



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
Kim Brand, HS Principal
Mollie Harings, PACE Principal

CCSD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Wednesday

4/28/2021

High School Library

School Board Meeting 7:00 PM

<https://craigschools.zoom.us/j/7289917333?pwd=WkNaWGd4S1IPV0JIWEJITmx3VXd0Zz09>

Zoom URL

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM
2. Flag Salute
A salute was given to the flag
3. Roll Call

In Person:

BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Brookshire
Marla Dillman
Joel Steenstra
Tristan Douville
Daniel Nelson

STAFF

Chris Reitan
Zach Scheidecker
Melinda Bass
Cindy Bennett
Troy Thain
Kim Brand
Pamala Penrose
Rachael Balcom

OTHERS

Rod Schaeffer
Kara McCoy
Dr. Zedderman
Jessica Priddy
Stacy Mank
Julie McDonald
Melissa Bergtold
Brian Templin
Ben Mank
Richard McCoy
Jeremiah McCoy
Jerrilynn Fowler

Joined by ZOOM:

BOARD MEMBERS

Terren Piburn – Student Rep

STAFF

Jackie Hanson
Mollie Harings
Deanna Claus
Melissa Peavey
Amanda Vickers
Jen Whicker
Julie Yates
Maren Chaffee

OTHERS

Johnny Rice
Kimberly Rice
Jean Rogan
Ginger Bird
Colin Rice
Jean Rogan
Kristi Kuhnert
Leanne Steenstra

STAFF

Courtney Wood
Melissa Smith
Tobias Frieb
Vanessa James
Grace Beckman
Shelby Beck
Stacia Schwanke
Maria Riedel
Sandra Marker

OTHERS

iPad 5 (Name?)
Victoria Merritt
Alison Taylor
Isabelle Priddy
Trish Conatser
Dr. Liz Ohlsen
Ashley (last name?)
Jameson (last name?)
Dawn Sheets
Dr. Coleman Cutchins
Barbara Pennington
Dr. Tim Horton (Tribek)
Raina Bjerke
Juliet Stonecipher
Stan McCoy
Emmett/Arletha Melton
Shaylee Johnson
Chaundell Piburn

4. Agenda Approval

M/S: Nelson/Steenstra

Motion to approve the agenda.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

5. Consent Agenda (Includes all items with ~)

- a. ~Approval of Minutes from March 17, 2021
- b. ~Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2021
- c. ~Approval of Payments
- d. ~Correspondence

M/S: Steenstra/Nelson

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

6. Public Comments

Stacy Mank: We currently have 18 cases on Prince of Wales Island. One case is recovered. Four cases are community spread which always raises red flags as it tells us the virus is circulating in the community. There are about 100 contacts in quarantine on the island. Many are symptomatic. Mrs. Mank feels Mr. Reitan made the right decision to go distance learning this week. She states there are concerns with morbidity with young people. She believes we will hear about suicide rates tonight from others which is concerning, but we

have not seen suicide rates increase. She states the school needs to have tight mitigation plans. She is not a fan of the metric in the Smart Start Plan. She would like to see all the schools on the island go to the CDC recommended metrics for K12 schools.

Johnny Rice: Believes the wrestling team should be allowed to attend the State tournament. It was incredible seeing the kids on the mats in Ketchikan at Regionals last weekend. Families have sacrificed blood, sweat, and tears to get their kids to practices over the years. Lack of stability needs to end immediately. Ketchikan School District is going to the tournament. Please consider adopting the language KSD is using to go north as a replacement for the Smart Plan. Preserving our freedom needs to be front and center. If one positive thing COVID has done for us is taught us all that running for City Council or School Board is one of the most important and meaningful ways to serve your country.

