ACADEMY HILL AND CUSHING SCHOOLS

September 2023 Keith J. Acedo, Principal

New Staff

Jamie Leo 4th grade AHS Gracie Vaughan 4th grade AHS Heather McDonald Ed Tech Erica Joler 4th grade AHS Diane Guimond Ed Tech AHS Megan Lewia K Cushing



New Life Skill Program

Liliana Cheimis Teacher Marissa Maceda Ed Tech Lacey Galant Ed Tech Kami Thompson Ed Tech Miranda Schleier Ed Tech Christine Libby OT Victoria Peterson Speech Jeannie Ruther BCBA



Start of School

Our first weeks of school have

gone very well and we have been extremely busy. We had a Meet and Greet Night at AHS the evening before the start of school and about 150 people attended. Our Open Houses at both schools were very successful. We have 102 students currently enrolled at Cushing (111 last year) and we have 180 enrolled at AHS (162 last year).

Facility Updates

- *New playground equipment at Cushing School
- *Both outdoor pavilion structures were completed
- *Extended parking lot at Cushing
- *Extended gate at Cushing
- *AHS gym painted and new wall mats installed
- *Thanks to all of our custodians, John, Laura, Paul, Tony, Ken, Cynthia, Colleen and Elaine for all their hard work for preparing our schools for opening day and the new school vear. They are the best!
- *The mural at AHS is nearly completed. Students at Foster Tech are putting on the finishing touches to our eagle.



Our reading NWEA scores showed a slight decrease from 55% in the Spring of 2022 to 53% in the Spring of 2023. Our math NWEA scores, 47% made proficiency in the Spring of 2022 and

47% made proficiency in the Spring of 2023. Our Developmental Reading Assessments (DRA) scores at Cushing showed an increase of students meeting District level benchmarks from 71% in the Spring of 2022 to 81% in the Spring of 2023.

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Attendance

Our daily attendance (ADA) at Cushing improved from 90.5 % in 21-22 to 92.03% in 22 - 23. At AHS it improved from 92.05% in 21 - 22 to 96.2% in 22 - 23.

Program Updates

We are implementing a new phonics program called From Phonics to Reading by Sadlier for all of our K - 3rd grade Students.

We are also implementing the new science materials from Mystery Science, K - 5.

We have revamped our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) system at AHS. We had 3 days of training in August. Our staff and students are very excited.

We are also going to be implementing BARR (Building Assets Reducing Risks) which fits in well with PBIS. We are implementing it with our 4th grade at AHS and with our 1st grade at Cushing. We have two days of training in September for AHS and two days of training in October for Cushing.



- *Finding enough substitutes to cover daily staffing needs.
- *Chronic student school absences.
- *Needing to fill our duty monitor and a music position at AHS.





