

**Directors' Report**  
CCS Board of Education Meeting, October 16, 2023

We had our first strategic planning team meeting of the school year. Participants were engaged and provided great feedback, we are looking forward to seeing how it all comes together.

We've been working with Kelly Bittner and our benefits coordinator to continue improving the benefits we offer to staff, more info is included in this board packet.

The WBWF and Annual Report is a huge undertaking, many thanks to all the staff who contributed!

Committees are underway, chairs are reaching out to committee members to schedule first meetings and plan for the year. Thanks to all involved and especially the CCS Team members for helping sort out all the details!

This is a report-heavy time of year. In addition to the WBWF and Annual Report, we are also working on our Data Report for Osprey Wilds, and other required assurances for MDE. Multiple staff in both programs contribute to these reports.

ReGroup Therapy is up and running as an option for our students. Families can fill out the referral form online or connect with the school social worker in either program to get connected.

### **Online Program**

Enrollment: Currently we are at 303 enrolled students (25:K-5, 32:6-8, 246:9-12) plus 2 tuition-paying students (out-of-state or homeschooled).

We had a staff focus group for the strategic planning process on October 5. Staff reported that they felt it went well and was productive. Online student and parent focus groups are scheduled for October 25.

At our October 5 staff development meeting, we received some excellent mental health training from Tia at ReGroup Counseling. ReGroup is providing teletherapy to our students again this year, and will soon be getting a counseling group up and running for online students.

Staff have received their school apparel provided by the generous Lions Club donation. This is much appreciated and staff are so excited to have "gear" with our new logo! We are looking into having an ongoing "school store" available with Shirtz Plus of Aitkin, who we have worked with for several years on our senior t-shirts, so that staff, students, and families can purchase CCS apparel as desired.

The online learning law in MN has changed, and comprehensive providers (meaning that they only serve their own enrolled students) are no longer required to get special approval. However, schools that provide supplemental online coursework to students from other schools (which we also do) still need to go through a continuous improvement/approval process. We have been attending meetings and trainings to learn more about what this new process will entail.

### **Seat Based Program:**

We are beginning to see a few new students come to our middle school program. This growth is exciting! The kids are coming from the area and a few from out of state. The students are enjoying their time here and are very happy to be part of CCS.

Our October program was for the 4th - 8th grade students. Tasha Schuh returned after a five-year absence. This remarkable woman shared her story of her PATH (Purpose, Attitude, Team, Hope). The students truly enjoyed her and learned so much.

Library has begun and all involved are enjoying the visits. The library staff is pleased with the students' behavior and their participation and the students enjoy attending as well.

Leadership team is a group of staff representatives that meet each week. This group works closely with me to set direction and ensure the mission of the school. These people are truly passionate about every decision of the school and desire to keep it moving in the right direction every day.

MTSS has begun. This group meetings bi-monthly and hears and compiles all requests for multi-tiered interventions for students then decides which students should be brought forward for further intervention and instruction.

Title 1 consists of 3 teachers and 1 paraprofessional. This team has been incredibly busy assessing and placing students for interventions.

Conferences were a huge hit and very well attended. This is always such a good time to get to know our families which in turn helps to get yet another snapshot into the lives of our students and more insights to teach them to learn.

Team Works long-range planning team meetings continue. We have met with the regular focus groups, the 7th and 8th grade students, a 2-parent group that will be rescheduled and shortened and an upcoming all-staff group on October 23 at our inservice.. This is a large undertaking and we are hoping to get some amazing results and data from this!

The weeks have flown by! We are having a great year!