Richard McCoy: Parent of a student in CHS and PACE. He feels it is important for the wrestling team to be able to go to the State tournament. Seven of our students qualified for state. These students have put in a lot of hard work and he feels it can be done safely. Our mitigation plan worked well for Ketchikan. Ketchikan has loaned us a culminating event mitigation plan for our community to consider. Also, Anchorage City Council voted and removed their restrictions on the size of gatherings. They only kept the mask mandate in the city.

Kimberly Rice: Not speaking on behalf of any agency. You are more likely to survive COVID than die. Follow the science. When school is closed and it is the only thing closed, you negatively impact the youth and community as a whole. Most of the folks who are standing behind their masks are planning vacations this summer. Let's get back to school and activities.

Julie McDonald: She understands why the school was closed this week, but she wants to comment on if there is a plan to continue the shut-down. We are not in the same position we were in a year ago or a month ago. She is concerned that we are approaching COVID as if shut-downs are the only answer. Severe child abuse has skyrocketed over the past year in Alaska. We all know that school is the number one reporter for abuse to OCS. Before considering extending the closure, think of four questions. What are we trying to accomplish? Will shutting down school accomplish this goal? What are the consequences of shutting down the schools? Is the goal you hope to achieve with the shut-down worth shutting down?

Kristi Kuhnert: She seconds everything that Julie, Kimberly Rice, and Johnny Rice have said. She is puzzled why we are here one year later. We heard Ms. Mank say that public health has done extensive contact tracing and everyone is in quarantine. We should be back in school. You see all the kids hanging out together when they are not in school. Shutting down the school is not reducing the risk. You are taking them out of a monitored and controlled environment. Find a way to move forward and get our kids in some kind of normalcy to keep our kids in school all the time.

Brian Templin: COVID Response Commander for the City of Craig. Thanked Mr. Reitan for doing a fantastic job throughout the past year making decisions in what is largely an evolving situation where we learn more and more every day. Encouraged the Board to continue to give the Superintendent latitude to make decisions. There were indicators that the numbers would grow. The test positivity rate is about 13.5% on Prince of Wales Island currently which is about 2.5 times the national rate. Continue with mitigation measures to ensure everyone is kept safe.

Trish Conatser: Reminded the board that she discussed childhood suicide at the last meeting. Obesity is also climbing as well as depression. School closures can negatively impact children's mental health. We are also seeing increase in suicidal tendencies. Distance learning does not work long term. Our children are suffering. Think about all the things they have given up for community health. They should be able to attend school, sports, prom, graduation, and state athletic competitions. COVID is not going away. She urges that the Board puts serious effort into the Smart Start Plan utilizing mitigation efforts. It seems we could close for deep cleaning as opposed to shutting down for a week at a time. School closures should become a last-ditch effort to mitigate disease.

Dr. Liz Olson: Works with State Public Health. There have been other communities with a sudden outbreak. Superintendents are having to make decisions on what to do to protect the schools. Contact tracing can be very difficult in schools that are not practicing social distancing. We need to take a step back and reassess the risks in the school.

Victoria Merritt: Thanked the Superintendent and School Board for protecting our children and keeping them safe. She hopes there is a good mitigation plan when the school reopens.

Dr. Coleman Cutchins: We are at a good point in the pandemic, but it is not over yet. It can be up to 14 days from the time someone is exposed until the time they exhibit symptoms. A lot of people are spreading the virus and have no idea they are. We have a lot of hope this will end with the vaccine. It is tough on our kids not being in school. He encourages everyone that we are so close to the end and we know that contact tracing and isolation works. We should have FDA approval for ages 12 and up to have vaccinations soon.

Dr. Tim Horton: Pediatrician at Peace Health in Ketchikan. He also travels to Prince of Wales Peace Health Clinic. He believes that we can all wear masks to minimize the spread of COVID, and that adults are more of the culprits. We can all get vaccinated to help protect our children. As a last resort, we can shut down schools with active cases.

Courtney Wood: Middle school teacher. Please remember us as you are making your decisions. We need to keep ourselves safe. We have a difficult time finding subs. Think of us, think of the students. Thank you for all you do.

