

Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake
From: Carole McCombe
Date: May 6, 2021
Subject: May Report to the Board of Education

Field Trips:

Grade 8 students will take 4 local day trips to supplant the 4-day trip they typically take to Washington, D.C.:

- May 25 – grade 8 students will travel to Mystic Seaport to participate in a program onboard the Amistad, a planetarium show related to the Amistad journey, sail on Dyer Dhows, climb rigging and carve scrimshaw.
- June 4 – grade 8 students will travel to Lake Compounce for a day at the amusement park.
- June 8 – grade 8 students will take a 2-hour narrated riverboat cruise on the CT River then visit Gillette Castle.
- June 11 – grade 8 students will have a guided tour of Fort Adams, Newport, RI, then walk the Cliff Walk and visit the Newport Mansions.

Other field trips are:

- June 2 – Mrs. Lincoln’s 2/3 students will participate in their annual ‘Experience Eastford’ bus tour of historic sites in Eastford to culminate their study of Eastford History. Tour guides Linda Torgeson and Bev Lindemann will accompany the group to point out areas of historical significance.
- June 4 – students in grades 5-7 will visit Plimoth Plantation to experience the living history recreation of life in Plimoth, the Patuxet village and board the Mayflower II.

Virtual Field Trips:

- Grade 4 and grade 5 students continue to work virtually with EastConn on an inter-district collaboration project aimed at bringing diverse groups together over a common theme. This collaboration project will continue through the end of May.

Center for Puppetry Arts	Native Americans	5-4-2021	Grade 4
Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center	Egg-Citing Animals and Egg-Speriments	5-04-2021	Kindergarten
Learn Around the World	Magnificent Monarchs: The great migration	5-07-2021	Grade K/1

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. About 25 families have registered for preschool for the 2021-22 school year.

Eastford Readiness Council Update:

The Council met on May 4. The Readiness and QE grants will be finalized and submitted by May 16. The Council accepted the resignation of Liaison, Maribeth Stearns, and voted to seek appointment of Sharon Kozey to take over as Liaison as of July 1, 2021. Appointment is pending approval of the First Selectman.

Professional Development:

- Mrs. Kopplin continues 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. Information and progress will be shared with the Curriculum Committee on May 13 at a meeting prior to the BOE meeting.
- Melissa Lessard will attend the 9th Annual Teaching and Learning with iPads, Chromebooks, and Cloud-Based Computing Conference on May 12 sponsored by NEAG School of Education.
- Michelle Bibeault will participate in a two-day session to complete her Level II Google Certification.
- Stephanie Murana will participate in training for the Primary Mental Health Project Grant on June 11.
- Charles Kernan, Lori Crocker-Lincoln, Stephanie Murana and I will participate in a series of work sessions to assist in the development of a strategic plan based from our vision (Portrait) of an Eastford Learner.

Community and Other Events:

- Students in grades 5-8 have begun their Smarter Balanced Assessments. They will test each morning until about 10:15AM. Students in grades 3 and 4 will begin their testing the week of May 10.
- Mr. Tomanelli, Mr. Vaughan and Mrs. Reynolds have been working with interested middle school students on a mini-musical called "Math Rocks." Videos and pictures of students from all classrooms will be showcased in the production. The group should be ready to share their virtual performance on May 28. All families will be invited to view the virtual performance as well.
- Mrs. Mead, Ms. Dill and the grade 4 students will be collaborating with the Eastford Conservation Commission on a pollinator project that will utilize the "pizza garden" space on the hillside between the school and Town Office building.
- Plans for grade 8 graduation are beginning to materialize. Graduation will be held outdoors on Tuesday, June 15.
- Plans are also underway for end of year "field day" activities that align with COVID safety protocols.
- Mrs. Bibeault and Mrs. Kopplin will be hosting a variety of transition activities for students entering Preschool and Kindergarten.