

Academy Hill and Cushing Schools

January 2024

Keith J. Acedo, Principal

New Staff

Emily Stinson - Art Cushing

Nicole Bacheldor - Ed Tech III Cushing

Trevor Sennick - Ed Tech (Long Term Substitute) Cushing

Caitlin Zamboni - Music (Long Term Substitute) AHS

Lillian Melancon - Duty Monitor AHS

Facility Updates

*A new roof was put on Cushing School.

*A new water dispenser was installed in the gym at AHS.

*The old stove in the teacher's lounge at Cushing was Replaced.

*A heater was replaced in room 22 at Cushing.

K - 3 Visit to the Wilton Fire Station

In October, our Kindergarten through third grade students visited the Wilton Fire Station where they learned about fire safety. A smoke house was also brought to AHS. We want to thank Lisa Gagnon, Special Ed. teacher at Cushing, and Sabrina Lowe, 3rd grade teacher at AHS, for coordinating this event and of course Chief Sonny Dunham and the Wilton firefighters who took part.

We had the privilege to work with a couple of members of the AMVETS Post from Jay Maine. We made a flag for Veterans Day. The students along with Connie and Marlene created this wonderful flag that will be dedicated and displayed in the AMVETS hall in Jay. While doing this project we talked about the importance of honoring our veterans.



Annual Food Drive/Food Pass

During the month of November our students and staff collected food items to donate to the food pantry located at the Wilton United Methodist Church. On November 15th, we conducted our annual food pass, where our students and staff walked to the church and personally dropped off the 795 food items collected. Thanks goes out to all those who participated and donated items. A special thanks goes to Amy Eustis, who coordinated the event.



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BARR (Building Assets Reducing Risks)

At this time we are implementing BARR with our 4th grade teachers at AHS and our 1st grade teachers at Cushing. Each grade level is implementing the U-Time activities. These activities focus on building relationships and expectations. Each BARR Team will be presenting to the staff an overview of the components of BARR and its focus. Our behavior referrals for 1st grade this year are 11. Last year at this time they were 75. Last year's K (This year's 1st graders.) were at 32. This year's 4th grade has 22 and last year's fourth grade at this time had 61. Last year's 3rd graders (This year's 4th graders.) had 129 referrals.

Parent Teacher Conferences

We want to thank all of our parents and staff who took part in our conferences this year. We conducted the conferences on November 8th and 9th at both schools. This was a time for parents and guardians to meet with their child's teacher to discuss academic progress and other items as needed.

Kid's Can

It is an after school program for 4th and 5th grade students. Teachers are asked to nominate students who may be disadvantaged or who are not connected with many activities outside of school. They participate in Culinary Arts, Commercial Arts, Digital Media, Building Construction, Pre-engineering, Computer Technology, and Outdoor Leadership. This is all done through a partnership with Foster Tech. I would like to thank Ericka Conlogue (Counselor at AHS/Cushing) and Jamie Leo (4th grade teacher) for overseeing this activity and all the great people at Foster Tech for providing these wonderful experiences for our students.

Math Night at Cushing

On December 7th we had a very successful Family Math Night at Cushing. We had over 100 students, parents and staff attend. It was a fun night of math games, pizza, and prizes. Parents/guardians were able to participate in math games/activities with their children. I want to thank all those who participated. Our staff worked very hard in making this a successful and positive experience for our students and parents/guardians. I want to especially thank Morgan Badeau, our Math Interventionist, for leading the preparation of this event.

Book Fair

A Book Fair was conducted from December 11th to December 15th in our library. Students were able to purchase books during this time. A Book Fair Family Night took place on December 12th. We want to thank Lena Rutberg, our librarian, for setting this up and overseeing this activity.

