

Mission Statement and Annual Goals

We pledge to provide every one of Eastford's children entrusted to our care with the very best education to meet individual needs, to maintain a nurturing and caring environment, and to ensure for each child the necessary preparation for a productive and fulfilling life in our changing world.

2016-17

Board of Education Goals

- I. Educational Leadership
 - A. Monitor academic data to ensure that Eastford students demonstrate learning growth in all subject areas.
 - B. Obtain and analyze data related to the performance of Eastford students in secondary and post-secondary education and careers.

- II. Organizational Management
 - A. Update policies to reflect current laws.
 - B. Maintain and improve school facilities in accordance with a multi-year plan.
 - C. Explore ways to achieve greater efficiency as a school district by cooperating with other districts, the town and/or Woodstock Academy for:
 - 1. Shared services
 - 2. Cooperative programs
 - 3. Sharing of staff

- III. Community and BOE Relations:
Develop strategies for improving community participation in District endeavors.

2016-17 Superintendent Goals

- I. Educational Leadership
Monitor academic data to ensure that Eastford students demonstrate learning growth in all subject areas.
- II. Organizational Management
 - A. Ensure that staff members have a working knowledge of the established policies and academic regulations.
 - B. Facilities: Maintain and improve school facilities in accordance with a multi-year plan.
 - C. Explore ways to achieve greater efficiency as a school district by cooperating with other districts, the town and/or Woodstock Academy for:
 - 1. Shared services

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2. Cooperative programs
 3. Sharing of staff
- III. Community and BOE Relations:
Collaborate with staff in strengthening community and family/school partnerships.

2016-17 Principal's Goals

1. To improve student achievement in English Language Arts as evidenced through performance rates on Spring NWEA Comparative Data exceeding the State average on the SBAC from the spring of 2016.
2. To improve student achievement in Mathematics as evidenced through performance rates on Spring NWEA Comparative Data exceeding the State average on the SBAC from the spring of 2016.
3. Establish clear expectations for roles, responsibilities and performance of all staff members to ensure that all job responsibilities are met and exceeded.

2016-17 Whole School Goal

The Eastford Elementary School staff will promote developmentally appropriate standards of behavior that support a productive learning environment, intellectual risk taking, and academic resiliency for all students.

Goals and Accomplishments

1. This report highlights some of the accomplishments; more can be accessed online by reading committee reports and the principal/superintendent reports on the Board of Education's dropdown menu on the school's website (<http://www.eastfordct.org>)
2. During the 2016-17 school year, The Board of Education completed numerous facilities projects; these include:
 - a. Replacing the underground oil storage tank
 - b. Putting the newly dug well online. There are now two water wells providing water to the school and town hall
 - c. Insulating a steam pipe and providing new pipe vent for a condensate return in the steam tunnel
 - d. Installing a new exhaust fan in the pipe tunnel
 - e. Requisitioning an HVAC, energy efficiency and mechanical feasibility study that was completed by Hallam ICS. This report is available in its entirety on the website
 - f. Continuing to work toward the long-term goal of ensuring that the building is more energy efficient. These discussions led to
 - Planning for upgrades to all the lights at the school;
 - Monitoring of temperatures in every classroom daily; and

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- Monitoring of the boilers.
3. The Board continued to update policies as recommended by the attorneys. During the 2016-17 school year, approximately forty policies and/or regulations were updated. Updated policies are delineated in monthly minutes of the Board of Education and access to all policies is on the website.
 4. The Board rejuvenated its Scholarship Steering Committee and began collaborating with the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut to establish a non-endowed scholarship fund as a companion to one of its endowed funds.

Personnel

1. Three long-term staff members, announced their retirements for the end of the 2016-17 school year: Mary Guillette, school nurse, Joan Muller, art and enrichment teacher and Meribeth Tedisky, physical education/health teacher.
2. Additionally, David Socquet, math teacher, Bethany Croxton, music teacher, and Heather Tamsin, principal, resigned at the end of the school year.
3. As of the end of the 2016-17 school year, some staff members had been hired to replace retirees and those who resigned. Other replacements were hired at the start of the next fiscal year.
4. The Board of Education decided to hire a Speech and Language Pathologist (SLP) instead of continuing to use an agency for this service. Rachelle Mauer, SLP, was hired in the spring and was able to project what materials would be needed for the fall.
5. Since the Board of Education was unable to hire a Spanish teacher to fill the vacancy for this position, students in grades seven and eight were instructed in Spanish via distance learning.
6. Monica Racicot, Sabrina Davis and Courtney Shimek, paraprofessionals, resigned and Samantha Boccacio and Alaina Kilburn were hired to replace them. Additional hiring was at the start of the next fiscal year.

