

Shaping Futures Together

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

Virtual Field Trips:

- In February and March, Grade 2/3 will participate in a series of virtual sessions with New Haven Symphony Orchestra focused on the cultural origins of Blues, Jazz, Gospel, Motown and Hip Hop music.
- Students in grades 7 and 8 will be joining a multi-session virtual series on the Amistad through Mystic Seaport March 16-24.
- Grade 4 and grade 5 students continue to work with EastConn on an interdistrict collaboration project aimed at bringing diverse groups together over a common theme. This collaboration project will continue through the spring.

Virtual field trips through CILC:

Learn Around the World	Komodo Dragons	03-10-2021	Grade K/1
Roper Mountain	Wagons West	03-16-2021	Grade 4
Booth Museum	The Three Sisters – American Indian Stories	03-19-2021	Grade K/1
Smithsonian American Art Museum	American Indians	03-23-2021	Grade 4
Zion National Park	Carving the Canyons	04-06-2021	Grade 4
Author Valerie Marsh	Earth Day Action Science: Dissect a Happy Meal! Make a Trash Troll!	04-15-2021	Grade K/1
Whiskeytown National Recreation Center	Whiskeytown and the Northern Diggins	04-24-2021	Grade 4

Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program has 14 students enrolled. Mrs. Kopplin continues to plan virtual family and transition events for the spring. Registration is open for next school year. There seems to be an increased interest in the program.

Eastford Readiness Council Update:

The Council met on March 2. They welcomed new member, Aubrey Hines – Eastford town librarian, and plan to request appointment of Catherine Roto, school nurse, to the council.

Professional Development:

- Mrs. Kopplin will continue to participate in EastConn’s virtual professional learning community, sponsored by the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and EastConn. This group meets on a monthly basis.
- I continue to work with EastConn staff on a weekly basis to develop our “Portrait of an Eastford Learner” and to work on a strategic improvement plan. Some time is also dedicated to this work with staff on our March 5 professional development day.

Community and Other Events:

- We are beginning to learn of high school acceptances. Below is what we know to date:
 - 8 students plan to attend The Woodstock Academy – no acceptance required
 - 2 students plan to attend QMC – waiting for acceptance
 - 2 students plan to attend Ellis Tech – acceptance confirmed
 - 2 students plan to attend E. O. Smith – acceptance confirmed
 - 2 students plan to attend Killingly VoAg – acceptance confirmed
- QVJC league athletic directors plan to meet on March 15 to discuss viability and safety of holding spring sports. Eastford typically supports a co-ed track team for students in grades 5-8 in the spring.
- On March 19, second trimester report cards will be sent home. Honor roll (grades 6-8) and trimester awards (grades 2-8) will be announced on March 26.
- EES hosted a Covid vaccination clinic for school staff on March 3 for the first Moderna dose. Another clinic will be held on March 31 for the second dose. Parent teacher conferences will be moved from March 31/April 1 to March 25/March 26, and April 1 will be designated an asynchronous learning day to avoid staffing issues caused by potential side effects from the second vaccine dose.