



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

The Mission of the Cranston Public Schools is, through collaboration with the entire community, to deliver a high-quality, aligned and evidence-based instructional system that is accessible and responsive to diverse learners, which is supported by finances and facilities for the 21st Century and promotes student achievement and success through active learning and personalization.

Our District Academic Expectations for Student Learning identify core skills and general knowledge that each CPS graduate must achieve. These include communication skills, problem solving, research, and critical thinking skills, self reflection, and cultural awareness. Proficiency in these areas is essential for successful, independent participation in society. Your senior portfolio is an opportunity to collect evidence of your achievements and serves as a reflection of your years as a student of Cranston Public Schools.

In addition to your academic standards, Cranston Public Schools asks students to reflect upon their high school career; from social-emotional skills, to overcoming challenges, to participation in extracurricular activities.

We ask students to present to a panel of judges prior to being awarded a diploma an answer to the following question:
What is your story?

This packet contains guiding questions and expectations for your senior portfolio presentation. The goal is for students to reflect on their years in Cranston Public Schools, and clearly articulate what shaped them into the person they are today, and how their high school career prepared them for the future.

Included in this packet:

Part 1: Academic Expectations for Student Learning

Part 2: Personal Reflection Guiding Questions

Portfolio Presentation Planning Guide

Portfolio Presentation Scoring Rubric

Portfolio Presentation Student Report

Cranston Public Schools Academic Expectations for Student Learning (AESL)



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

Part 1: Academic Expectations for Student Learning

To be eligible to graduate, you must complete at least twenty (20) artifacts that demonstrate proficiency in the District Academic Expectations for Student Learning. Of those, twelve (12) must align with Communication Skills (AESL 1-5), and eight (8) must align with Problem Solving, Research, and Critical Thinking Skills (AESL 6-9)

Of the 20 artifacts required for graduation, you will choose 2 for your portfolio presentation.

Use the checklist below to help you organize this piece of your portfolio.

You will need	Criteria	Completed
(1) Communication Artifact (satisfies AESL 1-5)	Completed in grade: _____ Meets AESL #: _____ Reflection included: Y/N	Yes/No
(2) Problem Solving Artifact (satisfies AESL 6-9)	Completed in grade: _____ Meets AESL #: _____ Reflection included: Y/N	Yes/No



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

Part 2: Personal Reflection

In addition to your academic standards, Cranston Public Schools asks students to reflect upon their high school career; from social-emotional skills, to overcoming challenges, to participation in extracurricular activities.

Use the following guiding questions to help you prepare the reflective component of your portfolio. This section should be the most important part of your presentation. This is the opportunity for you to tell your story, and answer the question- what makes you you.

Consider the following questions as building blocks for your presentation. You do not need to answer every single one, but be sure to include components from each section.



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

**Part 2: Personal Reflection
Guiding Questions**

1. Consider the goals you have set for yourself through your ILP. Which of the goals (academic, personal, career) stands out as the most important and valuable to you?
2. What was your greatest challenge in high school? How did you overcome that challenge?
3. What academic achievement are you the most proud of?
4. What was your favorite class that you took? Why?
5. What activity did you do for your community service? How did this experience make an impact on your life?
6. How were you involved in your school community? How did you make your mark?
7. Who was the most influential person in your high school career? How did that person have an impact on you?
8. How did your Cranston Public Schools experience prepare you for life after high school?
9. What are your plans for after June 11, 2022? How were you prepared for the next chapter of your life?
10. What are you the most passionate about?



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

Portfolio Presentation Planning Guide

Each student must present a portfolio presentation including proficiency in the Academic Expectations for Student Learning as well as a personal reflection.

Please review the Portfolio Scoring Rubric for help in preparing your presentation.
You will have 12-15 minutes to present.

- Section 1: Introduction
 - Introduce yourself
 - Select 3 words you would use to describe yourself
 - Engage the audience
 - Begin to tell “your story”
- Section 2: Academic Expectations for Student Learning
 - Proficiency in Communication
 - Describe the assignment
 - Explain why you chose it
 - What did you learn?
 - What did it mean to you?
 - Why is it important to you?
 - How did this assignment help you with your future?
 - Include at least 2 examples from the task/assignment
 - Proficiency in Problem Solving
 - Describe the assignment
 - Explain why you chose it
 - What did you learn?
 - What did it mean to you?
 - Why is it important to you?
 - How did this assignment help you with your future?
 - Include at least 2 examples from the task/assignment