Student Enrollment

The October 1 student count at Eastford Elementary School was 143. The October 1 count of Eastford students at Woodstock Academy was 52. Nine Eastford high school students were enrolled at Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School, Killingly Regional Agricultural Center and ACT Magnet School.

Professional Development

Professional Development opportunities for the staff during the 2016-17 school year focused on achieving the annual school goal as well as increasing the capacity of teachers to improve student academic performance through differentiated classroom instruction, incorporating technology and using tools such as Google Classroom, and increasing the level of rigor in instructional resources and practices. Staff members participated in a variety of professional development activities. These included:

1. August Professional Development Day:
 - a. Teachers participated in CPR/First Aid renewal training, mandated reporter and restraint and seclusion training.
 - b. K-2 teachers were presented with an overview on the new science standards.
 - c. Work on implementing the Writing Pathways units of study continued.
 - d. Teachers were instructed on the management of the new website and updating their teacher webpages.
 - e. Discussions were held related to school climate and a whole school goal that focused on student engagement and independence as learners.

2. November Professional Development Day:
 - a. Special area teachers and special education teachers attended individualized professional learning opportunities outside the school.
 - Meribeth Tedisky and Joan Muller attended *Professional Learning for Special Area Teachers* workshop at EASTCONN.
 - Juliana Fox and Patricia Moran attended *Attention and Executive Functioning* workshop at EASTCONN.
 - Bethany Croxton attended *Professional Development Day for Music Educators* at Western Connecticut State University.
 - b. Classroom teachers of grades preschool through eight attended a morning presentation by Kaitlin Roig-Debellis, author of a book called *Choosing Hope* at Woodstock Academy. In the afternoon, teachers
 - Engaged in curriculum discussions related to meeting the requirements of the Sexual Assault & Abuse Prevention & Awareness Curriculum Framework for the State of Connecticut; and
 - Examined new Envision Mathematics 2.0 program materials.

3. March Professional Development Day:
 - a. Teachers participated in discussions and webinars related to
 - Training for PEG Writing (an essay scoring engine);
 - Meeting new standards in science;

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- Using teleconferencing equipment;
 - Understanding the functions and utility of Google Classroom; and
 - Accessing and using the Student Profile report on the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress). This is a computer adaptive test created by NWEA that students take three times per school year. Computer adaptive tests adjust to each student's learning level, providing a unique set of test questions based on their responses to previous questions.
- b. Teachers also worked on social studies curriculum mapping.
 - c. Paraprofessionals received training on *Read Naturally Live*, math instruction in the preschool classroom and recognizing anxiety and trauma in children.
4. Christine Kopplin earned trainer certification in PMT (Physical and Psychological Management Training) and coached other staff members who renewed their certifications in PMT. In this program, staff members learn appropriate ways to deescalate students and moderate behavioral incidents with students.
 5. In addition to scheduled professional development days, staff members completed other professional development activities relating to student learning objectives and other initiatives that are highlighted in the principal's monthly reports available on the school's website.

Technology

1. The Eastford School District is fortunate to have TelePresence videoconferencing equipment. This equipment allows students to participate in workshops and courses as well as take field trips via Internet and video technology. Eastford students benefited from this equipment by participating in virtual programs offered by many organizations, including:
 - Cleveland Museum of Art
 - Philadelphia Museum of Art
 - Toledo Zoo
 - Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology, Harvard University
 - History Connects from the Virginia Historical Society
 - Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center
 - Center for Puppetry Arts
 - Ohio History Connection
 - Milwaukee Public Museum
 - Smithsonian American Art Museum
 - SOITA (Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association)
 - Museum of Flight

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- McMillen Health
 - Roper Mountain
 - Fort Necessity National Battlefield
 - Homestead National Monument of America
 - Liberty Science Center
 - Learn Around the World
2. Eastford Elementary School continues to utilize technology in all academic areas since there are more than 100 laptops available to students and all classrooms are equipped with interactive SmartBoards and at least one iPad. A mobile cart of 30 Chrome Books was added to the inventory of student devices in May.

