

Cambridge Elementary

September Board Report

Peer Supports

The start of a new school year can be a difficult transition for some students. This year, we had quite a few students, both younger and older, who were struggling with coming to school each morning.

To help support one another, Mrs. Wood asked a few of our older students, who were also having a difficult time with the transition back to school, to help greet our younger students at the door each morning. This gave our older students an opportunity to take on a leadership role and, at the same time, helped give them a positive purpose as they started their own school day.

The impact was amazing. Within just a few days of our older students stepping up to help our younger students, the tears and struggles at the door had disappeared. I am incredibly proud of our students for looking beyond their own struggles and choosing to help someone else. A special thank you to Mrs. Wood for coming up with this idea and finding a way for our students to support one another.

Preschool Family Night

We had a great turnout for our first Preschool Family Night at the park. We had 24 families join us, with close to 100 people enjoying a free dinner and time spent together.

The students had a chance to play and have fun at the park, while parents could watch their children interact with their peers and spend time getting to know other families. It was a great evening! Thank you to Miss Kaitlyn, Ms. Holly, and Ms. Danyelle for all of your hard work.

Safety Day

On Tuesday, we held our first ever "Safety Day" giving students and staff the opportunity to practice all of our required safety drills for the year in one day. Throughout the day, students and staff

participated in a fire drill, tornado drill, bus evacuation drill, and an active threat drill (Run. Hide. Fight.).

Often times, once one drill is conducted, students begin asking questions about the procedures and expectations for the other drills. By holding all of our drills on the same day, teachers were able to have meaningful discussions with their students about the rules and expectations for each type of situation while giving students the opportunity to practice those procedures.

Teams

Our building leadership team and instructional leadership team have already been hard at work this school year.

Our building leadership team focuses on school culture and climate, staff morale and professional growth, family and community engagement, operations, student voice and leadership, and recognition and celebrations. Thank you to Chad Hamerlinck, Kiah Stone, Laura VanHyfte, and Ashley Galle for their leadership and for helping turn ideas into action.

Our Instructional Leadership Team focuses on school improvement, data, student learning needs, and identifying ways we can better support student achievement. The team works together to look at the data, identify areas where students may be struggling, and find ways to improve instruction and provide the support they need. Thank you to Jessica Carlson, Ashley Galle, Kelly Akers, Amelia Vincent, and Chris Bulens for being willing to work together to find ways to help our students continue to grow and learn.

CPC

The Cambridge Parents Club has had a strong start to the school year. During the first week of school, the group provided a back-to-school yogurt bar for staff, which was a tasty treat to welcome everyone back.

The Parents Club has several activities planned throughout the school year. An interest survey was recently shared with families to learn more about their interest in participating, what types of activities they would like to support, and the best ways for them to become involved. The feedback will help guide the Parents Club as they plan future activities and look for additional ways to engage families in our community.



Heather Pine

Heather is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters