



CRAIG ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Craig Elementary & Middle School January Board Report Principal: Christy House

As we welcomed students and staff back from winter break, CEMS has hit the ground running. MAP testing has begun and will continue through the end of the month, providing valuable data to celebrate student growth and guide instruction. Students are participating in a variety of opportunities, including CES swimming lessons, CMS wrestling, and the Federal Subsistence Art Contest. In addition, CMS has launched new elective courses this semester, with first-hour options in Art, Journalism, or Band, and sixth-hour options in Drama, Health/PE, or SEALs. This report highlights recent staffing updates, current enrollment, extracurricular programs, assessment progress, and upcoming events as we move into the second half of the school year.

CEMS Staffing Updates

I am pleased to share several positive staffing updates. We have recently filled the CMS long-term social studies substitute position. Jessica Hughes, a retired CHS teacher, has stepped in to support our students through the remainder of the school year, and her experience and willingness to help are greatly appreciated.

We have also filled the CMS wrestling head coaching position. Alex Vickers will serve as head coach, assisted by Hunter Fitch. Both are CHS alumni and former wrestlers. We wish them the best of luck as they lead our wrestling program this season.

Finally, another success worth celebrating is that all paraprofessional vacancies have been filled for this school year. We recently hired Daisy McNamara and Tina Nelson as paraprofessionals, completing our staffing for the special education department. We are pleased to welcome Daisy and Tina to the CEMS team.

Several upcoming positions have been posted, including a 4th grade teacher at CES, an English/Language Arts teacher and a Science teacher at CMS, and a K–12 Health/PE teacher. We look forward to welcoming qualified candidates to these important roles.

CEMS Enrollment (as of January 21, 2025)

- **CES:** 89 students
- **CMS:** 45 students

CEMS Extracurricular Activities

CMS Wrestling – The CMS wrestling season is full swing, with many student athletes participating. Currently we have 17 CMS students participating and 2 students joining our team from homeschool programs. The first meet is scheduled in Klawock January 23-24 and Craig hosts the Island Tournament in February. Go Panthers!

CEMS Events and Happenings

CEMS Winter Concerts – Elementary and middle school students performed at the winter concert held in the CHS auditorium, filling the space with music, cheer, and festive spirit. We extend a sincere thank you to Mrs. Balcom for her dedication and continued commitment to our music program, which made this event a success.

CES Swimming Lessons – Swimming lessons are continuing at CES, with third grade recently completing their sessions. Ms. James' first- and second-grade students began their lessons this week. We greatly appreciate the partnership with the community pool for making this valuable learning opportunity possible for our students.

Federal Subsistence Art Contest – CEMS students were given the opportunity to create and submit original artwork for the Federal Subsistence Art Contest. This experience allowed students to express creativity while connecting art to cultural, environmental, and community themes. All entries are due before February 20th.

CEMS Assessment Updates

MAP testing has begun and will continue through the end of the month. This data will allow us to recognize and celebrate academic growth while helping guide instruction and support students throughout the remainder of the year.

Upcoming Activities and Events

- January 23-24: CMS Wrestling @ Klawock
- January 26-30: MAP Testing 3rd and 5th
- January 28: CCSD School Board Meeting @ CHS Library @ 7:00
- January 29: CES Grades 3-5 Awards Assembly @ 2:25 in CES Cafeteria
- January 30: CMS Grades 6-8 Awards Assembly @ 1:25 in CES Cafeteria
- January 31: CMS Wrestling @ Thorne Bay
- February 6-7: CMS Wrestling @ Ketchikan
- February 12: Parent-Teacher Conferences / Early Dismissal @ 1:45
- February 13: Parent-Teacher Conferences – No School
- February 14: CMS Wrestling Island Tourney @ Craig
- February 16: Elizabeth Peratrovich Day
- February 20: Subsistence Art Contest - Entries postmarked

- Battle of the Books - Library closed February 24-26
 - 24th- 7th and 8th Grades Compete
 - 25th - 5th and 6th Grades Compete
 - 26th - 3rd and 4th Grades Compete
- March 17: CMS 8th Grade Students/NAEP Testing
- March 23-27: Spring Break