Cultural Programs

Students at all grade levels attended theater productions at the Hyde Theater. Eastford Elementary School hosted a variety of cultural programs during the 2016-17 school year, many of which were made possible with funding from the PTO. These included:

- EcoTarium Science Program
- Election Musical, *He Said/She Said*
- Scott Jameson, magic and juggling
- Looking In Theater
- Robotics Assembly
- Rainforest Animals

Cocurricular Programs

1. Three sports seasons were offered for middle school students fall, winter and spring— two soccer teams, two basketball teams and a coed track team.
2. Northeast Communities against Substance Abuse (NECASA) provided Eastford's Local Prevention Council (LPC) grant money to support local prevention of substance abuse. Research has shown that when youngsters learn how to use leisure time effectively, they are less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol. During the 2016-17 school year, the funds were used to sponsor after school/holiday enrichment programs. More than one-third of EES students participated in after school programs such as board games, model rockets, birdhouses, Zentangle drawing, holiday crafts and Legos. There were 17 sessions offered across all grade levels. Additionally, the LPC sponsored field trips on the Professional Development Days to the New England Air Museum, Quester's Way and WilliBowl.
3. During the 2016-17 school year, the Board of Education facilitated the Before and After School Program for the sixth year. Melinda King was the primary childcare worker and Carla Harrington and Alaina Kilburn assisted.

4. Carole McCombe, Candice Mead, Juliana Fox, Lori Reynolds and Lori Crocker Lincoln facilitated a well-established Homework Club four days per week.

Special Events

1. Families and community members were invited to participate in an Internet Safety evening event and in Parent Education Workshops.
2. The local Lions Club offered a free vision screening for interested families.

Parent Groups

The Eastford Elementary School continued to enjoy the support of three active parent groups:

1. Among other projects, the Eastford PTO sponsored cultural programs, a school sign contest, community outreach and book fairs.
2. The Middle School fund-raising group sponsored its fifteenth Annual Goods and Services Auction to raise money to completely fund the eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C.
3. The Sports Boosters supported the soccer, basketball and track teams by providing equipment that was not included in the Board of Education's budget, such as basketball warm up jerseys. In addition, the Sports Boosters sponsored a pasta dinner.

Ongoing Committees and Collaborative Initiatives

The following represent ongoing efforts that involve the Board of Education and Eastford Elementary Staff working collaboratively with parents and other stakeholders:

1. Professional Development and Curriculum Committee: Lori Crocker-Lincoln led this committee that also included Elizabeth Rhyhart, Juliana Fox, Carole McCombe, Gerald Marmat, Heather Tamsin and Linda Loretz. This team ensures that individualized goals for intervention are developed by math, reading and writing teachers and shared with parents six times per year—each time progress notes and report cards are issued. The team also facilitates curriculum development and overall school improvement.
2. The Readiness Council, which is governed by the Board of Education and the Town, is a group of citizens concerned with matters related to children who are not yet school-aged. It is the duty of the Readiness Council to develop and implement policies for and to provide ongoing monitoring of the School Readiness Preschool Program. Readiness Council members included Jacquelin Budd, Catherine DePercio, Jennifer Barlow, Janelle Marengo, Jennifer Norman, Linda Loretz, Terry Cote, Ashlyn Ellsworth, Christine Kopplin, Heather Tamsin, Susan Shead, Robin Bibeault and Michelle Bibeault.
3. Eastford Elementary School continued to work closely with the Eastford Independent Fire Company. Gordon Spink, Eastford Fire Chief, was

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instrumental in improving overall safety guidelines. Jeannine Spink worked closely with staff in keeping CPR and First Aid certifications up-to-date as well as meeting with all classes regarding fire safety and first aid.

4. Members of the Congregational Church of Eastford provided multiple after-school enrichment programs for students. The youth group from the Eastford Baptist Church offered volunteer services to the school and provided an outdoor cleanup during the 2016-17 school year.
5. A long-term collaboration with the Union School District for sports and the Washington, D.C. trip expanded to include student dances and other activities.
6. A collaborative arrangement continues with the Pomfret School District to share a Pupil Services Director.
7. The Eastford School District continued to share a media specialist/school librarian with the Hampton School District. Additionally, it shared a music teacher with the Plainfield School District.
8. The Eastford School District continues to participate in a number of collaborative agreements with EastConn, the Regional Education Service Center:
 - a. Birth to Three Student Services
 - b. Adult Education Services
 - c. Cooperative Purchasing Agreements for supplies and fuel
 - d. Magnet School Agreement
 - e. Readiness Compliance Oversight
9. The Eastford Board of Education and the Town of Eastford have collaborative agreements that include:
 - a. Employee Health benefits, which is a collaborative with the State Partnership Plan
 - b. Liability, Auto, Professional and Worker's Compensation Insurance through CIRMA (Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency), another state cooperative
 - c. Fueling of school buses at the Town Transfer Station
 - d. Upkeep of the athletic fields

