

Rush City Schools School Board Advisory

January

2025-26



Strategic Directions:

Focus of Our Improvement Efforts

1. **Achieve Academic Excellence**
2. **Foster Positive and Safe Environment**
3. **Strengthen Community Relationships**
4. **Finance and Management**



C.E. Jacobson Elementary





Achieve Academic Excellence

- 177 students (gr. 4-12) recently screened on CaptiBasix - Dyslexia Screener as a requirement from the MN Read Act (74 at C.E. Jacobson)
- Data is available for all teachers of said students and interventions are further tailored for students' needs
- FAST testing began (Jan. 7th-23rd)
- TED Intervention is going strong (ages 3-6 Oral Language)
 - Traditionally fall to winter growth is the hardest to see, but we are hopeful



Foster A Positive And Safe Environment

- Continued review of school safety procedures and ERT (Emergency Response Team) practices
- Schoolwide PBIS is in full implementation status and continues to “run itself” at this point - staff doing it automatically and students are still interested in concepts and rewards
- Intentional work on maintaining staff morale - lots of check ins for January and February

Strengthen Community Relationships

- We will be welcoming our families to a special Reading night with an author visit on Feb. 24th
- Family Art Night set for April 9th

Grades 3 & 4 put on great music performances for the community last month!

Events for the WHOLE FAMILY



FAMILY READING NIGHT

Author Visit:

Erin Soderberg Downing

Tuesday, February 24th

5:00-7:30pm

For the
Whole Family!

*Come enjoy a fun night of
entertainment with a famous
Minnesota author!*



FAMILY ART NIGHT

Thursday, April 9th

5:00-7:30pm

For the
Whole Family!



Join us for a night of creativity
and fun as you select up to 6
make-and-take art projects!
There's something for everyone!

The background of the slide is a photograph of a classroom. In the foreground, there are wooden desks with various items on them, including a blue pencil case and some papers. In the background, several children are sitting at their desks, some with their hands raised. The room is decorated with colorful circular ornaments and a tree-like structure on the wall. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the middle of the image, containing the title and list.

Finance and Management

- Mid year observations / evaluations have started for non-tenured teachers and will wrap up by the end of January
- 2 new teacher subs have been hired (one returning to the district)
- 2 paraprofessionals have joined the team over the last two months

Rush City High School



Achieve Academic Excellence

- 103 students (gr. 7-12) recently screened on CaptiBasix - Dyslexia Screener as a requirement from the MN Read Act Data is available for all teachers of said students and interventions are further tailored for students' needs
- FAST testing began (Jan. 7th-23rd)
- 1st Semester Finals begin next week
- PTCC Partnership continuing to grow!
- 8th grade trip to PTCC to be rescheduled, stay tuned.

A photograph of a classroom with students at desks. In the foreground, a boy and a girl are visible, both with their hands raised. The background shows other students and colorful art projects on the wall. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the image, containing the title and list.

Foster A Positive And Safe Environment

- RCHS filled with holiday cheer:) Dress-up days, Holiday Bingo.
- Staff Holiday gathering at the VFW.



Strengthen Community Relationships

- Working with RCEF to host a fantastic fundraising event 'Rush Rally' February 6!
- High School Tigers travel to Senior Center to bring holiday cheer and sing carols to residents.
- Tiger Den brings holiday cheer to multiple families.

A blurred background image of a classroom. In the foreground, a wooden desk holds a blue pencil case and some papers. In the background, several students are seated at their desks, with some raising their hands. The room has colorful decorations on the wall and a window on the right side.

Finance and Management

- Added another substitute teacher to the team!
- Second round of teacher observations begins
- Administration navigating '26-27 budget process
- Continued improvement plans to RCHS physical plant

Rush City Activities



The background of the slide is a photograph of a classroom. In the foreground, there are wooden desks with blue trays containing pens and pencils. In the background, several students are seated at their desks, working. The classroom is decorated with colorful circular ornaments and a tree-like structure. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the middle of the image, containing the title and list.

Achieve Academic Excellence

- Rush City High School Triple A award winner Alex Flaten attended the Sub-Region 18 banquet to honor the winners of the Triple A award.
- We continue to do grade checks and offer academic assistance our students who are in activities each Wednesday.

The background image shows a bright, modern classroom. In the foreground, two young boys are seated at a wooden desk, smiling and raising their hands. The boy on the left is wearing a blue shirt, and the boy on the right is wearing a red shirt. They are both looking towards the camera. On the desk in front of them are various school supplies, including a blue pencil case, a red pencil, and some papers. In the background, other children are visible at their desks, and the walls are decorated with colorful, abstract artwork. A large window on the right side of the frame allows natural light to fill the room.

Foster A Positive And Safe Environment

- The weightlifting area has been expanded.
- The new athletic storage cages are finished and much of the equipment and supplies are moved into the new space.

Strengthen Community Relationships

- The Leos are planning a fundraiser for a local family in need.
- There is a busy stretch of home events in January. Please check the school calendar and come and watch our students.
- High school is hosting a RCYSC youth wrestling tournament January 17
- We will host the inaugural Great River Conference junior high honor band and choir event Feb. 7th



Finance and Management

- We are organizing and planning the inaugural GRC junior high honor band and choir event.
- Prom planning continues with the junior class student government members
- Process to build a new press box at Andy Saloka field has started back up. This project will be made possible by a donation from the John and Ev Erickson Trust.

Comments?

Questions?

Suggestions?

