# ACADEMY HILL AND CUSHING SCHOOLS September 2022 Keith J. Acedo, Principal

# 2021-2022 Year in Review

- \* AHS/Cushing never went full remote during the year.
- \* Our end of the year 5th grade awards celebration went extremely well. It was good to have parents back into the buildings.
- \* We were able to have our 3rd and 4th grade field trip to Sandy River for the salmon release and our 5th grade trip to Pemaquid Beach. We had the most parent volunteers for these trips than we ever had before.
- \* Office Discipline Referrals increased from 56 (20-21) to 156 (21-22) at AHS and from 13 (20-21) to 156 (21-22) at Cushing.
- \* We hired some very good teachers and support Staff.
- \* It was good to have our interventionist back.
- \* Our staff and students adapted well to the water issues.
- \* We had 45-50 students consistently attend the 21st Century After School Program at AHS.



# Takeaways from 2021 - 22

- \* Our staffs pulled together when we needed it the most.
- \* Communication is the key when facing challenges and continued change.
- \* Parent involvement is essential for the success of our schools and students.
- \* Our students were excited to be back.
- \* We had students return with significant academic and behavioral challenges and assisted them through them.
- \* We need to continue to focus on interventions and supports for our students.

### **Assessments**

- \* Our Spring Math NWEA results showed that 57% of our students met their expected growth target at AHS.
- \* Our Spring Reading NWEA results showed that 55% of our students met their expected growth target at AHS.
- \* Our Spring Developmental Reading (DRA) results Showed that 74% of our students met the District's Spring Benchmark at AHS.
- \* Our spring Developmental Reading (DRA) results Showed that 71% of our students met the Districts Spring Benchmark at Cushing.



#### **New Staff**

- \* Mackenzie Veilleux 2nd Grade Teacher AHS
- \* Catherine McShane 5th Grade Teacher AHS
- \* Johanns Bartlett 4/5 Special Ed Teacher AHS
- \* Sofie Mattens Social Worker
- \* Stacey Augustine Gifted and Talented
- \* Deborah Hiltz Art Teacher Cushing

# **Facility Updates**

- \* Academy Hill's cafeteria has been totally renovated.
  We want to thank Andy Hutchinson for taking the lead in this.
  We want to thank Justin, Matthew, Dave, Susie and Nathan for all of their hard work in remodeling the cafeteria.
- \* Two new water fountains installed at AHS.
- \* Downstairs hallway leading into the cafeteria has been painted.
- \* Work has began in building outdoor learning centers at each school.
- \* New pavement in the front of the school at AHS.
- \* Thank you to our hard working custodians, Colleen, Paul, Tony, Ken, Elaine, Alice, and John for cleaning and preparing our classrooms and schools for the start of a new school year.

# **Program Updates**

- \* Introduction and implementation of new Math Framework for Math instruction.
- \* We have 4 teachers from Cushing who are taking the Literacy Processing class.
- \* We have a full time Social Worker for the first time in Wilton.
- \* We are conducting Multi Tiers of Systems and Supports training at both schools.
- \* Our Reading Interventionist, Hannah Hanson, will be providing Guided Reading training.
- \* We are revamping our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports System at AHS. For example, we are going to be holding a monthly, school wide awards assembly where students will be recognized in front of their peers, family and friends.

# **Current Challenges & Concerns**

- \* Filling our open 4th grade teaching position with a qualified teacher.
- \* Finding enough substitutes to cover daily staffing nee
- \* Increasing our parent involvement in both schools.
- \* We have a very young, but enthusiastic and motivated staff at both schools.