Richard McCoy: A gentleman brought up the point that it was a great idea for the Superintendent to work with Public Health to decide when to shut down schools. He feels this is not a good idea as the Superintendent is not accountable to the voters of the City of Craig. Also, the last three speakers are not connected to Craig and all exceeded their time.

7. Reports

a. Board Members

All Board members thanked everyone for showing up to the Board meetings.

Mr. Douville also thanked Public Health for all of their work and helping the board with making decisions. He thanked students for engaging in policy, especially Colin Rice for writing to the Board. We need to make sure we celebrate student initiatives as there is no better way to get a grasp on how our decisions are impacting students.

Terren Piburn: Thanked all the teachers who have been working so hard this year.

b. Principals

Kim Brand: There was a clean-up on Earth Day. They collected 40 bags of trash. There was no complaining and they were proud of what they accomplished. There is a scholarship ceremony planned on the 20th. Graduates will give out tickets for attendance. Graduation is the following night, on the 21st. It will also be ticketed, but it will also be streamed. The gym may be open ahead of time for people to drop off cards and gifts. Remind any seniors in your life to get their scholarship applications completed.

Jackie Hanson: Thanked all of the students in the elementary school for their stamina. She is pleased to see they are logging on and attending their classes this week. Parents are trying to juggle their daily lives in addition to teaching their children this week. She also thanked the staff for all of their extra work.

Mollie Harings: Nothing to add.

c. Maintenance Director

Zach Scheidecker: Nothing to add.

d. Superintendent

Chris Reitan: We are having ongoing discussions with Tlingit Haida Central Council about moving Head Start into our current PACE building. There is a draft building use agreement that we will continue to work on. We will also work on a food service agreement. We are excited about this agreement and we think it is a good partnership moving forward.

8. Old Business

a. CCSD Restart and Reentry Framework

M/S: Steenstra/Nelson

Motion to approve the CCSD Restart and Reentry Framework

Discussion about the proposed language for large group gatherings. CDC has moved forward with language to allow schools to remain in session. Mr. Reitan stated that as we move forward, he believes this is the place for us to go, with three-foot distancing while wearing masks. We still have six-foot social distancing in classrooms unless a mask is worn. CDC guidelines state the desk guards are not that effective.

Discussion about whether there is anything in the current plan that would hinder the wrestling team to travel to Anchorage for the state tournament.

Joel Steenstra made an amendment to the motion to remove the following language from page 3, “Additionally, if there are active COVID-19 cases in Craig, or another island community, that could directly impact CCSD families, CCSD reserves the right to transition to a higher risk scenario to protect our students, families, and staff members.” And replace the language with the following: “*Additionally, if there are active COVID-19 cases in Craig, or another island community, that could directly impact CCSD families, CCSD reserves the right to temporarily transition to a higher risk scenario for deep cleaning of CCSD buildings and while Public Health completes contact tracing and quarantining of those who could directly impact CCSD. Once contact tracing is complete CCSD will move back to a low-risk scenario if the threshold for being in high risk has not been met.*” This motion was seconded by Daniel Nelson.

Discussion about allowing Public Health to do contact tracing over a day or two and then getting students back in school. Mr. Reitan asked for clarification if Public Health recommends to not open back up based upon the results of contact tracing. It was agreed that once the contact tracing is completed that it is best to have students in school. Mr. Reitan stated he wants to be transparent and is concerned that each time school is closed due to a higher risk scenario we will continually end up in another special board meeting.

