

# Cascade Brook School Updates

August 2021

Nichole Goodspeed, Principal

## 2020-2021 Review

- CBS only went full remote once and it was for COVID cases outside of CBS.
- Office Discipline Referrals (ODR) decreased dramatically from 952 in 2018-2019 to 127 in 2020-2021.
- Every student and teacher received 1:1 iPads.
- In September there were 167 hybrid students and in June we had 202 hybrid students and 71 full time students.
- 60 students participated in our after school outside activities programming.
- 20 students participated in our Newsletter/Poetry Club this year.
- Our school nurse made hundreds of phone calls to parents regarding COVID 19.
- We developed clear and concise protocols for all areas of school that supported instruction at CBS.
- Embracing social distancing and masking requirements, we successfully transitioned our Winter Fun Day activities from Titcomb Mt. to Cascade Brook School. We utilized our playground for sledding, snowmen building and the trail for cross country skiing and hiking. We had more participation than in previous years.
- Instruction took place online, outside and in the classroom.



## What we learned...

- Our staff and students are resilient and persistent.
- Students were role models for wearing masks. There were no ODRs written for non-compliance for mask wearing.
- Small class sizes make a difference for students behaviorally and academically.
- Mask and hand sanitizer prevents germs from spreading. We very few cases of students missing school for non-Covid related absences.
- Promoting instruction in outdoor spaces is not only critical but beneficial for students and teachers.
- Students are very skilled at doing morning announcements each day.
- Climate and culture are crucial especially during a Pandemic.
- Staff meetings, committee meetings, parent teacher conferences, IEPs can effectively and safely take place via Zoom.



## Assessments

- Our Star 360 MATH Scores showed an 8% increase (48% in Fall to 56% in Spring) in students meeting proficiency on the Star 360 Math Assessment.
- Our Star 360 Reading Scores showed a 6.6% increase in students meeting proficiency from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021 (36.6% to 43%).



## New Staff

- Jessica Merrill -Special Education Teacher
- Brittany Fleury - 4th gr. Teacher
- Camille Fontaine - 4th gr. Teacher
- Sarah Kaiser - PAL Teacher
- Katie Fournier - School Counselor



## Facility updates

- Turn Around Parent Drop off and Pick Up Parking lot. We have more space for outdoor activities too.
- New Propane Boiler. We will have heat this Winter.
- All classrooms have new window shades to promote safety and classroom environment.
- New Bark Mulch under playground equipment.
- New outside main entrance doors and gym doors.
- Garden Shed was built with partnership from Foster Technical Programs -Pre Engineering, Forestry and Construction students.
- New Raised Garden with support from Greater Franklin Food Council Garden Coach. Students used worms to create compost for the garden.
- Two Turtles laid eggs on our playground in June. We hope to see baby turtles this fall.



## Programming/Instruction Updates

- Updated Learning Standards and Targets for Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science.
- PAL programming increased support from Behavior Teacher.
- Addition of Special Education Resource Teacher to better meet the individual needs of identified students.
- Revisit Literacy Framework to meet all literacy needs of students.
- Introduce and implement Social Emotional Learning Strategies.
- Ongoing partnership with Franklin County Task Force to support 21st Century Program and Cyber bullying Instruction.
- Increased support of Positive Behavior System and Supports (PBIS) with a focus on culture and climate (Tier I).



## Current Challenges and Concerns

- Filling staff vacancies.
- Addressing the Social and Emotional needs of students and staff.
- Setting academic and behavior goals for instruction that focus on growth not loss
- Climate and culture.
- Engaging students and staff by promoting interactive and high interests activities.
- COVID- Keeping all staff and students safe and healthy.