

## **Elementary Principal Report**

### **August 2024**

#### Principal Workshops / Trainings

Principal Kafele Instructional Leadership Training - July 16 @ ESU 10

NEE Recertification Training - Completed

Admin Days - July 24-26

Title IX Training - July 30

ESU 11 Principal Meeting - August 2

#### 2024-2025 Elementary Theme

The elementary theme this year is Kind hearts, Open minds. Having a kind heart means that you care about others. Teaching kids to have empathy and compassion for others is important.

Having an open mind means that you are accepting of others. Teaching kids to be accepting of differences and solving problems in a civil manner is important.

#### Mental Health Institute

Several of our staff members have been working to address the mental health needs of our students and staff. Last February, a group of APHS staff members attended two days of training at ESU 11. Mental health facilitator, April Overholser, led the training which focused on ways that we could expand our current program and practices. Through this work, the district was able to access grant funds provided by the Nebraska Department of Education. A group of teachers, paras, counselors, and admin met for three days this summer (July 17-19) to discuss the best way to move forward and implement our plan. Students with mental health concerns will be identified through the use of a screener that is completed by classroom teachers. Mrs. Monie with the support of classroom teachers will be using the Strong Kids curriculum to teach students strategies that they can use to address mental health concerns.

#### Open House

We will be hosting an Open House on August 13th at 7pm. Students will be able to come meet their new teacher, see their classroom, and put their school supplies away. Some students may be experiencing anxiety and apprehension about starting a new school year. This event is designed to relieve those fears and reassure students that we are here to support them and help them be successful. I love seeing all the smiles and excitement at Open House.

### Warrior Way

This year during our first elementary staff meeting, we will be discussing common expectations that we have for students throughout the day. I will be asking for teacher and para input. Once I have collected comments and recommendations, I will update the templates and send them off to the ESU to be made into posters. These expectations will be shared, taught and reviewed as needed with the students. Teachers will still have their own classroom rules and expectations which students are expected to follow as well.

### Teachers / Class Sizes

The following is a list of our PK-6 classroom teachers and the number of students in each class.

Ms. Heather Doggett - AM Preschool 14 students / PM Preschool 14 students

Mrs. Emily Pearson - Kindergarten 25 students

Mrs. Lisa Schutz - First Grade 27 students

Mrs. Shasta Hambidge - Second Grade 27 students

Mrs. Kara Krejdl - Third Grade 18 students

Mr. Dale Henderson - Fourth Grade 17 students

Mr. Brandon Mues - Fifth Grade 15 students

Ms. Bailey Schneider - Sixth Grade 28 students

### New Paraprofessionals

The following new paraprofessionals will be working with our students and teachers: Mrs. Kelli Breinig, Mrs. Kimberly Treece, and Ms. BriAllen Soncksen.