CHS COUNSELING CORNER
DECEMBER



www.cranfordschools.org/CHSCounseling



DECEMBER WELLNESS CALENDAR
2025-2026 SEL CALENDAR

MARKING PERIOD 2: November 11, 2025 - January 21, 2026
MID TERM EXAMS: January 22 - 27, 2026
MAKE-UP/REVIEW: January 28, 2026

UPCOMING COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING:
ACT: check the website www.act.org for current test dates and locations
SAT: check the website www.collegeboard.org for current test dates and locations

CLASS OF 2028: FOCUS ON THE FUTURE
Sophomores are invited to meet with their school counselors beginning December 10 at lunch time to explore their interests, discuss course selection and plan for pathways after graduation. These meetings are mandatory in order for sophomores to maintain open lunch privileges. Please click the link above to view your scheduled time. If you have lab at your designated meeting time, please reach out to your school counselor to reschedule.

2026-2027 SCHEDULING
Powerschool will open in February for online course selection and students will meet with their school counselors beginning in March to pick courses for the 2026-2027 school year. Please review the materials below in preparation for these meetings.
PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2026-2027
COURSE SELECTION SHEET 2026-2027
Please access the above materials to start planning your course selection for the 2026-2027 school year. All materials can also be accessed on the CHS School Counseling website.

We want to thank Ms. Taylor Valian for her time here at Cranford High School and wish her well in the future. Mrs. Gallo will be returning to CHS beginning January 5, 2026. Please reach out to her at gallo@cranfordschools.org or at 908-709-6300 at that time with any questions.

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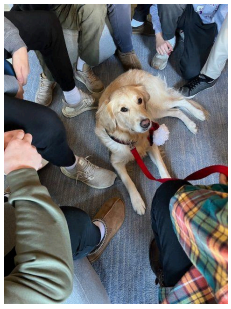
THE WELLNESS ROOM AT CHS
Thanks to the CFEE for a generous grant that helped to establish the CHS Wellness Room!
Wellness Room Flyer
Every other Wednesday is Wags for Wellness.
Tucker and Phoebe are frequently our special guests.

HOT COCOA BAR
Tuesday, December 16 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
The Hope Squad is excited to spread some holiday cheer and positivity with a Hot Cocoa Bar! All students are welcome to celebrate as a school community in the Wellness Room to enjoy activities and a warm cup of cocoa! Please CLICK HERE for more information regarding ingredients and allergens.

SENIOR INTERNSHIP MEETING
Friday, December 12 at 11:00 am
CHS Auditorium
Contact Mrs. Donahue or Mrs. Savino-Mulcahy with any questions.

WINTER/SPRING 2026 SAT PREP CLASSES
These are offered by the CHS Enrichment Academy. Please contact Mr. Jala at jala@cranfordschools.org with any questions.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING/JUNIOR NAVIANCE TUTORIAL : Missed the presentation?
Click the link above to access the slide deck.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) POTENTIAL
PSAT scores help identify your potential success in Advanced Placement classes offered at Cranford High School. The AP program gives students the opportunity to take college level courses while still in high school. After taking an AP course, students can take the corresponding AP exam which could earn them valuable college credit and placement. You may have received an email already from College Board identifying courses in which your teen could demonstrate success. Please go to: www.Collegeboard.org -> Sign in -> Student Score Reports -> AP Potential. The number of **green dots** shows your student's potential and then choose from a drop down menu

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to see how each AP course matches up with different majors. Please explore course options and contact your school counselor if you have any questions!

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EXAMS will be administered from May 4 through May 15, 2026. The cost is $99 per exam. You may late register beginning November 16, 2025 through March 1, 2026 by going to https://aptsusa.com/cranford/.

CLASS OF 2026 FAMILIES

The FAFSA is now available from the state of NJ. Completing the FAFSA is now a NJ state graduation requirement. Follow these directions to complete a form in Powerschool indicating if you're completing the FAFSA. You may also waive tracking data through the completion of this form. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Burfeindt, Director of School Counseling.

SENIORS…..JANUARY 1 DEADLINE FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Seniors…if you are applying to a college with a January 1 deadline, if you haven't already, you must see your counselor immediately. **The deadline was Monday, December 10** (10 school days prior to the college's application deadline) in order to allow ample time to send out the necessary paperwork. The CHS School Counseling office will be closed for the winter break.

