



CRAIG ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

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**Christy House, Principal
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**Craig Elementary & Middle School
August 2026 Board Report
Principal: Christy House**

Looking ahead to the new school year, I am excited about the opportunities ahead for our students and staff. With a strong team and a shared commitment to student success, we are looking forward to a positive and productive year.

As we prepare to begin the school year, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our maintenance crew for their tremendous work in preparing Craig Middle School for our students. This has been no small task, and their dedication, flexibility, and hard work have been instrumental in bringing the school to this point. Their efforts are truly appreciated.

The middle school is nearing completion, and we are excited to welcome our students at the end of the month. The new space is beautiful and provides a learning environment that our students, staff, and community can be proud of. It has also been exciting to see our new teachers on campus, setting up their classrooms, making the spaces their own, and preparing to welcome students. While there are still some final details to complete, we know those pieces will come together through continued teamwork and collaboration.

Electronic Enrollment

CEMS will be transitioning to electronic enrollment through PowerSchool, our student information system (SIS). Our technology and administrative teams have completed training to prepare for this new process and help ensure a smooth transition for students and families.

As with any new system, there will be a learning curve as we become familiar with the process. Our goal is to make enrollment more efficient, streamlined, and convenient for everyone. We appreciate the patience and flexibility of our families and staff as we navigate this transition together, and we look forward to refining the process along the way.

CEMS Certified Staffing

I am excited to begin the new school year with our schools fully staffed, including a wonderful group of new teachers at CMS. We are thrilled to welcome these educators to our school community and look forward to the fresh energy, ideas, and expertise they bring to our classrooms. We are grateful to have such a strong team in place and are excited about the opportunities ahead to support student learning, growth, and success.

Craig Elementary School Teachers

- Kindergarten – Grace Edenshaw
- 1st/2nd Grade – Vanessa James
- 2nd/3rd Grade – Dior Vaughan
- 4th Grade – Emily Kelly
- 5th Grade – Mike Nelson
- Title I – Tricia Stock

Craig Middle School Teachers

- English/8th Grade Social Studies – Robert Jeffrey
- Mathematics/7th Grade Social Studies – Luke Dinon
- Science/6th Grade Social Studies – Shannon Peele

CCSD Shared Teachers

- K–12 Health/PE – Jessica Becker
- K–12 Music – Rachael Balcom
- K–12 Native Arts – Ronnie Fairbanks

CCSD Special Programs Teachers

- CES/CMS Special Education – Nona Lindquist
- CMS/CHS Special Education – Margaret Gore
- K–12 Counselor – Melissa Peavey

Upcoming Activities and Events

- **August 25–26:** Staff Inservice
- **August 27–28:** Teacher Workdays
- **August 31:** CCSD Schools Open
- **September 16:** Vision and Hearing Screenings

Cross-country programs for both elementary and middle school students are scheduled to begin around the start of the school year.

Assessment Results

State testing results from the AK STAR and Alaska Science Assessment will be distributed to families soon. Additional information regarding the release and review of assessment data will be shared as it becomes available.

Looking Ahead

There is a wonderful sense of excitement and anticipation as we get closer to opening the doors at CEMS. We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to making this transition possible and are looking forward to a great start to the school year. We cannot wait to see our students fill these new spaces, make them their own, and begin creating new memories together.