Scott Brookshire: The motion before the board is to remove the following language: “Additionally, if there are active COVID-19 cases in Craig, or another island community, that could directly impact CCSD families, CCSD reserves the right to transition to a higher risk scenario to protect our students, families, and staff members.” And replace with the following: “*Additionally, if there are active COVID-19 cases in Craig, or another island community, that could directly impact CCSD families, CCSD reserves the right to temporarily transition to a higher risk scenario for deep cleaning of CCSD buildings and while Public Health completes contact tracing and quarantining of those who could directly impact CCSD. Once contact tracing is complete CCSD will move back to a low-risk scenario if the threshold for being in high risk has not been met.*”

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

Discussion about mitigation plans and the culmination mitigation plan submitted by Richard McCoy from Ketchikan High School. Mr. Thain stated that Craig students

followed the mitigation plan while in Ketchikan for the Regional Wrestling Tournament, but some other schools did not. Mr. Thain stated that he would draw up a mitigation plan which would have to be approved by administration and the superintendent in order to travel to Anchorage for the State tournament. It was also brought up that the State tournament coincides with high school graduation, but that is a family decision to make.

Stacy Mank highly recommends the board review the CDC guidelines. They have a very nice metric. Most schools do not follow that metric. This district goes by active cases in the past 14 days which is different than new cases in the past 14 days. CDC recommends school districts go to new cases within the past seven days.

Discussion about the number 25 being too high when CDC recommends four in a community the size of Craig. It is difficult to make up language on the spot during a Board meeting. It was again suggested to have a committee formed to develop language.

Joel Steenstra made a motion to change language on page 2 from, "CCSD schools will be closed and will move to Red/High Risk Scenario if there have been twenty-five (25) or more COVID-19 confirmed cases on Prince of Wales Island in the previous 14 days resulting in the designation of a high level of community transmission." And replace with the following language: "*CCSD schools will be closed and will move to Red/High Risk Scenario if there have been twenty-five (25) new COVID-19 confirmed cases on Prince of Wales Island in the last 7 days resulting in the designation of a high level of community transmission.*"

VOICE VOTE: All in favor
MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

Scott Brookshire made a motion to remove the following language on page 2, "CCSD schools will be designated as Yellow Low Risk Scenario if there are zero (0) to twenty-four (24) active COVID-19 confirmed cases on Prince of Wales Island in the previous 14 days with all other cases being classified as recovered." Seconded by Joel Steenstra.

Scott Brookshire: The motion before the Board is to remove the following language on page 2, "CCSD schools will be designated as Yellow Low Risk Scenario if there are zero (0) to twenty-four (24) active COVID-19 confirmed cases on Prince of Wales Island in the previous 14 days with all other cases being classified as recovered."

VOICE VOTE: All in favor
MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

Mr. Reitan asked for clarification that if we have active cases that could impact the school and the Emergency Operations Center and Public Health recommends it would make sense to close until contact tracing is done, then we would move to distance learning. Discussion about whether or not the Superintendent will continue to have the

authority to make a decision to move to distance learning if deemed necessary. The Board agreed the Superintendent has this authority and flexibility.

Scott Brookshire: We have made three amended changes to the original item under New Business 8a. This vote is for the acceptance or rejection of the amended changes to the Smart Start Plan.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

b. CCSD Board Policy, Administrative Regulations, and Exhibits Updates

M/S: Steenstra/Nelson Motion to approve the CCSD Board Policy,
Administrative Regulations, and Exhibits Updates

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

9. New Business

a. Personnel Report

M/S: Nelson/Steenstra Motion to approve the personnel report as presented

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

b. CCSD FY 22 Budget

M/S: Nelson/Dillman Motion to approve the CCSD FY22 budget

Mr. Reitan stated we are anticipating a fund balance of \$124,880 which is 1.63%, much below what is in our strategic plan to be as close to 10% as possible. This is based on we have no idea what our PACE enrollment will be. We projected 500 students. This is brand new territory to try and predict PACE enrollment. Mr. Reitan's prediction is that we will be in good shape. Also, we moved some personnel back to the general fund as we don't know where grants will be.

