

Craig Elementary & Middle School: Board Report

Principal's Introduction – Craig Elementary and Middle School

There has been a change in administration at Craig Elementary and Middle School, and I am honored to step into the role of principal for the 2025–2026 school year. My name is Christy House, and I have been a proud member of the CEMS staff for the past 15 years as a classroom and Title I teacher.

During my time in Craig Schools, I've had the privilege of working alongside a team of dedicated educators, supportive families, and outstanding students. These experiences have deepened my commitment to our school community and strengthened my belief in the incredible potential we have when we work together as a unified team. With continued teamwork and Panther pride, I'm confident this will be a successful year. Go Panthers!

CEMS Certified Staffing

CCSD Craig Elementary School Teachers

- Kindergarten/1st Grade – Grace Beckman
- 1st/2nd Grade – Vanessa James
- 3rd Grade – Dior Vaughan
- 4th Grade – Bernie Grieve
- 5th Grade – Mike Nelson
- Title I – Tricia Stock

CCSD Craig Middle School Teachers

- English/Science – Bill Seibel
- Mathematics/Science – Marsha Browder
- Social Studies/Science – James Anderson

CCSD Shared Teachers

- K–12 Health/PE – John Morgan
- K–12 Music – Rachael Balcom
- K–12 Native Arts – Ronnie Fairbanks

CCSD Special Programs Teachers

- CES/CMS Special Education – Kathy Freeman
- CMS/CHS Special Education – Margaret Gore
- K–12 Counselor – Melissa Peavey

Several extra duty contracts have been filled, and we are continuing to seek qualified staff to fill the remaining positions.

CEMS Construction

Superintendent Hanson has provided consistent and detailed updates on the progress and timeline of the construction projects at both the elementary and middle schools. The elementary school is projected to be completed by August 27th—just days before the scheduled start of the school year. I recently toured the site with the contractor and can confirm that work is progressing according to plan. Given the inherent uncertainties that come with construction, flexibility will be essential in our school operations as we begin the year.

Upcoming Activities and Events

- *August 26-27: Staff Inservice
- *August 28-29: Teacher Workdays
- *September 2: CCSD Schools Open
- *September 25 or 26: FBI Presentation at CMS

Cross Country programs for both elementary and middle school students are scheduled to begin around the start of the school year.

State testing results from the AK STAR and Alaska Science Assessment will be available to districts soon, with a later disbursement to families. Stay tuned for more details on the release of this assessment data.