

Directors' Report
CCS Board of Education Meeting, April 15, 2024

Great news - based on our performance over the past three years, Osprey Wilds has notified us that we are eligible to do an extension of our current contract from 3 to 5 years! This is wonderful as it shows what amazing progress we have made and doesn't require us to do the renewal process for a couple more years so we can show even more improvement before that time.

MCA testing continues! Big thanks to Abi Swenson for coordinating and to all those proctoring and helping out!

We are sending out a quick parent survey from the long range planning team. We are hoping for some very positive feedback.

We have been working closely with our new financial provider, Creative Planning. They have been providing excellent support and service so far! Big thanks to Kelly Bittner for rolling with all the changes and making adjustments to processes and procedures.

Our CCS LinkedIn page is now active, please connect with the school's page on LinkedIn if you're active! List your board service with us if you haven't already!

Online Program

Current online enrollment is 355 (33: K-5, 47: 6-8, 275: 9-12). We are full and on a waiting list for grades 6-12, and at 87% for K-5!

Our team and students are at a multi-day field trip at Osprey Wilds! This is a big first for us, major thanks are due to Becky Gilbertson for coordinating all the logistics!

We have several excellent candidates for the Associate Director and Reading Interventionist positions and hope to make offers by the end of April.

Osprey Wilds will be doing their online site visit on Wednesday, April 24. They will be interviewing students, teachers, staff, and observing online classes.

Summer school registration forms will be sent out this week. We plan to have a similar program to previous years, with students in grades 6-8 eligible for a math class, and grades 9-12 eligible to take one course in math, social studies, English, or PE/Health. To qualify, students must have failed at least one course in the past and this is designated to be credit recovery.

This spring we are again running a "STAR WARS" competition to encourage student participation and effort on our STAR tests. Hoping to go out with a BANG for this last STAR assessment before we replace it with FastBridge next year!

Administrative evaluations for licensed staff begins this week. This is done on a 3-year cycle, and is in addition to the annual evaluation activities done by the QComp leads.

Graduation planning is underway - the ceremony will be at the Crosslake school building on Friday, May 31, at 2 PM. Board members, please plan to attend if you are available. We expect to recognize approximately 73 graduates at the ceremony! The LAKE Foundation is again offering the Christine Sesin Memorial scholarship to 2 CCS graduates!

MCA testing went very well this year. We are waiting to hear about final numbers but anecdotally, it appears that we had a much higher participation rate this year than in the past! Big thanks to Abi Swenson for all her work to make this happen.

Seat Based Program

Our enrollment is steady and consistent. If all students stay and combine with new students, we will be 10 above where we currently are.

We are brainstorming new options and ideas for the library. If we had a touch more space, we would love to have our own in the building, however, our space is quite tight.

I met with Michael Padgett from MACS (Minnesota Association of Charter Schools) on 4-9-24. He was very impressed with what we had going on here at CCS. He said we will be recognized next year for our 25th year. He also stated that we are managed very fiscally responsibly. I gave huge kudos to Ronda Veit and the Finance Committee. He stated that many schools run in the red, and Ronda stated that this had not happened since the beginning of the school. This was great to know!!

We have begun our assessments and standardized testing. The kids adjust pretty well to this. It does get long at times and we are looking at a few other options for next year.

Since the exit of Mr. Newton, we are brainstorming with various options for music instruction next year. We don't want any of our music to go away, but we need to work on restructuring. I am proposing to have STEM become a full time position as the kids thoroughly enjoy it and of course it's absolutely what the next generation demands.

We are preparing for Earth Day festivities. We are enjoying community service while participating in this adventure.