

Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake
From: Carole McCombe
Subject: Report to the Board of Education
Date: December 3, 2021

Field Trips:

- Washington, D.C. trip: The Auction Committee has set March 26, 2022 as the date for the annual Goods and Services Auction. We have booked hotel rooms for grade 8 students. They will visit Washington, D.C. from May 17 through May 20, 2022.
- Grades 3 and 4 will travel to the Connecticut Historical Society Museum and Library on January 7, 2022 to learn more about Connecticut people, places, events and products, and explore the unique stories behind Connecticut's history and symbols.
- Grades 3 and 4 travel to the Eastford Public library on a regular basis. Grades K-2 will also visit as part of their standard library class time in December.

Virtual Field Trips through the Center for Interactive Learning (CILC):

FINS Magazine	Surfing Santas and South Texas Holiday Traditions	Grade 4	12-21-2021
Author Valerie Marsh	December Holidays Around the World	Grade 3	12-22-2021
Royal Botanical Gardens (Canada)	Insects in Winter	Grade 4	01-14-2022
DC Area National Parks and Partners	Dr. King in Washington, D.C.: His Speeches and His Memorial	Grade 4	01-21-2022
Kenai Fjords National Park	Glacier Detectives	Grade 4	02-04-2022
Author Valerie Marsh	Snow Much to Know! Action Science	Grade 4	03-02-2022

Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program has 17 students enrolled. Additionally, Readiness staff conducts screenings by appointment for children ages three and four that are not enrolled in the program. This helps families to understand typical early childhood development and allows us to intervene in the early stages if development is not typical – regardless of whether or not children are enrolled in the Readiness program. Readiness report cards will go home in January as they only have two reporting periods.

Readiness Council Update:

The Council meets the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM via Zoom. The Council continues to review and revise policies to maintain compliance with NAEYC and the Office of Early Childhood.

Data on Student Progress:

Teachers are monitoring student progress with district and curriculum-based assessments. Committee and grade level team meetings are held each morning to discuss student growth, student social and emotional and behavioral needs, curriculum resources, necessary interventions, and other school-related topics. First trimester report cards go home with students on December 7. Parent-teacher conferences will be held on December 9 and 10. Both in-person and virtual options will be available. Students in grades 2-8 will be recognized with certificates for their effort and academic achievement for the first trimester on December 10. The first trimester Honor Roll will be included in your January Board packet.

Professional Development:

- Mrs. Jennifer Barlow will attend regular Math Council meetings through EastConn.
- Ms. Murana will attend regular Social Emotional Council meetings through EastConn.
- Mrs. Bibeault will be attending a series of workshops on Media in Early Literacy and Digital Tools through the Office of Early Childhood.
- I am participating in a regional Principals' Community of Practice through EastConn. We will meet four times over the course of the school year. I also attend monthly Regional Staff Development sessions facilitated by EastConn.
- Mrs. DePercio will attend a series of trainings to be a Reflection Paper Reviewer for TEAM (beginning teacher support program). She is also a mentor to two of our new staff members.
- Mr. Kernan is in his last year of coursework through UConn to complete his 092 certification. He continues his internship at Mansfield Middle School, visiting there once per month.
- We continue our partnership with EastConn support in the areas of social-emotional learning and restorative practices, and in incorporating the Reading and Writing Units of study curriculum across all grade levels.

Middle School Sports:

We have 6 boys and 7 girls interested in playing school basketball. We will offer coed, afterschool practice sessions three times per week beginning December 13 and running through the end of January. Students will not play competitively in the QVJC league. This is for students in grades 6-8.

Community and Other Events:

- The Woodstock Academy National Honor Society members are offering free, virtual tutoring and homework help to students in grades 5-8. Students need to sign up in advance for a virtual time to meet.
- High School Open Houses – local high schools will be providing area middle schools with information on upcoming virtual and in-person open houses, video information and brochures to distribute to students. Ms. Murana will be discussing high school options and the application process with students. Up-to-date high school information can be found on Ms. Murana's section of the school website.

At this time, the following is where students have expressed an interest in attending:

The Woodstock Academy: 4 students

QMC: 1 student

Ellis Tech: 1 student

E. O. Smith: 2 students

Killingly Ag Ed: 0

Uncertain: 4 (likely The Woodstock Academy)

- The PTO is sponsoring the Giving Tree again this school year. Students may purchase snowflakes to put on the tree from December through early January. Proceeds will support the Eastford Food Pantry and local families in need.
- Student Council is sponsoring a Penny Power for Pups fundraising campaign in January. Proceeds will go to local animal shelters.
- Student Council traditionally gives an annual gift back to the school. They have not done this in the past two years. This year they plan to upgrade the school sound system speakers and microphones that are used for school events and public gatherings.