Scott Brookshire: We have a motion to approve the CCSD FY22 budget.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

c. PACE Curriculum Approval

M/S: Steenstra/Dillman Motion to approve the PACE curriculum for utilization
by PACE families

Scott Brookshire: We have a motion to approve the PACE curriculum for utilization by PACE families.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

d. CCSD Principal Contract

This is an informational item. Mr. Reitan stated there were discrepancies in the principal contract. Currently, teachers are allowed to bring in seven years of Alaska teaching experience or six years of out-of-state experience, but the principal contract states you can only bring in three years. In addition, there are a lot of contracts for principals that allow flex time for if you need to be in the buildings in the evenings. We created language that says, *“It is recognized that Principals frequently have responsibilities, meetings, and events that extend Principals’ work hours beyond the standard workday. In recognition of weekend and evening time demands placed on Principals during the school year, up to five (5) workdays, composed of half-day or full day, may be used as flex days. Flex days require Superintendent approval and should be reported to the Superintendent within five (5) working days prior to utilization. Flex days are not to be used within the first two weeks or the last two weeks of the school calendar year. There shall be no carryover of unused flex days from one year to the next.”*

Discussion about how our current principal contract is not attractive to more-experienced principals applying for a position with CCSD. If the Board is comfortable with this new language, then the contract will be added to the next Board meeting agenda for a first reading.

e. CES and CHS Ventilation Systems Assessment Reports

This is informational. The condition surveys are being paid by CRRSA that US Congress passed, giving us \$260,807. One of CDC recommendations is to improve ventilation and \$144,000 could get the high school ventilation system in really good condition. The elementary school is more of a problem. The kitchen needs upgrades. About 1.5 million dollars of work in the elementary is needed. Zach will continue to address recommendations the contractors had for the elementary building; ventilation, fire systems, life-safety issues and we would then submit a plan to DEED. T

The middle school project will continue to be our number one item on the Major Maintenance Grant with the elementary being the number two project for the time being. It looks like there may be funding from DEED this year. If it does, then Mr. Reitan recommends moving the elementary project forward.

f. PACE Contact Teacher Evaluation Model

M/S: Steenstra/Dillman

Motion to approve the PACE Contact Teacher Evaluation Model as a first reading

Mr. Reitan stated the district adopted iObservation some time ago, but they have found it makes no sense for PACE teachers as it is designed for classroom teachers. PACE formed a committee to create the PACE Contact Teacher Evaluation Model where we would have much more engaging dialogue with our contact teachers. Ms. Harings stated the committee included teachers, parents, and an administrator. It was then sent it out to our teaching staff for review before being forwarded to Mr. Reitan.

Scott Brookshire: The motion before the Board is to approve the PACE Contact Teacher Evaluation Model as a first reading.

g. CCSD Standard Certified Teacher Self-Assessment and Evaluation Forms

This is an informational item. Mr. Reitan stated he has had a number of conversations with the union, certified staff, and principals. Again, iObservation is not very helpful. This has been shared with the staff. Mr. Reitan recommends we move forward with this and if it is not working for us, we will form a committee.

h. School Board Scholarships

M/S: Nelson/Steenstra Motion to award five \$500 scholarships for current graduates, one \$250 scholarship for the Board Student Representative, and one \$500 scholarship for continuing education.

Scott Brookshire: We have a motion to award five \$500 scholarships for current graduates, one \$250 scholarship for the current Board Student Representative, and one \$500 scholarship for continuing education.

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

i. Project SOAR Alaska Native Education Program Grant

Mr. Reitan stated we have partnered with Klawock, Southeast Island School District and the POW VoTech Center on the Alaska Native Education Program Grant to build more opportunities for students on the island. It will purchase a ZSpace Simulator that allows students multiple experiences on different applications, a CDL simulator, and other things. It won't take away from our own welding or carpentry program but will allow students to take classes at the VoTech Center for certifications. There is discussion that the simulators could be mobile and moved to the different schools.

j. Next Meeting Date

May 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM

k. Adjournment

M/S: Nelson/Dillman Motion to adjourn at 9:20 PM

VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimous

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE