CRAIG HIGH SCHOOL

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October 2026 CHS School Board Report

This month was full of sports, meetings, and challenges.

Academics: As noted at the last board meeting we are down our ELA teacher. A long-term substitute position was posted but finding certified candidates is difficult. I contacted multiple universities in Alaska and in North Carolina in hopes there are mid year graduates who may want to fill the position. So far only UAA replied. They directed me to their online system the university uses to connect employers to students. I plan to complete that posting soon in the hopes someone is interested.

In the meantime I have taken up the planning, grading, and at times, teaching of the classes. I would like to thank Pam Penrose for stepping in the week of 10/12 - 10/16 to reset the class and bring back some expectations for work. She was able to relay some important information to me about curriculum pacing and differentiation that students in those classes need. I am doing my best to create lessons that are more than just “read and answer”, but it is difficult without a dedicated teacher there.

On the 15th and 16th we hosted our parent-teacher conferences. 30 out of our 72 students had a guardian attend. Turnout on Thursday afternoon was low, which we attribute to the storm, but picked up on Friday.

CHS also hosted the Student Council and grade level elections. Madison Conatser was elected President, Kailee stock Vice-President, Aulis Nelson Secretary, and Jack Conatser Treasurer. They are holding meetings at lunch on Wednesdays with their immediate goal to process fundraising requests to ensure equal access to opportunities.

Athletics: Volleyball and Wrestling dominated the athletic calendar this month. Volleyball traveled to Metlakatla and Ketchikan for matches while wrestling went to Juneau. Both teams hosted or are hosting their own tournaments here at Craig. Rayne Fraley went undefeated during the wrestling tournament and we will wait to see the volleyball results on 10/24.

These tournaments included senior night recognition for Aulis, Ashlynn, Lincoln, Maddy Payton, and Rayne. Congratulations to all of them for their accomplishments in and outside of athletics.

On a minor note, I did notice that during our sporting events visitors have a tendency to park in the emergency lanes and not in our parking lot. During the wrestling tournament cars were

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parked on the curb running down the hill. While the left side of the lane does have spaces for parking, the right does not. I do worry that in case of an emergency this would make it difficult for responders to get close to the building.

Building and Campus: We believe we had our first documented bear visit this year. The curious creature found some leftover scraps in our cardboard bin and helped themselves to a small snack. Unfortunately we were not able to see the bear on video due to our camera coverage limitations.

Our construction class is working on setting up the greenhouse donated by Ms. Beck and Mr. Andrews. The class plans to pour the concrete foundation soon and then continue with the rest of the structure as the weather allows.

Cellphones: Staff took time during Flex to review the student handbook and reiterate the relevant policies to students. The efforts greatly reduced the amount of headphones we are seeing. That being said, some students are having a harder time adapting and we are working on identifying why.

Community Partnerships: Generations Southeast learning center inquired about setting up a tour for students. They would like to showcase the vocational, career, and cultural education opportunities they provide. We are looking to visit sometime in early December.

Looking Ahead: Filling the long term substitute position is the priority. Currently planning, grading, and occasionally teaching has taken up a significant amount of my time. Other areas that require my attention are getting pushed aside to prioritize student education.