community through Food and Cold Weather Gear Drives for the Fort Mill Care Center, the Copperheads Care initiative (Angel Tree), Care Packages for local First Responders, a Book Drive for the Historic Paradise Foundation, and monetary donations for Special Olympics through our Ice Bucket Challenge.

Building Community:

- STEAM Day
- Senior Special Events
- Student Council: Spirit Week & Traditions Tuesdays
- Ridge Fridays
- #BeTheWhy
- The Ridgies Academic Awards Show
- Hispanic Heritage Month

- Black History Month
- Disability Awareness Month
- Polar Plunge for Special Olympics
- Miss CR Pageant
- Community Blood Drives
- Coat Drive and Community Volunteers sponsored by Athletics Teams



Club Rush

Students were able to find out more about clubs that fit their interests during a Virtual Club Rush.

Model UN

The Model United Nations (UN) team placed second overall (The Secretariat Award) at Winthrop University. Kayla Southwood won an individual award (Distinguished Delegate) for her role as Palestine in the Security Council.

1st Ever Club Unified Track Meet

Catawba Ridge hosted our first ever Unified Track Meet vs North Central High School. Unified track and field is an opportunity for athletes with and without disabilities participate and compete in various track events.



Miss CRHS

Miss Catawba Ridge High –

Janelle Ilacqua

Miss CR Sweetheart – **Layla**

Gaskins

Miss Congeniality – **Jolie**

Nguyen

Miss Freshman – **Kylee Mathis,**

Runner Up – **Ja'Leeah Jones**

Miss Sophomore – **Julianne**

Bott, Runner Up – **Layla**

Gaskins

Miss Junior – **Brantley House,**

Runner Up – **Kylie Booth**

Miss Senior – **Tori Koerner,**

Runner Up – **Christine**

Honeycutt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=311xe7wBHj4>



The Venom Yearbook

The Venom Yearbook Team earned 2 Best In Show awards at SIPA, a 2nd Best in Show for Yearbook, and several other awards!

<https://youtu.be/o0Arebk09bg>



Mu Alpha Theta (Math Club)

Mu Alpha Theta celebrated Pi Day with a contest. The winner got to pie Mr. Meltzer in the face - he's such a good sport!



National FFA Week



Diversity Club

Several Copperheads were selected to attend the HBCU Fair. It was an opportunity for students to explore next steps and multiple students received college acceptances and scholarship offers.

The Diversity Club creates awareness and understanding in our campus community of different points of view and cultural backgrounds. [Watch this feature from Wednesday's CHU](#) for more info on how the club is making an impact at The Ridge!



Eagle Scout Award

Congratulations to Eric Finley on completing his Eagle Scout Award! Eric created an outdoor classroom for our school. He recently presented his project to the Fort Mill Rotary Club.

Excellence in Building Our Culture



Homecoming King & Queen

Homecoming Queen, Janelle Ilacqua and King, Asa Johnson!
(Photo Credit: Rob Upton Photography)



Polar Plunge

CRHS students raised almost \$1,100 during the Blitz for Special Olympics! **2nd Block Class Winner: Major Studley!!!** They collected \$629 from their class and their fundraising page. **Club Unified was the Team Winner with \$2,566.**

Our grand total: almost **\$7,500**, well over our goal of \$4K. 50% of all funds raised go directly back to CRHS Special Olympics. **OUTSTANDING!**



Staff Lunch

CRHS Faculty & Staff celebrating homecoming week together with a tailgate style lunch.



Holiday Spirit Week

Faculty/Staff & students celebrated Holiday Spirit Week with dress up days, prizes and treats!



Spirit Week

Students and adults always enjoy the Spirit Week with the dress up days and events!



Teacher Appreciation

CRHS administrators with the snack cart to spoil the teachers during teacher appreciation week.

About the CRHS School Improvement Council (SIC)

The School Improvement Council of Catawba Ridge High School is a group of educational stakeholders that promote and support academic achievement and civic engagement at

Catawba Ridge High School. This group of students, parents, teachers, and community members facilitates meaningful parent and community involvement at Catawba Ridge High School. The SIC meets monthly to discuss ways to support academic, athletic, fine art, and student body events. Also, they review policies and set annual goals aimed at targeting areas of need specific to the students of Catawba Ridge High School.

This year, the SIC focused on the following areas: Continuing to build a student driven culture #doright #bethewhy, safety protocols and overall building security, and recognizing diversity in our school and community.

SIC MEMBERS 2020-21

Elected Members

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Updated	Edit	Delete
1.	Bowman	Mia	Teacher			
2.	England	Michelle	Parent			
3.	Garcia	Isabella	Student			
4.	Honeycutt	Christine	Student			
5.	Lawrence	Shannon	Parent			
6.	Robb	Gary	Teacher			
7.	Uter	Aiyana	Student			
8.	Watts	Hannah	Student			

Appointed Members

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Updated	Edit	Delete
1.	Hill	Kristie	Community Member			
2.	McCoy	Karena	Community Member			
3.	Stover	Hannah	Community Member			
4.	Weslock	Rick	Community Member (Chair)			

Ex-officio Members

	Last Name	First Name	Title	Updated	Edit	Delete
1.	Logan	Holly	Assistant Principal			
2.	Wilson	Darren	Principal			

The Mission & Beliefs of Catawba Ridge High School

Catawba Ridge High School's mission is to unleash the talent of each student to become college and career ready and reach the heights of their potential.

Beliefs

We believe each student possesses the ability to learn.

We believe each student deserves a safe and supportive learning environment.

We believe communication among parents, faculty, staff, students and members of the community is essential and all are responsible for student success.

We believe each student can maximize learning through career-based educational opportunities integrated with business, government, and the community at large.

We believe in providing students with a relevant, challenging program of study.

We believe it is essential to use student achievement data and program evaluations to ensure continuous improvement.

About Fort Mill and Catawba Ridge High School

Fort Mill

The town of Fort Mill, South Carolina is located just south of the North Carolina state line. Nearly 20,000 people live inside the Fort Mill corporate limits with a total of nearly 50,000 people residing within the entire township. The Township of Fort Mill currently supports three high schools with a Catawba Ridge High School opening in the fall of 2019.

Catawba Ridge High School

The faculty of Catawba Ridge High School consists of teachers, one principal, four assistant principals, four school counselors, a media specialist, and numerous facilities and faculty support staff.

More than 200 course selections are offered, including Advanced Placement, Honors, and College Preparatory courses.

Catawba Ridge High School has more than 40 co-curricular activities and 22 athletic teams.



FORT MILL

Purpose of the Report

This report is issued by the Catawba Ridge High School, School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the

For more information regarding the Catawba Ridge High School SIC please contact Holly Logan at loganh@fortmillschools.org.



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