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EIGHTH GRADE AWARDS

Award	Recipient(s)
Marilyn Krom, PTO	Isaac Budd
Eastford Teachers Memorial	Isaac Budd
Olivette Kozey	Amanda Hair
Allen James Day	Joren Ayer and Oliver Driscoll
Roger Mason Day	Clayton Singleton
William Shand Memorial	Autumn Cassell
Eastford Fire Company Citizenship	Cedric Bilica
Otto F. King	Ibo Villanueva
American Legion	Oliver Driscoll
Joseph St. King	Lily Patenaude
The ETA Local Hero	Katerina Belanger
Arboriculture Award	Isaac Budd
Math/Science/Tech	Lily Patenaude
Humanities	Emma Botting
Presidential Academic Fitness	Clayton Singleton
William S. Warren	Clayton Singleton

During the 2016-17 school year, Board of Education Citizen of the Trimester awards were presented to:

First Trimester: Cedric Bilica
Third Trimester: Henry Driscoll, Zoey Cassell

Clayton Singleton and Amanda Hair were the recipients of the CAPSS (Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents) Superintendent's Award.

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COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The following Scholarships were issued by the Eastford Board of Education along with the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut and the Hartford Foundation:

Scholarship	Recipient(s)
The Dennis S. Barlow Scholarship Award	Emily Hughes
The Edith Wheaton Smith Memorial Scholarship	Collin Singleton, Kara Singleton Abigail Willis
The Eleanor K. Lewis Scholarship	Cody Goodwin
The Emil Vaida Scholarship high	Kiana Percy
The Esther and Lucie Harmon and Leta Sabin Trepal Scholarship Fund	Cameron Grube Kiana Percy Liam Dyer
The Harold Carpenter Fund Scholarship	Robert Johnson
Mary King Sharpe Memorial Business Scholarship	Abigail Willis
Ethel Gardner Music Scholarship	Dylan Grube Emma Kellermann

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These awards and scholarships were presented by Woodstock Academy.

Recipient	Awards and Scholarships
Bowen, Caleb	Kristina Noe Memorial Scholarship Outstanding Achievement in Engineering CAD Wiltzie Most Improved in Science Award
Bunnell, Silas	Douglas Foisy Memorial Scholarship
Dyer, Liam	Outstanding Achievement in Advanced Engineering Robotics
Grube, Cameron	Valedictorian Outstanding Achievement in AP Calculus BC Outstanding Achievement in AP Statistics Outstanding Achievement in Biology Outstanding Achievement in History Williams (Donald B. Williams & Hope K. Williams Scholarship (Robertson Essay) 1st Place Gordon Fund (Susan Dorrance Gordon Scholarship) Outstanding Math Student
Grube, Dylan	Outstanding Achievement in German 4 Honors
Hughes, Emily	Salutatorian Outstanding Achievement in AP Calculus AB Outstanding Achievement in ECE Calculus Williams Scholarship Academic Scholarship
Kellermann, Emma	Natalie & Robert W. Randall Memorial Award
Mustis, Jonathan	Big Y Scholarship Bradley (Arlene Bradley Memorial Scholarship) (Science Award) Outstanding Achievement in 3D Animation and Design Outstanding Achievement in Aerospace Engineering Outstanding Achievement in AP Calculus BC Outstanding Achievement in AP US History Outstanding Achievement in Physics UCONN Academic Excellence Scholarship President's Volunteer Service Award Prudential Spirit of Community Honoree
Singleton, Collin	Charter Oak Scholarship CHET Scholar Dunkin Donuts Scholarship Spirol Intl Scholarship Luke Leadership Award Williams Scholarship Yale Honor Cup Quinebaug Valley Regional Rotaract Club

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Eastford Elementary School 2017 Eighth Grade Graduates

Joren Ayer
Cedric Bilica
Emma Botting
Isaac Budd
Autumn Cassell
Oliver Driscoll
Katerina Belanger
Amanda Hair
Emily Hull
Lily Patenaude
Clayton Singleton
Ibo Villaneueva

Eastford 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Killingly Vocational-Agricultural High School

Amber Buell

H.H. Ellis Technical High School

Corey	Collard
Nathan	Hull
Kyle	Percy

Woodstock Academy

Asikainen, Ivan
Bowen, Caleb
Bunnell, Silas
Desmond, Ethan
Dyer, Liam
Goodwin, Cody
Grube, Cameron
Grube, Dylan
Hermann, Rebecca
Hughes, Emily
Kellermann, Emma
Mustis, Jonathan
Paulhus, Victor
Singleton, Collin
Williams, Courtney