

**ACADEMY HILL AND CUSHING SCHOOLS**  
**January 2023**  
**Keith J. Acedo, Principal**

**Fall 2022 - Review**

- \* We were able to fill our vacant 4th grade position in October. We were very happy to welcome Heather McCormick to our staff at AHS.
- \* Our K - 2 students visited our local Fire Department.
- \* We have had 45-50 students consistently attend the 21st Century After School Program at AHS.
- \* We had our yearly food drive at AHS headed by Lucinda Drechsler in November. We collected approximately 1,137 items which were donated to the Wilton Food Bank.
- \* We have had 4 very successful schoolwide award assemblies at AHS with very good parent and family turnout.
- \* Vaccination Clinic - We want to thank Kim Lloyd, our school nurse, for hosting our Covid Booster Clinic.
- \* We had two very successful Parent/Family Math Nights at both schools in December and want to thank Nancy Ellis (AHS) and Morgan Badeau (Cushing) for organizing these events. Approximately 150 people attend at AHS and 105 at Cushing.
- \* On December 8, Tyngtown, a local women's group that raises money to meet Wilton needs, provided breakfast muffins for the staff at both schools while also donating student snacks for both schools.
- \* Cushing School received a \$250.00 Grant from the Franklin County Unit of MEA - Retired Educators. The money will be used towards a school - wide assembly.
- \* Kid's Can, supervised by Ericka Conlogue and Devon Hall, will begin in January.



**Assessments**

- \* Our Fall 22 State Assessment (NWEA) results showed that 56% of our students scored at or above grade level mean scores for Reading at AHS.
- \* Our Fall 22 State Assessment (NWEA) results showed that 56% of our students scored at or above grade level mean scores for Math at AHS.
- \* Our Fall Developmental Reading (DRA) results showed that 63% of our students met the District's Fall Benchmark score for fluency and comprehension at AHS.

**New Staff**

- \* Heather McCormick 4th Grade Teacher AHS
- \* Laura McFarlane Lead Custodian AHS/Cushing



## Facility Updates

- \* A new water fountain was put downstairs in the hallway.
- \* New white boards are being put up in a few classrooms at AHS.
- \* The new playground equipment was delivered to Cushing.
- \* The mural at AHS will be completed later in the Spring this school year.

## Program Updates

- \* Introduction and implementation of new Math Instruction Framework.
- \* We have 4 teachers from Cushing who will be taking a second class in Literacy.
- \* Our Reading/Literacy Interventionists, Hannah Hanson, Margaret LeMotte along with Morgan Badeau will be providing Guided Reading training in the month of January.
- \* John Jones and Cynthia Bernstein will be meeting with both staffs to review the Special Education referral process.
- \* Addition of Literacy Footprints - Pioneer Valley Reading Kits to promote instruction in reading and writing.
- \* Coaching for first and second year teachers is being provided by retired teachers. Wilton has 6 teachers who are receiving this coaching.

## Current Challenges & Concerns

- \* Finding enough substitutes to cover daily staffing needs.
- \* Increasing our parent involvement in both schools.
- \* Supporting our newer, enthusiastic, and motivated staff who want to learn more with good PD options.

