



Craig City School District

P.O. Box 800, Craig, Alaska 99921
www.craigschools.com
Phone (907) 826.3274
FAX (907) 826.3322

Chris Reitan, Superintendent
Jackie Hanson, Elem./MS Principal
Betty Hall, HS Principal
Mollie Harings, PACE Principal

FOR: School Board Members
FROM: Chris Reitan
DATE: February 23, 2022
SUBJECT: Superintendent Report

Student Learning

March 10 and 11 In-service Planning - CCSD has partnered with Community Connections and POW Health Network on the development of our March in-service outcomes and agenda. Our March in-service sessions will be aligned with CCSD's Strategic Plan, especially regarding improving our practices with trauma informed instruction and building a stronger trauma informed context across our three Craig based buildings. CCSD is extremely appreciative of our partnership with Community Connections and POW Health Network. Attached for your review is the agenda for our March 10 and 11 in-service.

Voices of the Land Alaska Native Education Program Grant – CCSD in partnership with Sealaska Heritage Institute is also a recipient of another U.S. Department of Education Alaska Native Education Program Grant entitled Sharing our Stories: Voice on the Land. Cody Williams (CES's SEALS instructor) will be working directly with Sealaska Heritage Institute on the grant objectives. The first residency will be with Abel Ryan, a form line artist and storyteller from April 4 - 22. The major aspects of the grant are outlined below.

- Develop six art kits
- Develop and deliver three-week residencies in storytelling, performing arts, and digital storytelling
- Develop summer intensive that will be offered in-person and distance.

Resource Management

CCSD Certified Instructional Recruitment for 2022-2023 School Year - CCSD is currently advertising for six certified teaching positions for the 2022-2023 school year.

- CHS ELA Teacher
- CES Teacher
- CMS Special Education Teacher
- CHS Special Education Teacher
- CHS CTE Teacher
- CEMS Principal

Interviews have already started for the CHS ELA teaching position and CES teacher position. We are still receiving and screening the initial applicants for the other positions.

Based on the number of applications we have received to date, and I believe a continued concern for all Alaska school districts to find high, quality certified staff, my recommendation is that CCSD provides all new certified

staff relocating to Craig a \$2000 bonus to help with moving expenses and relocation. CCSD must incentivize and be more competitive with other districts as we look to entice the best instructional candidates to CCSD.

CCSD Substitute Pay - CCSD last updated our substitute pay scale during the October 2018 regular, monthly Board meeting. Consistently finding substitute personnel is problematic; consistently finding good substitute personnel is even more problematic. Outlined below is our current substitute pay scale. The CCSD Business manager and I have been in discussions about the potential need to raise these rates. Although we have not settled on a recommendation yet for the Board's consideration, I wanted to ensure that the Board was aware of these discussions,

- Certified substitute teacher - \$120/day
- Non-certified substitute teacher - \$100/day
- Classified substitute - \$12.67/hour
- Bus driver substitute - \$15/hour competes

PACE Student Allotments - I have been in discussions with the PACE administrative and teaching team about the idea of raising our student allotments for our PACE families for two reasons.

1. Support our efforts to retain a higher percentage of our current students and families, and
2. Be more competitive from a student allotment perspective with the other district operated statewide homeschool programs.

As an administrative team we are raising our student allotments to the following to compete with other statewide homeschool programs and to support our efforts to retain more families each year.

High School - \$2600

Grades 3 - 8 - \$2400

K-2 - \$2200

Car for Itinerant Service Providers - CCSD has contacted Mendenhall Auto Center in Juneau and Basic Transportation in Ketchikan about the possible purchase of a used AWD or FWD vehicle to be used by CCSD's itinerant service providers (school psychologist, speech pathologist, occupational therapist, and physical therapist) when they are on island providing services to Craig, Klawock, and Hydaburg. Currently our itinerant service providers utilize one of our 15 passenger vans when they are on island for transportation to the other POW school districts. This current model of service basically takes one of our vans out of service for student use each time one of our itinerants are on island. Additionally, a 15-passenger van is not the most economical vehicle to be used for daily trips across the island to serve students in other school districts. CCSD provides housing and transportation for itinerant service providers and bills the other school districts for housing and transportation.

Craig High School Biomass Project - The Craig High School biomass project has secured additional funding from the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy Investment (SASSI) fund. The SASSI funding coupled with approximately \$500,000 from an Alaska Energy Authority grant, and \$355,000 that the CCSD Board appropriated as our participating share with the Alaska Energy Authority Grant during the November 18, 2020 CCSD School Board meeting provides the necessary funding to move forward with this project. CCSD is still working to complete the project agreements with SASSI and once finalized CCSD will develop a project timeline for the construction bid process. CCSD met with representatives from the Alaska Energy Authority, USDA, and Southeast Conference regarding the next steps with this project. During the meeting it was discussed that another woody biomass project in Alaska ordered their biomass boiler in September of 2021. The boiler currently has a projected arrival date of summer 2022 due to supply shortages. Based on this information CCSD has reached out to Biomass Systems Supply the U.S. distributor for the Twin Heat Model 150i biomass boiler that has been designed for our project. The purpose of the meeting is to determine cost estimates for the boiler, freight costs for the boiler, and shipping timelines. Due to this information, it might be

in the best interest of CCSD to move forward with the purchase of the Twin Heat Model 150i boiler from the funds that have already been designated to this project by the Alaska Energy Authority and CCSD for a potential summer 2023 construction season.

Communication

HB 273 Testimony - On Wednesday, February 9, 2022 I had the privilege of testifying before the House Education Committee as invited testimony on HB 273. Attached for your review is my testimony. HB 273 is a bill that would inflation proof the Base Student Allocation.

ASSB Training - The CCSD training with AASB has been postponed. However, we can still complete the AASB Board Self-Assessment survey. If you haven't done so already, please complete the Board self-assessment which can be accessed at [CCSD Board Self-Assessment](#).