



Craig City School District

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FOR: School Board Members
FROM: Chris Reitan
DATE: August 24, 2022
SUBJECT: Superintendent Report

Student Learning

CCSD August 25 and 26 All Staff In-Service - Attached for the Board’s review are the outcomes and agenda for the August in-service. The CCSD administrative team met on Wednesday, August 17 to add more detail to the in-service.

Alaska Reads Act - On May 18 the legislature concurred and passed the “Alaska Reads Act”. During the 2022-23 school year DEED and Alaska school districts must prepare for implementation for the 2023-24 school year. There is a lot packed into this bill.

- I can see this being really problematic for homeschool programs to live into especially with the regular (three times a year) screening of all K-3 students. My sense is that many families will opt out of this screening but I would predict we would have some families who would like the information to better support their child(ren) and we will need to determine how we support homeschool families in a consultive profile with implementation.
- With our K-3 Craig based families I can predict some families opting out of the screening but not many. We will need to have lot of discussions this coming school year with our elementary staff on what this might look like from an implementation and staffing standpoint. I’m anticipating utilizing some of our Friday early outs to bring staff up to speed and begin determining our initial first steps.

I’ve included the first page of the bill and all sections associated with Reading Intervention.

Resource Management

FY 22 Audit – CCSD’s auditors, Altman Rogers and Company, visited Craig from Monday, August 15 – Friday, August 19 for our FY 22 audit. We are expecting that audit to be publicly available in November for final Board action on the FY 22 budget.

CCSD Certified and Classified Instructional Recruitment for 2022-2023 School Year - The Alaska Teacher Placement website currently lists 1175 open certified and classified positions across the state, as of the writing of this report on Thursday, August 18, 2022. This number isn’t completely accurate because I know a number of the positions currently listed have been filled across the state. However, this is the highest number of openings at this time of the school year that I ever

remember seeing. It also aligns with recent news articles from the Anchorage Daily News that have outlined the certified and classified staff shortage across the state. Even though we are not fully staffed, I'm feeling really fortunate about our current situation given the stories I have been hearing from other districts, however, I am not confident that all of our open positions outlined below will be filled before the start of the school year.

- CES .5 Special Education Teacher - Still advertised on Alaska Teacher Placement. We have not received new applications since June.
- CEMS PE/Health Teacher - Advertised on Alaska Teacher Placement. We have not received a new applications since June.
- CHS PE/Health - This position has been advertised on Alaska Teacher Placement since July 25.
- 2 CMS special education aides - One position will be funded through the general fund and one position will be funded through the American Rescue Plan Act funding. The position funded through the American Rescue Plan Act is an additional position. If necessary we could provide all necessary services for our middle school students if we are able to secure one middle school special education aide for the 2022-2023 school year. Shirley Brazille is presently employed for next school year as one of our middle school special education aides. She requested a transfer from the high school to the middle school at the end of this school year.
- 1 CES special education aide – posted internally. Will go out for public posting soon.
- 1 CES/CHS Library Aide - One applicant to date. We will be interviewing for this position in the near future. This applicant ultimately took another position within the community.
- 1 Food Service Aide – Two applicants to date. We have started the interview process.

Craig High School Biomass Project - We are still waiting for communication from USDA - Rural Development if they will be able to transfer this project to Southeast Conference to manage the federal funds allocated for our project. I reached out to Keith Perkins in the Sitka USDA office regarding the status of these funds and I'm still waiting to hear back from him.

Department of Education and Early Development Major Maintenance Grant Fund – On Tuesday, August 8 CCSD processed the project agreements with DEED for our CMS and CES Rehabilitation Projects. Those project agreements are attached below for the Board's review. MRV Architects are also working up fee proposals to move our projects to 100% design development documents. I'm hoping to have these fee proposals on hand prior to our August 24 meeting to include on the agenda for the Board's consideration. On Monday, August 8 CCSD and MRV Architects met with representatives from the facilities department with DEED. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss options for the district's consideration regarding if we want to move forward with the traditional Design/Bid/Build model or if it might make sense for us to consider a Construction Manager/General Contractor Alternative Procurement Process. The Construction Manager/General Contractor Alternative Procurement Process provides a path for the district to bring a contractor on to the project prior to going out for bid to help with the design process. Within this process the General Contractor would provide pre-construction consulting services that includes cost estimating, design refinement, and construction logistics; the General Contractor would also provide a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for construction; and provide construction services throughout the construction schedule. Upshot, CCSD is concerned that regardless of the route we choose to move forward Design/Bid/Build or Construction Manager/General Contractor that the amount of funding we have received from the state will not cover the costs of the project. As these projects develop I will provide updated information to the Board.

- CMS Rehabilitation Project - Total project estimated at \$6,297,916; Grant amount \$5,668,124; Local contributing share \$629,792

- CES Rehabilitation Project - Total project estimated at \$2,117,210; Grant amount \$1,905,489; Local contributing share \$211,721

PACE Enrollment - PACE enrollment is going really well. We currently have over 435 students enrolled for the 2022-2023. We still have the rest of August and September, the two “traditional” biggest homeschool enrollment months ahead of us. Given the unfortunate staffing issues all districts are experiencing across the state noted above, this situation could potentially be the tipping point for some families who have considered the possibility of homeschooling in the past to take the plunge. We estimated a 2022-2023 PACE enrollment of 500. Given what we are seeing I anticipate we will exceed our homeschool enrollment projections.

Communication

CCSD Board Staff Appreciation Dinner - On Thursday, August 25 at 6:00pm the CCSD Board will host our Staff Appreciation Dinner. It will take place at the CHS commons and will follow our first day of in-service. The district will have the grill working with hamburgers and hotdogs and we will advertise as a potluck for all staff to share a dish. It will be a great way to welcome all of our new staff members to the district and give them an opportunity to meet our Board as well as welcoming all of our returning staff members back for another year of service.

CCSD Strategic Plan Development - CCSD has secured the CTA Tribal Hall for September 13 (1:00pm - 9:00pm) and September 14 (5:00pm-9:00pm) for our community meetings. CCSD has also communicated with CTA, City of Craig, USFS, SEARHC, PEACE Health, Community Connections, and CEA about our community meetings and to solicit representation from these organizations. CCSD will greatly appreciate any engagement our community partners can provide towards these efforts. Our main goal is to ensure a really strong cross-section of community members providing guidance to the district as we shape our updated strategic plan and that the plan is a solid reflection of our community’s needs and interests. Attached as a point of reference is our current strategic plan.