



Heather Mendonsa, Principal  
Jackie Hanson, Superintendent  
www.paceschool.net  
866-864-5491

DATE: 4/10/25

**Dear PACE Parents and Families,**

I'm writing to share some important updates regarding staffing and office changes at PACE Statewide Homeschool, along with the reasons behind them. As you may be aware, because of uncertain state funding, CCSD, along with every other district in the state, is facing a significant budget deficit this year. Our primary focus continues to be support for students and staff while attempting to develop a balanced budget.

Last month, I submitted my resignation as PACE Principal and Contact Teacher, effective June 30, 2025. I have accepted a position with another school district and wanted to ensure there was adequate time to transition and find a new principal for PACE. Following my resignation, CCSD identified an opportunity to restructure in a way that aligns more closely with current budget realities.

Starting in July 2025, the PACE Principal position will be combined with the Craig High School Principal role. Josh Andrews, the current Craig High School principal, will assume this new dual role. Mr. Andrews has been with Craig City School District since 1999 and is a lifelong Alaskan with deep roots in the community.

Additionally, Jen Whicker—one of our founding PACE teachers—will be retiring at the end of this school year. We are currently in the process of hiring her replacement. Mrs. Whicker has worked from our Ketchikan office, which will be closing due to high operational costs. Ketchikan families will continue to receive full support from PACE contact teachers.

We recognize that these are significant changes. Please know that each decision was made with thoughtful consideration by the school board and superintendent, with the goal of addressing our financial challenges while continuing to provide strong support to PACE families and staff.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns. It has been an honor to work with you this past year. Sincerely,

Heather Mendonsa (PACE Principal / Contact Teacher)

CRAIG	KETCHIKAN	ANCHORAGE	WASILLA
100 School Road P.O. Box 800 Craig, AK 99921 866-864-5491 option 4	2417 Tongass Ave. Suite 209C Ketchikan, AK 99901 866-864-5491 option 4	4241 B. St. Suite 203 Anchorage, AK 99517 866-864-5491 option 1	231 E. Swanson Ave. Suite 31 Wasilla, AK 99654 866-864-5491 option 3