

## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
From: Carole McCombe  
Date: August 12, 2021  
Subject: August Report to the Board of Education

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### Field Trips:

No Trips are scheduled at this time.

- Washington D.C. – The auction committee will need to begin planning soon if we decide to go ahead with an auction in November to support a trip in May.

### Virtual Field Trips:

None scheduled at this time.

### Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program is full with 17 students, 8 are returning 4-year olds and 9 are new to the program. Mrs. Kopplin and Ms. Garvie will hold a meet and greet for preschool and kindergarten students and families on August 26 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM.

### Eastford Readiness Council Update:

The first meeting this year will be on October 5 at 5:30 PM and thereafter on the first Tuesday of each month at the same time. They plan to hold meetings virtually for the time being. We have been awarded both the Readiness and Quality Enhancement grants for another school year and First Selectman Jacqueline Dubois has appointed Sharon Kozey Greene as Readiness Liaison. The Readiness Council has an established procedure in place for enrollment in the preschool program based on guidelines stipulated for Readiness Grant recipients. The Council will work with EES staff toward clearer communication with Eastford residents regarding this procedure.

### Data on Student Progress:

Preliminary results of student SBAC and NGSS scores have been released to districts. They are still scoring students who tested remotely and compiling state comparative data. The state will provide guidance to districts on use and interpretation of results. I will share more in-depth information once it has been released at the state level and individual student reports will be mailed to families at a later time.

### Percent of students at goal or higher on SBAC and NGSS (Level 3 and Level 4)

Grade: 2021	Math	ELA	Science
3	67%	50%	
4	89%	89%	
5	27%	45%	73%
6	30%	40%	
7	25%	17%	
8	40%	67%	73%

### **Professional Development:**

- I continue to work with EastConn staff on a regular basis to incorporate the Eastford “Portrait of a Learner” into our existing and developing curriculum documents and to communicate our newly developed strategic improvement plan to all staff and families so that our goals and vision for improvement are clear and transparent.
- A number of staff members worked over the summer to update and further develop curriculum guidance for ELA, Science, Health/PE and Social Emotional Learning as well as to update manuals and procedures for Special Education/gifted and RTI/MTSS based on updated state guidance in these areas.
- August Professional Development will include:
  - Social emotional learning updates, integration of POL, guidance on classroom community building and school climate with EastConn staff
  - Overview of updated manuals, plans and curriculum documents and resources
  - Updated Covid requirements and protocols
  - Mandated trainings
  - Security protocols

### **New Staff, Assignments and Anticipated Enrollment:**

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members: Adam Phelps - 5-8 ELA, Jen Barlow – 5-8 math, Jessica Garvie – kindergarten, David Burgess – instrumental music.

Kopplin (PK):	17	Dill (4):	7
Garvie (K):	16	Grade 5:	19
Rhynhart (1):	21	Grade 6:	12
Bardsley (2):	11	Grade 7:	10
Lincoln (3):	20	Grade 8:	12

**Security Grant (Round 5 SSGP)** – Work has begun to address the following areas approved by the BOE in June. We are still awaiting word on approval of this grant from the State.

- Fencing and gates around the preschool playground and generator
- Installation of a keyless entry system for the front door and rear door used for recess access
- Replacing outdated/non-working surveillance cameras, updating surveillance system program, installing panic buttons in office suites
- Work on the interior classroom doors and hinges in the middle school wing
- Purchase of 10 two-way radios with battery packs

**Primary Mental Health Project (PMHP)** – We have been awarded the Primary Mental Health Grant at the same level of funding as previous years. Mrs. Sarah Boyd will be our childcare associate that will administer this program under the supervision of Ms. Murana, school counselor.

**After School Grant** - Pending formal approval, this grant will fund a combination of after school care and activities for students in grades K-8 that include

- Child care
- Academic support/homework club
- Movement and play-based activities, organized and independent

- Enrichment and STEM options
- Family engagement and workshop opportunities

**Fall Sports Update:**

CIAC released updated guidance for interscholastic sports for the start of the school year. We have 9 boys and 5 girls interested in fall soccer. We will abide by this updated guidance and field a co-ed intramural team and we will scrimmage neighboring towns instead of competing in the full league schedule. At this time, masks are required for indoor sports contests and practices. Masks are not required for outdoor contests and practices.

**Growth and Evaluation Flexibilities:**

The CSDE has allowed for flexibilities in teacher and administrator growth and evaluation for the 2021-22 school year and they have provided guidance on goals that should focus on student and family engagement, academic recovery, equitable learning opportunities and social emotional needs/overall well-being of students and educators. Teachers and administrators will be evaluated using a 4-level rating system, and summative and holistic reviews of evidence. Aggregate evaluation ratings will be reported to CSDE by September of 2022. More information regarding approval of these flexibilities will be brought to the Board at the September meeting. Staff will work to develop goals around these focus areas and incorporate feedback from climate and parent feedback surveys conducted in the spring of 2021.

**Community and other events:**

- New Teacher Orientation: August 25 from 12:30 to 3:30 PM
- PK and Kindergarten Meet and Greet: August 26 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM
- School pictures with Irvin Simon Photographers (new company): September 24
- Open House PK-4: September 16 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM
- Open House 5-8 and High School information booths: September 28 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM