

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.

2017-18 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. Maintain and improve school facilities in accordance with a multi-year plan.
 - B. Negotiate a collective bargaining agreement with the Eastford teachers
 - 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

Community and BOE Relations:

Develop strategies for improving community participation in school sustainability efforts

2017-18 Superintendent 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. Assist the Board in negotiating a collective bargaining agreement with the Eastford teachers.
 - B. Policy: Assist the Board in Updating policies to reflect current laws and review policies that have not been updated in more than ten years.
 - C. Facilities: Maintain and improve school facilities in accordance with a multi-year plan.

- III. Community and BOE Relations:
Collaborate with the new principal in strengthening community and family/school partnerships.

2017-18 Principal's Goals

1. Support teachers in developing effective classroom management techniques and assist them in planning for rigorous instruction and active engagement of students.
2. Support staff in developing and communicating school-wide positive behavioral supports to improve students' social-emotional and academic competencies.

2017-18 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, and add by developing and using common language across settings and establishing clear expectations 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 2017-18 school year, The Board of Education completed numerous facilities projects; these include:
 - a. Updated lighting inside the building—ConServ
 - b. Repaired and reinforced the sound panels in the gymnasium—M.W. Billings, Inc.
 - c. Insulated steam tunnel to address kindergarten heat issues—EMCOR
 - d. Upgraded exhaust fan connected to kiln and kindergarten heat issue
 - e. Installed a new student bathroom between grades two and four.
 - f. Put the gymnasium roof replacement project and solar projects out to bid and awarded the contracts to Imperial and Summer Hill Solar.
3. The Board continued to update policies as recommended by the attorneys. During the 2017-18 school year, approximately nine 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.

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4. The Board's Scholarship Steering Committee continued their collaboration with the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut and awarded a non-endowed scholarship as well as the endowed scholarships.

Personnel

1. Carole McCombe was hired as the new school principal and Megan Dill was hired as the new fourth grade teacher.
2. Spanish teacher Catherine DePercio was hired to replace long-term Spanish substitute Meghan Kebernick.
3. School counselor Beth Harrington was hired to replace social worker Karen Bergin.
4. Donna Lynch was hired as an enrichment teacher.
5. Denise Chambers was hired as a long term Library/Media Specialist substitute for the 2017-18 school year. Sarah Boyd was hired to begin the 2018-19 school year as Library/Media Specialist.
6. Elizabeth O'Hara was hired as the Art teacher for the 2018-19 school year.
7. Jenean Jourdan was hired as a Speech and Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA) to work one day a week with the SLP.
8. Paraprofessional Kathryn LaRose resigned and Sarah Manbeck, Kristin Haynes and Margaret Pittman were hired as paraprofessionals.
9. Christopher Pittman was hired as daytime custodian after Charles Bowen resigned.

Student Enrollment

The October 1 student count at Eastford Elementary School was 150. The October 1 count of Eastford students at Woodstock Academy was 46. Eight Eastford high school students were enrolled at Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School, Killingly Regional Agricultural Center, Quinebaug Middle College and ACT Magnet School.

Professional Development

Professional Development opportunities for the staff during the 2017-18 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 representative from SERC (State Education Resource Center) provided a three-hour workshop to all staff on a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) for behavior that focused on behavior, character education and building relationships. Staff surveys indicate that this was a positive and timely workshop and that staff would like continued opportunities to work on building community and supporting students.
2. **June Professional Development Days**
Amanda Pickett from SERC assisted certified staff in developing matrices for behavior expectations in classrooms and common areas of the building and in developing school-wide core values. Some staff members updated their CPR/First Aid certifications. Teacher evaluation meetings were held, student success plans for MTSS interventions were developed and shared with staff who will be working with these children the following year and articulation meetings were held to discuss Tier I classroom supports and relevant student data to prepare for the next school year. All science teachers received online training in using the Discovery Education Tech book program. Certified staff received training in the use of Google Classroom and Google Apps for Education with breakout sessions by Mrs. Lessard and Mrs. Bibeault.
3. 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:
 - Author Valerie Marsh
 - Durham Museum
 - Maryland Historical Society
 - Toledo Zoo
 - Don Harrington Discovery Center of Amarillo
 - Muskingum Valley Educational Center
 - Learn Around the World
 - Dolphin Research Center

2. Eastford Elementary School continues to utilize technology in all academic areas since there are now 150 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 June.

Cultural Programs

Students at all grade levels attended theater productions at the Woodstock Academy Cultural Arts Center. Eastford Elementary School hosted a variety of cultural programs during the 2017-18 school year, some of which were made possible with funding from the PTO.

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. A boys' baseball team was also offered for middle school students in the spring.
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 2017-18 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 rocket building, birdhouse building, Zentangle drawing, holiday crafts and Legos. There were 23 sessions offered across all grade levels.
3. During the 2017-18 school year, the Board of Education facilitated the Before and After School Program for the seventh year. Melinda King was the primary childcare worker and Laurie Smith assisted.
4. Candice Mead, Lori Reynolds and Lori Crocker Lincoln facilitated a well-established Homework Club four days per week.

Special Events

1. Mr. Kernan planned a Veterans Day event to recognize veterans and educate students about Veterans Day. All families and residents were invited to attend. Students wrote letters to invite local veterans, prepared musical selections to sing during the ceremony and made flags to give to the veterans. Teachers also talked about Veterans Day with students in age appropriate ways. A number of veterans attended the event. It was a very well received event that brought many community members to the school.

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2. The local Lions Club offered a free vision screening for interested families.
3. Two summer programs were provided by The EcoTarium of Worcester, MA and sponsored by The Primary Mental Health Program (PMHP) grant. On July 6, they brought live turtles and presented a 45-minute, hands-on program focusing on turtles of New England. On July 20, they again presented a 45-minute, hands-on program on the topic of animal adaptations.
4. Grade 8 students, in conjunction with local Boy and Girl Scout troops, held a food drive before Thanksgiving to benefit the Eastford Food Pantry. Approximately 1,395 items were collected.
5. Students and staff celebrated Read Across America day on March 2. Student athlete leaders from Woodstock Academy read with students in grades PK- 5 and Judge dosSantos read with students in grades 6-8. All students attended one of three Skype sessions scheduled with authors. Students were invited to dress up as their favorite Seuss character and additional age appropriate activities were provided by classroom teachers.
6. Children's Author, Leslie Connor (Crunch, Waiting for Normal) visited on June 6. She met with small groups of students and provided a pizza lunch for grade 8 students. She read to students, discussed her writing/editing process, strategies for ideas and sustaining her writing. She conducted a writing workshop with grade 7 and engaged grade 8 students in casual conversation to learn about their experience growing up in a small New England town. She also donated signed copies of some of her books to the school library. Ms. Connor is working on a book that will include a storyline about growing up in a small town and she will use information gleaned from Eastford students to develop her fictional characters.

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 sixteenth 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 sports teams by providing equipment that was not included in the Board of Education's budget.

Collaborative Initiatives

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

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stakeholders:

1. 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 Jennifer Barlow, Michelle Bibeault, Robin Bibeault, Jacquelin Budd, Terry Cote, Catherine DePercio, Ashlyn Ellsworth, Christine Kopplin, Janelle Marengo, Carole McCombe, Susan Shead and Maribeth Stearns.
2. Eastford Elementary School continues to work closely with the Eastford Independent Fire Company. Jeannine Spink assisted staff in keeping CPR and First Aid certifications up-to-date as well as meeting with all classes regarding fire safety and first aid.
3. 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 helped in spreading mulch on the playgrounds during the 2017-18 school year.
4. A long-term collaboration with the Union School District for sports and the Washington, D.C. trip continued and included student dances.
5. A collaborative arrangement continues with the Pomfret School District to share a Pupil Services Director.
6. 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
7. 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	Jordan Chiles
Eastford Teachers Memorial	Austin Pittman
Olivette Kozey	Tavian Santos
Principal Recognition	Daniel Katkaveck and Brandin Sarabia
Roger Mason Day	Anna Kellermann
William Shand Memorial	Jake Krukoff and L.J. Schiavetti
Eastford Fire Company Citizenship	Alexis Buell
Otto F. King	Anna Kellermann
American Legion	Milliealexis Sutherland
Joseph St. King	George Neely
The ETA Local Hero	Kamila Wysocki
Arboriculture Award	Henry Driscoll
Math/Science/Tech	A. Benton Archambault
Humanities	Riley Driscoll
Presidential Academic Fitness	A. Benton Archambault, Henry Driscoll and Anna Kellermann
William S. Warren	Henry Driscoll

During the 2017-18 school year, Board of Education Citizen of the Trimester awards were presented to:

First Trimester: Kaitlyn Becker, MiaRose Thompson
Second Trimester: Sophia Bulan, Isaac Sullivan
Third Trimester: Marley Hutchings, George Neely

Anna Kellermann and Henry Driscoll 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	Griffin Edwards Cameron Grube Emily Hughes Meryl Wolfe
The Edith Wheaton Smith Memorial Scholarship	Griffin Edwards Cameron Grube Collin Singleton Kara Singleton Abigail Willis
The Eleanor K. Lewis Scholarship	Griffin Edwards
The Emil Vaida Scholarship high	Griffin Edwards
The Esther and Lucie Harmon and Leta Sabin Trepal Scholarship Fund	Griffin Edwards Cody Goodwin Sierra Goodwin Andrew Hughes Robert Johnson Kara Singleton Meryl Wolfe
The Harold Carpenter Fund Scholarship	Robert Johnson
Mary King Sharpe Memorial Business Scholarship	Abigail Willis
Ethel Gardner Music Scholarship	Dylan Grube
Scholarship honoring former First Selectman, Arthur Brodeur	Griffin Edwards Cody Goodwin Andrew Hughes Meryl Wolfe

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These awards and scholarships were presented by Woodstock Academy.

Recipient	Awards and Scholarships
Edwards, Griffin	Valedictorian Congressional Certificate of Merit Award Kathryn Robertson Essay Award (2 nd place) Community Foundation of Eastern CT Scholarships Susan Dorrance Outstanding Math Student Scholarship Telegram & Gazette Student Achievement Award
Miller, Ryan	Outstanding Achievement in Game Design
Wise, Chelsea	Outstanding Achievement in Spanish IV Honors
Wysocki, Michele	High Achievement in Culinary Arts

Eastford Elementary School 2018 Eighth Grade Graduates

A. Benton Archambault

Alexis Buell
Jordan Chiles
Henry Driscoll
Riley Driscoll
Daniel Katkaveck
Anna Kellermann
Jake Krukoff
George Neely
Austin Pittman
Tavian Santos
Brandin Sarabia
L.J. Schiavetti
Milliealexis Sutherland
Kamila Wysocki

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Eastford 2018 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Woodstock Academy

Arizmendi, Lucia
Barrett, Isabel
Budd, Caleb
Edwards, Griffin
Keyes, Anna
Lathrop, Alexis
Merlo, Nathaniel
Miller, Ryan
Nault, Bailey
Wise, Chelsea
Wysocki, Michele

Ellis Tech

Glenn, Colin

Killingly High School

Ahnberg, Nicolas