

2022-2023 Academic Achievement

ISBE Designation– Exemplary
% of growth compared to elementary schools across the state.

Adoption of new HMH: Into Reading Curricular Resource for ELA.

2022-2023 BIG GOALS

3x3

Focus: Reading Comprehension

Actions

Into Reading Implementation

80% of CT Students will be meeting 3x3

Fastbridge Data

5x5

Focus: Fact Fluency

Actions

Spring Math Implementation

80% of CT Students will be meeting 5x5

Fastbridge & Common Assessment Data

SEL

Focus: STOIC

Actions

Cougar Pride Reboot

Decrease # of discipline referrals and incidents

Community Engagement

Focus: Communication

Actions

Created Principal B2S Presentation
 Bi-monthly newsletters
 School Events

Community Engagement

Engaging the community is a vital part to any school's success. We also provide many events for our families to attend in conjunction with the school and the Parent Teacher Organization.

Examples:

- ◆ PTO- VIP & Me Events
- ◆ PTO- Color Run
- ◆ Family Literacy Night / Cougar Reading Madness
- ◆ Veteran's Day Assembly



CT Students and Staff– Ariel Mural

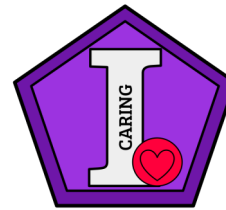


Cougar Reading Madness 2023 Champ– STUCK



Country Trails Elementary School

Graydon Engle, Principal
 Theresa Kolkebeck, Assistant Principal



Cougar Pride– REBOOT

In my tenure at Country Trails we have always had a Cougar Pride Program. Carl the Cougar is painted on our walls. Daily, we still recite our Cougar Pledge, “I am a Cougar. I show pride in all I do. I care about myself, I care about others, and I care about this school.”

Small posters hang in common areas of the school– representing what showing PRIDE in that area looks like. Students were recognized sporadically with Cougar Pride Tickets but with little purpose.

When we came back from COVID full time every adult in the building realized our students were hurting. Of course there were educational gaps that we were focused on closing but students also forgot how to “do school.” At the elementary level some students had never been to a formal setting like a daycare or camp due to restrictions.

Our SEL committee set forth to revamp and reboot our program, a crucial task to help heal the building and teach our students the values of being a friend, teammate, and community member in every community they belong to. We wanted to really strive for student and staff participation and buy-in. We wanted to create excitement and motivate students to display their positive character. Our results have been beyond our wildest dreams.

| 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 65 Office Referrals | 44 Office Referrals |

A 42% reduction in office referrals April ‘22—April ‘23.

Cougar Pride House System

To begin the year, students randomly drew into the 5 houses each representing a color and attribute of “PRIDE.” Every staff member also selected a house to help mentor and guide the students.

PTO helped purchase a school shirt for every student and staff member of CT. On Wednesdays, the students wear their house colors showing their Cougar Pride.

We wanted to get away from our past traditions of grade vs grade or class vs class. We wanted to build new communities within our school where students across all grade levels had an opportunity to make new friends and form buddies with the older role models.

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| September | Friendship |
| October | Responsible Choices |
| November | Caring |
| Dec/Jan | Fairness |
| February | Respect |
| March | Perseverance |
| April | Sportspersonship |

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

We also utilized our house system to split up and learn valuable SEL lessons. Near the end of each month, students get together with others across the grade level who are in their house color for an SEL lesson. During this time, every student at CT is participating in a lesson about a character trait that we are challenging students to display during the next month. Some of the character traits that we have targeted in our monthly lessons include: responsible choices, fairness, friendship, respect, caring and perseverance.

Cougar Pride Incentives

Every day students’ positive actions earn them Cougar Pride tickets from staff members. The students put their tickets into buckets located outside the main hall. There are specific tickets students can earn for showing their positive behavior in the lunchroom and on the busses (these are known as the “Hot Spots”).

Each Tuesday night, tickets are counted and random tickets are drawn from each house, grade level lunch, and bus buckets to identify weekly winners.

The students’ names are read over the morning announcements on Wednesday mornings. Winning in the lunchroom or bus rewards the entire house 5 additional points. At the end of the month the house with the most Cougar Pride tickets “takes over” the school.

We hang banners in their colors in the halls. Each teacher places a decal of that House’s color and sigil (symbol) outside their classroom door.

The 5 house winners from each week for a given month are then invited to have “Breakfast with the Principal” where I celebrate them being role models in the school for showing their Cougar Pride.