- Section 3: Personal Reflection
 - Talk from the heart
 - Use the guiding questions to tell your story
 - This is the opportunity to personalize your presentation- what makes you you?
 - Include discussion of your ILP goals
 - Include discussion of your community service
 - Be sure to mention your post-graduate plans
- Section 4: Conclusion
 - This is where you will wrap things up for the audience
 - End with your summary or take-away message
 - What do you want to make sure your panel knows about you?
 - Invite questions
- Section 5: Question and Answer
 - When answering question restate important phrases or words
 - Point to evidence in your presentation
 - Be authentically yourself



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

Portfolio Presentation Scoring Rubric

Student Name: _____

Content (30 points, 5 points each)

- Makes Connections to District Academic Expectations for Student Learning
- Supports these connections with specific examples from the work
- Connect the artifact to their own life- what meaning it has to the student's goal after graduation, how it has impacted his/her own life.
- Thoughtfully reflects on how academic, social-emotional, and extracurricular elements of high school come together, and clearly answers the question: What shaped you into the person you are today?
- Reflects on ILP goals and community service
- Successfully uses a presentation tool (digital presentation, performance, or visual representation)

Organization (30 points, 5 points each)

- Maintains focus of main ideas throughout the presentation
- Presentation is organized
- Introduction: clearly identifies the student through a strong introduction
- Body: discusses 2 projects separately and each one's connection to the AESL standards with evidence. Uses guiding questions to thoughtfully reflect on one's high school career.
- Conclusion: Repeats the main points brought out in the introduction, and supports one's point of view with specific examples.
- Reflects thoughtfully on their experience as a Cranston Public Schools student and ties their academic, social-emotional, and extracurricular components into their future goals

Delivery (20 points; 5 points each)

- Dress is appropriate for professional presentation
- Presentation is within the 12-15 minute time limit
- Maintains eye contact with audience
- Appropriate rate and volume of speech



Language Use (10 points, 5 points each)

- Uses language appropriate to audience, occasion, and purpose
- Avoids use of slang or non-standard phrasing

Student Response to Audience Questions and Feedback (10 points, 5 points each)

- Listens to questions carefully and asks for clarification if necessary
- Answers the questions fully in a well-organized, clear response

Judge: _____

Score: _____

Comments:



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

Portfolio Presentation Student Report

Student Name: _____ Presentation Date: _____

Guidance Counselor: _____

Advisory Teacher: _____

Panel Members: _____

Strengths:

Areas for improvement (please ONLY check areas in need of improvement)

Content (30 points, 5 points each)

- Makes Connections to District Academic Expectations for Student Learning
- Supports these connections with specific examples from the work
- Connect the artifact to their own life- what meaning it has to the student's goal after graduation, how it has impacted his/her own life.
- Thoughtfully reflects on how academic, social-emotional, and extracurricular elements of high school come together, and clearly answers the question: What shaped you into the person you are today?
- Reflects on ILP goals and community service
- Successfully uses a presentation tool (digital presentation, performance, or visual representation)



Organization (30 points, 5 points each)

- Maintains focus of main ideas throughout the presentation
- Presentation is organized
- Introduction: clearly identifies the student through a strong introduction
- Body: discusses 2 projects separately and each one's connection to the AESL standards with evidence. Uses guiding questions to thoughtfully reflect on one's high school career.
- Conclusion: Repeats the main points brought out in the introduction, and supports one's point of view with specific examples.
- Reflects thoughtfully on their experience as a Cranston Public Schools student and ties their academic, social-emotional, and extracurricular components into their future goals

Delivery (20 points; 5 points each)

- Dress is appropriate for professional presentation
- Presentation is within the 12-15 minute time limit
- Maintains eye contact with audience
- Appropriate rate and volume of speech

Language Use (10 points, 5 points each)

- Uses language appropriate to audience, occasion, and purpose
- Avoids use of slang or non-standard phrasing

Student Response to Audience Questions and Feedback (10 points, 5 points each)

- Listens to questions carefully and asks for clarification if necessary
- Answers the questions fully in a well-organized, clear response

Comments:



- Student has successfully completed graduation portfolio requirement
- Makeup presentation required (a non-proficient score of below 70)

Panelist Signature: _____

Administrator Signature: _____



**Cranston Public Schools
Graduation by Proficiency
Senior Portfolio Packet**

Academic Expectations for Student Learning

The Cranston High School graduate exhibits across all content areas, proficiency in:

Communication Skills:

All students will evidence a comprehension of complex literary and informational texts, appropriate academic vocabulary, and accurate grammar, through the techniques of:

- AESL-1. Argument Writing
- AESL-2. Narrative Writing
- AESL-3. Informational Writing
- AESL-4. Speaking and Listening
- AESL-5. Visual and Performing Arts

Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills

- AESL-6. Functions of Algebra
- AESL-7. Geometry
- AESL-8. Scientific Inquiry
- AESL-9. Technology/Engineering Design