

## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Leake  
From: Carole McCombe  
Subject: Report to the Board of Education  
Date: September 3, 2020

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### Field Trips:

- Housing for the Grade 8 Washington, D.C. trip has been reserved for May 2021. Plans will be adjusted based on state and local guidelines as we move through this school year. Similarly, we are not planning to hold the annual Goods and Services Auction in November 2020.
- No in-person field trips will be scheduled until further notice to abide by current pandemic guidelines. Teachers are exploring virtual options.

### Virtual Field Trips:

- Nothing is scheduled at this time

### Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program has 13 students enrolled. Three are partial day students and one student is participating remotely.

### Readiness Council Update:

The Council will hold their first meeting on Tuesday, October 1 at 5:30 PM. At this time, they will set goals for the upcoming school year.

### Grants:

**Readiness Grant** - I am working on completing our grant submission for the Readiness Program. We are eligible to receive the same level of funding as last school year – regardless of the number of children who are learning in person or remotely.

**Primary Mental Health Grant (PMHP)** - The renewal application for this grant just came through. Funds will apply to in person or remote learning situations. We are eligible for the same level of funding as in prior years. We plan to use the funds in a similar fashion as in previous years – to assist students, generally in kindergarten through grade 3, who are experiencing minor school adjustment difficulties and/or difficulties relating to their peers.

**Data on Student Progress:**

Staff and students are adjusting to new routines and procedures. Early release days this week enabled students and staff to ease into “school.” Academic processes and pacing will pick up as we move toward our first full day, full week with students. Teachers are connecting with students learning remotely during times when students are at specials or with another teacher. Some teachers are also live streaming lessons simultaneously while they are teaching students in person. Our first whole school, remote learning Monday will be September 14. Students in grades 5-8 have been divided into mixed groups across the grade levels. They will be assigned two subject areas every three weeks to participate in so that over the course of the trimester all students will have had the same four subjects. Students in grades PK-4 will work with their classroom teachers on collaborative learning, social-emotional needs, and academic work.

**Computers:**

We have approximately 140 computers in circulation: 80 Chromebooks and 60 Mac Airs. These are housed on 7 carts around the building. We have 20 more new Chromebooks that are on back order. All students have been assigned an appropriate device to use both in school and for our remote learning days.

**Community and Other Events:**

- School pictures will be held on September 15.
- I would like to thank parents and local volunteers who have donated masks, gently used books, art and paper supplies, FEMA supplies, desk and table shields, and the gift of time- dedicated to help design and build COVID protective supplies and to beautify and tidy up our front landscaping. We greatly appreciate the community support in all that we do.
- Thanks to all staff and families for supporting the reopening of Eastford Elementary School. We had a smooth first week!