



Craig City School District

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Chris Reitan, Superintendent
David Harris, Elem./MS Principal
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June 7, 2023

RE: Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Waiver Request for Title VI-B and Section 619 Preschool Disabled Grants

Dear Mr. Enoch,

In response to AKDEED correspondence regarding Craig City School District not meeting the MOE from FY 21 to FY 22 we would like for the state to consider an exception under Section 613, Part 2, (B)(1) (2).

- During FY 21 CCSD employed 4.5 FTE special education teachers to serve our students (1.5 FTE based at Craig Elementary School, 1.0 FTE based at Craig Middle School, 1.0 FTE based at Craig High School, and 1.0 FTE based at PACE Correspondence/Homeschool).
- At the end of the 2020-2021 school year, one of our 1.0 FTE Craig “brick and mortar” schools special education teachers retired. To compensate for this loss of services CCSD moved our .5 FTE special education teacher from FY 21 to a 1.0 special education teacher for FY 22 providing 4.0 FTE special education teachers for CCSD for FY 22 (1.0 FTE based at Craig Elementary School, 1.0 FTE based at Craig Middle School, 1.0 FTE based at Craig High School, and 1.0 FTE based at PACE Correspondence/Homeschool).
- From FY 18 through FY 22 CCSD also experienced a significant decline in our students attending our Craig “brick and mortar” schools resulting in a significant reduction (25% reduction) in students qualifying for special education services – Craig Elementary School (CES), Craig Middle School (CMS), and Craig High School (CHS).
 - FY 18 enrollment for CES, CMS and CHS was 257
 - FY 19 enrollment for CES, CMS, and CHS was 264
 - FY 20 enrollment for CES, CMS, and CHS was 247
 - FY 21 enrollment for CES, CMS, and CHS was 207
 - FY 22 enrollment for CES, CMS, and CHS was 212
- During the 2021-2022 school year, CCSD was able to serve our Craig “brick and mortar” school special education students with a 3.0 FTE special education teachers. Furthermore, one of our intensive special education students from FY 21 who was attending one of our Craig “brick and mortar” schools transferred to PACE (CCSD’s correspondence/homeschool program) for FY 22 eliminating the need for a one-to-one dedicated paraprofessional during the regular school day. This student received his special education services directly from one of our 3.0 FTE special education teachers based in our Craig “brick and mortar” schools.

In summary, we are asking for the waiver because CCSD has been experiencing a significant decline in enrollment in our “brick and mortar” schools located in Craig, AK; we had a special education teacher retire at

the end of FY 21 and we didn't fill her position because we were able to adjust our service model by moving our 0.5 FTE special education teacher to a 1.0 FTE special education teacher for FY 22; and because we had an intensive needs student transfer to our correspondence/homeschool program (PACE) in FY 22 eliminating the need for a one-to-one paraprofessional.

If there is additional information I could provide please just contact me at the phone number listed above or the email address listed below.

Sincerely,



Chris Reitan, CCSD Superintendent

Email: creitan@craigschools.com

Cc: Mike Hautala, CCSD Special Education Director
Melinda Bass, CCSD Business Manager
Alenita Danner, DEED School Finance Specialist