

August 29, 2019

Dear Cascade Families and Community Members,

We have had two amazing weeks back to school! The teachers are happy to have the students back in class, and our halls and classrooms are full of smiling faces. We have all enjoyed getting caught up on the summer events and are quickly back to learning.

For fun activities this month, we have a Math Night September 24th. We hope to see you and your family there so that our students can share some math games with you. These games will be based on skills your child will be working on throughout the year and can easily be played at home to encourage family involvement. Details will follow from your child's teacher as the date approaches.

We will also have our first emergency drill this month. We've been reviewing our procedures and will be practicing safely evacuating our school in case of emergency. We will be looking over emergency procedures this year and would appreciate any thoughts or concerns from our community members. Please don't hesitate to contact the high school principal, Mrs. Pieper, or me.

Our mission at Cascade is to ensure all of our students learn and learn at high levels. In order to achieve our mission, we have instituted an ICU philosophy towards missing assignments and quality work. This philosophy will ensure our students are not only being taught the required Montana State Standards, but also, that they can adequately demonstrate an understanding of the skills. We will be communicating with the families and the students when assignments are missing or were completed with poor quality. Our staff is committed to helping our students achieve success and will be here to support them along the way.

Cascade Public Schools needs your help in filling out and returning Free/Reduced lunch forms. Our district typically receives over \$100,000 in federal funds to administer our Title I program, and the money we receive is based solely on the number of students who qualify for the Free/Reduced Lunch program. The more students who qualify, the more money our district receives. We use the funds to meet the needs of each student through the hiring of Title 1 staff and buying supplies and curricular materials. Our academic success is tied to our Title 1 program, and it would be a great loss should we not receive enough qualifying applicants to keep our status as a Title 1 school. Please note that filling out the form does NOT require you to participate in our free/reduced fee lunch program, but it will help our school. It is also important to know that Free/Reduced lunch forms are handled in a highly confidential manner. Every precaution will be taken to ensure your privacy. I greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete this form to support our students!

We will begin our testing in the next few weeks beginning with writing assessments followed by reading and math benchmark testing. These tests are important because they help us pinpoint areas of strength and weakness so we can best meet your child's individual needs through our Walk-to-Read and Walk-to-Math programs. Please encourage your child to do his/her best work on these tests.

It has been so rewarding to be back in school and seeing all of the familiar faces, as well as many new ones. Please stop by anytime to say hello. I hope to see all of you at our Math Night on September 24th.



Sincerely,

*Michelle Price*

Elementary Principal

406-468-9383 ext. 106

michelle.price@cascade.k12.mt.us