

CRAIG HIGH SCHOOL

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Home of the Panthers!

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CHS CCSD School Board Report — December 2025

Region V Honor Music Festival was hosted by Wrangell High School October 26 - 28. We had 6 students selected for the choir (Alaya Bates, Eva Clark, Madison Conatser, Grace Maygren, Lincoln Bergtold, and Aulis Nelson) and two selected for the band (Payton McCoy and Kailee Stock). This is a fantastic educational and performance opportunity for our students and all reported having a great time. Thank you to Rachael Balcom for coordinating auditions and ensuring our student musicians were prepared!

Craig hosted the South Seed Volleyball Tournament November 6-8. Eight teams competed with a total of approximately 70 athletes. It was a lot of volleyball! Thank you Tina Steffen for your work coordinating the tournament and monitoring the proceedings over the three days. The weather was not cooperative for several of our teams and Tina reworked the schedule 4 times! But the tournament went smoothly — visitors always complement CHS for our hospitality and organization.

CHS hosted the 41st Elder Luncheon Tuesday, November 25. Each year students and staff prepare a feast for the elders of our island. Every student donates \$5, staff cook turkeys, Kris and the kitchen staff prepare rolls for us, and the student council and national honor society students prepare pies, dressing, potatoes, and relish trays. Each class is responsible for a portion of the setup. Centerpieces were particularly beautiful this year! Seniors called several bingo games with prizes donated by Mr. Fairbanks's art classes. CHS is pleased to continue this tradition and this year we gave thanks for the 60 Island guests who attended.

Basketball season is underway and we have an excellent turnout for both of our teams. We have returned to a 16 game schedule this year and will have our boys and girls traveling separately for the first time in several years. The first home game will be the boys against Petersburg December 19-20. We are looking forward to a great season.

Along with basketball, our Drum Line/Pep Band has begun practice. Because regionals is in Juneau this year, we have not budgeted to send the band. Ms. Balcom is set on attending Pep Band Regionals and has committed to raising the necessary funds. I applaud her

determination - please support our band as they engage in different fund-raising opportunities over the next several months!

I have been exploring a digital hosting service to house CHS and PACE HS transcripts. Parchment is a nationally-recognized company that could provide security and accessibility for our historical records. Alumni looking for transcripts to be sent to colleges or employers could make an online request and have it fulfilled electronically. We would take on the digitization project in-house, starting with our most recent graduates and working back. Pricing is based on current enrollment. Because we are sub-300 students, the annual subscription would be \$160.

Everyone - teachers, paraprofessionals, counselors, admin assistants, kitchen staff, custodial staff, maintenance staff, bus drivers, coaches, assistant coaches, ADs, business managers, and the superintendent always work hard. But this year we are all feeling the pinch of having more to do with fewer people to do it. For some, the pinch is more of a simpson-esque throttling. It is a small thing for me to say I appreciate each and every one of you, but please accept that my gratitude for each of you, for what you do for our school and our community, is much more profound.