GPAs IN NAVIANCE: All GPAs are updated in Naviance. Go to Naviance Student at https://student.naviance.com/cranford -> Click on About Me -> Click on My Account

2025-2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

Class size: 265	CHS School Counseling phone # (908) 709-6302/6303
School code: 310-260	CHS School Counseling fax # (908) 709-1850
CHS does not rank	GPA scale 4.0 = A
CHS GPAs are weighted	Passing grade is a 65

6th Semester GPAs (Freshman through Junior year) 9/2022– 6/2025

SENIORS: COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Parents must first complete the **PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT TO SEND TRANSCRIPTS FORM**

- Beginning **August 1**, Common Application at http://www.commonapp.org is open.
- Unofficial transcripts were mailed home in July. It includes Freshman, Sophomore and Junior year courses and grades.
- The list of courses is a guide to help you complete college applications. In order to apply to all colleges, an **official** transcript must be sent through the CHS School Counseling Office beginning in September.
- Students should follow the **10 STEPS OF COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

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LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FOR SENIORS
If you haven't done so already, please see your teachers in person to request a letter of recommendation. You should then follow up with the requests through Naviance by clicking on COLLEGES -> COLLEGES Home -> scroll to Letters of Recommendation under the Apply to Colleges banner -> Add Request -> select teacher from the dropdown -> select the specific college. Colleges must be entered into Colleges I'm Applying To before requesting letters.

SCHOLARSHIPS…Scholarship opportunities arrive daily and are posted on NAVIANCE. Watch for due dates!

THINKING OF PLAYING SPORTS AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL? Click here for NCAA eligibility rules. See your school counselor, coach or Mr. Torsone, Director of Athletics, if you have any questions.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

- Students may drop a course only with permission of their parents and a completed form.
- No schedule changes will be allowed during the first ten days of school, with the exception of course level errors.
- Students making level changes mid-marking period will have their grade calculation reflective of the time spent in the dropped class and the new class.
- Grade weighting is given to final grades only in honors and AP classes.
- Students who drop a course may be assigned to study hall. Early release and later arrival are not permitted in the case of a dropped subject without administrative approval. Seniors are not allowed more than the equivalent of a full year study hall in an academic school year.

Schedule Change Window #1 (through March 28, 2025)

- Change levels
- Add/drop electives

Schedule Change Window #2 (May 14 - May 30, 2025)

- Change levels through Course Waiver Form

SCHEDULE CHANGE MEETING: AUGUST 26, 2025

Schedule Change Window #3 (beginning the eleventh day of school: (September 18, 2025)

- Change levels: teacher initiated only

Schedule Change Window #4 (beginning the sixth week of first semester: (October 16 - October 23, 2025)

- Change levels: teacher and/or student initiated

- Drop a first semester elective and add a study hall for the first semester
- Drop a full year course and add a study hall for the first semester and add second semester elective

Schedule Change Window #5 (end of marking period one: (November 11 - November 18, 2025)

- Change levels: teacher and/or student initiated

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- Drop a first semester elective and add a study hall for the first semester
- Drop a full year course and add a study hall for the first semester and add second semester course
- Marking Period One grade will be recorded on the report card from the dropped class
- Dropped courses will result in a W/P (Withdrawal Passing) or W/F (Withdrawal Failing) recorded on student's transcript

SCHEDULE CHANGE MEETING: JANUARY 22, 2026

Schedule Change Window #6 (beginning the end of marking period two: (January 29 - February 5, 2026)

- Change levels: teacher and/or student initiated
- Drop a full year course and add a study hall or an elective for the second semester course
- Grade calculation: Marking Periods One and Two will be recorded on the report card from the dropped class

Schedule Change Window #7 (beginning the sixth week of marking period 3: (March 12 - March 19, 2026)

- Change levels: teacher and/or student initiated
- Drop a second semester elective and add a study hall for the second semester
- Drop a full year course and add a study hall for the second semester
- Dropped courses will result in a W/P (Withdrawal Passing) or W/F (Withdrawal Failing) recorded on student's transcript

Schedule Change Window #8 (beginning of the end of marking period 3: (April 9, 2026 - April 16, 2026)

- Drop a second semester elective and add a study hall for the second semester
- Drop a full year course and add a study hall for the second semester
- Courses dropped will result in a W/F recorded on the student's transcript.