Crosslake Community Schools - Online High School. Principal's report
Submitted by: Rose Bierce, Online High School Principal Date: 11/23/26

News/updates/events

- Hosted a highly successful in-person overnight field trip to the Long Lake Conservation Center.
- Celebrated Halloween with a staff costume contest and K-12 online student event

Staffing updates

- **Benefits Financial Impact:** The recent 40% health insurance premium increase is causing severe financial distress among our staff. For many families and single-income households, these new rates effectively act as a $3,000 to $6,000 annual pay cut. Alarmingly, several staff members have shared they are choosing to go entirely uninsured next year because they simply cannot afford the new premiums.
- **Staff-Proposed Solutions:** In a testament to our team's collaborative spirit, staff proactively brought forward several ideas to help offset these costs in the future. These include capping other budget line items (such as mileage reimbursements for non-mandatory events), exploring district-wide fundraising or PTO initiatives, and ensuring resources for state programs like MNsure are actively distributed.

Curriculum

- Meeting with academic departments to finalize the list of remaining courses transitioning from FlexPoint. This early preparation guarantees a smooth school-wide transition to the Buzz LMS for the upcoming school year.
- Continuing monthly check-ins with the 9th-grade team piloting the Buzz platform to monitor system performance.
- Actively utilizing our graduation monitoring systems in collaboration with the MDE Continuous Improvement team to identify and support high schoolers who require targeted pacing interventions.

Professional Development

- Continuing our active participation in the SY 27 COMPASS Continuous Improvement Graduation Communities of Practice (BrightWorks) to refine our evidence-based practices.
- Applying principles from my Ed.S. "Ethical and Legal School Leadership" coursework
- Following our AI Professional Development session, staff are successfully implementing new tools to streamline administrative workflows and enhance online instruction.

Looking Ahead

- Thanksgiving Break: November 25-27