

Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake
From: Carole McCombe
Subject: Report to the Board of Education
Date: January 6, 2022

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. May 17 through May 20, 2022.
- The January 7, 2022 trip for grades 3 and 4 to the Connecticut Historical Society Museum and Library has been postponed to January 28, 2022.
- Grades 3 and 4 travel to the Eastford Public library on a regular basis.

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

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. The Council will be sending out the annual Needs Assessment Survey in early February to all Eastford families with children in the newborn to four-year-old range. This will

begin the open enrollment period for our School Readiness program. There will be 7 openings created by current students moving up to Kindergarten.

Data on Student Progress:

Teachers are monitoring student progress with district and curriculum based assessments. Various 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. Students will take the NWEA assessment in the areas of English-Language Arts, math and science in March and will then prepare for the State summative assessments (SBAC and NGSS) in late April and May. Teachers in grades 3-8 are utilizing the Interim Assessments to provide practice for students, to assess student mastery of standards, and to guide teaching and reteaching of skills and standards.

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.
- 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 resources across all grade levels. EastConn staff will work with us on February 8, 2022 for reading and writing and on March 4, 2022 for social-emotional learning and school climate.

Middle School Sports:

Twelve students in grades 6-8 have been working on their basketball skills after school with Mr. Phelps. They practice three days a week. We are not competing in the QVJC league this school year.

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.

Likely high school attendance as of this time:

The Woodstock Academy: 8 students

QMC: 1 student

Ellis Tech: 1 student

E. O. Smith: 1 students

Killingly Ag Ed: 0 students

Private school: 1 student

- The Woodstock Academy is hosting their fourth annual Leadership Conference on January 21, 2022 from 3:30 to 5:30. Interested grade 8 students need to register through The Woodstock Academy link provided to them if they wish to attend. Families have been notified about this opportunity for students.
- The PTO sponsored *Giving Tree* will stop taking donations on January 7. Proceeds will be used to support the Eastford Food Pantry and local families in need.
- The PTO is providing funding for classroom teachers to utilize programming through CILC teleconferencing in lieu of funding cultural events and assemblies this year.
- 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.