

# CRAIG HIGH SCHOOL

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*Home of the Panthers!*

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## CRAIG HIGH SCHOOL MAY SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

We are quickly wrapping up the 2024 - 2025 school year. The 174(ish) student contact days are packed and it is easy to lose sight of all that has been accomplished.

- CHS began the year hosting a regional Cross Country meet and participating in the “Reuniting Our Nations” Totem Raising.
- We had CHS’s first State Cross Country Champion!
- Various guest speakers throughout the year speaking on a variety of topics including Bronson Koenig, Mike Donahue, Robert Fithian, Trina Nation, Erin Terry (FBI), Charles Fay, and many guest Forest Service speakers.
- Five CHS students were selected to participate in Region V Honor Music Festival
- Students participated in Swim, Cross Country, Wrestling, Volleyball, Basketball, Drum Line, and Track & Field
- Provided students opportunities to take the ASVAB, PSAT, SAT, and ACT
- Moved to modify the master schedule from a 7 period day to a 6 period day, responding to a reduced staff
- Updated the CHS Panther Logo and incorporated it into CHS Letterhead
- 40th annual Elder Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Provided parent FAFSA assistance night
- Shifted activities communication to sportsYou platform to increase transparency when communicating with students
- Hosted a regional ACDC meet
- Hosted the Inaugural SE Alaska Cultural Basketball Tournament
- Various Concerts during the year including Modern Band, Choir, and Band

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Our students will be compassionate, resilient, self-sufficient, engaged members of their community.

- Two CHS graduates who completed all CHS requirements and elected to graduate early
- Sixteen students, 3 parents, and 1 staff member raised \$40,000 to travel to Washington DC and New York City for DC Close Up
- Ten students and 3 adults raised \$55,000 to travel to Spain this summer
- CHS hosted the Youth Gathering Cultural day organized by the CCSD Indigenous Education Committee.
- Participation in AASB's Climate and Connectedness Survey indicates that our students are feeling very connected to CHS
- Received training and materials to start nicotine intervention and nicotine cessation programs next year
- Homecoming! Prom!
- Lots of volunteers!
- Donation to CHS of a transformation mask carved in 2012 by alum Jay Balcom
- Congratulating Jessica Hughes on her retirement from CHS after 25 years!
- Welcoming two new hires to CHS and CCSD in our Language Arts position and K-12 PE
- Successful completion of state testing
- Ronnie Fairbanks Sealaska Heritage recognition as Distinguished Educator
- Finalization of accreditation for another 5 years
- Addition of Ornithology to our course cycle with a culminating Big Bird Field Trip - 35 unique IDs!
- Implementation of the Harvard Case Study Method in social studies courses
- Freshman field trip to El Capitan Cave
- So much fundraising...
- Participation in Garbage pickup day
- Receipt of over \$10,000 in donations of snorkeling gear for next year's Marine Biology class
- Former welding students returning to class to assist and teach
- CHS hosting Eighth Grade Welcome Potluck and Dance

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There is no doubt that I have missed many, many things that have been done to support our students and staff this year. If you made an event happen for staff or students - thank you!

CHS finalized its submission for Cognia Accreditation this month. I gave a 30 minute presentation and was followed by interviews of a student focus group, and a stakeholder focus group. The interviewer was very pleased with everyone's participation. Thank you to the CHS staff and the parents and students who helped with the completing of this process.

Monday, May 19 CHS hosted an Awards Ceremony and Dessert Potluck. The ceremony was very well attended and the desserts were amazing. Thank you to all who brought in sweets! Thank you Liz Thomsen for preparing all of the certificates! Thank you to all of the coaches for providing these opportunities for our students. And thank you Tina Steffen for keeping our activities running in an organized manner as well as for your undying advocacy for our students. Of note, 70% of the CHS student body participated in at least one activity this year.

Tuesday, May 20 the CES 5th grade band, CMS band, and CHS band performed their spring concert. It was a fantastic night of music and a thrill to see so many musicians performing with such joy. Thank you Lauren Mackie for stepping in K-8 and providing the opportunity for our students to continue with music performance.

CHS is looking forward to receiving our upcoming freshman class! We hosted an Eighth Grade orientation on May 14. We provided lunch then discussed some of the big differences between HS and MS. There were lots of good questions, fantastic enthusiasm, and a lot of eager faces ready for high school!

Because the middle school is in disarray because of the process of moving out, CHS is thrilled to be sponsoring the 8th Grade and CMS Welcome to CHS Family Pot Luck this year. CHS is providing hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks. We are looking forward to meeting all of our upcoming families. The dinner will take place May 30 at 5PM in the CHS commons. A dance for CMS students will be held from 8 - 10 following the 8th grade promotion ceremony.

Seniors will be checking out from classes Wednesday, May 28. Thursday will be spent setting up the gym, rehearsing, walking for the elementary, and getting ready for the Big Night.

Graduation takes place Thursday evening, May 29, at 7PM in the CHS Gymnasium. Thank you to everyone who has supported our graduates over the years. I'll see you there.