

To: Dr. Donna Leake
From: Carole McCombe
Subject: Report to the Board of Education
Date: November 5, 2020

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:

Children's Museum of Atlanta	Head in the Clouds	11-05-2020	Grade K/1
Children's Museum of Atlanta	Gloopy Glop	11-06-2020	Grade K/1
Author Valerie Marsh	Turkey Stories! Cut, Draw and Use Sign Language with These Turkey Stories!	11-20-2020	Grade 2/3
Space Foundation Discovery Center	Discovery Center Virtual Mars Robotics Laboratory	11-23-2020	Grades 7/8
Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation	Jamestown: Three Cultures, One Land	11-24-2020	Grade 4
Children's Museum of Atlanta	Glitter Explosion	01-08-2021	Grade K/1
Children's Museum of Atlanta	Commotion in the Ocean	02-04-2021	Grade K/1

Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program has 13 students enrolled. Three are partial day students and one student is participating remotely. Mrs. Kopplin conducted her annual curriculum night for Readiness Families in a virtual format this year. Families were presented with an overview of the Early Learning Standards (ELDS), classroom routines and other activities and developmental expectations for their child.

Eastford Readiness Council Update:

The Council did not meet in November to avoid conflicts with Election Day. They will meet again on December 1 at 5:30 PM to review and revise policies. The Quality Enhancement portion of the Readiness Grant is due for submission on December 1. The council has been discussing current needs that will align with this funding.

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.

Mid-term progress reports were sent home on October 13 and the first trimester report cards will go home on December 2. Staff is working on a format for virtual parent-teacher conferences. These will be held on the evening of December 3 and the afternoon of December 4. Similarly, we also plan to maintain our honor roll recognition for students in grades 6-8 and trimester awards for students in grades 2-8 to celebrate student growth and accomplishments. Appropriate modifications will be made to align with COVID restrictions. Award recipients will be announced on December 4.

Professional Development:

- Melissa Lessard recently attended a Best New Young Adult Books of 2020 virtual conference sponsored by TTL Seminars. She will recommend new young adult books for the school library through our library acquisitions process.
- Ms. Samperi and I recently attended an informational session on safely administering the Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA). This is one of the indicators on our school Profile and Performance Report and it has NOT been waived for this school year. We will follow the CSDE recommendation to wait until spring to assess students in grades 4, 6 and 8.
- Mr. Kernan is attending UCONN to obtain his 092 Administrator Certification. He will be completing internship hours at Mansfield Middle School over the course of the school year.

Middle School Sports:

The QVJC league is currently in discussions about the viability of a winter basketball season for middle school students. At this time, Parish Hill, Killingly and Thompson have committed to participate in a shortened and modified season.

Community and Other Events:

- High School Open Houses – local high schools are providing area middle schools with information on upcoming virtual open houses, video information and brochures to distribute to students. Ms. Murana, school counselor, will be discussing high school options and the application process with students.
- LifeTouch picture retakes will be held on November 20.
- EES PTO, in conjunction with school staff, is facilitating virtual voting to select a new student-designed sign for the insert on our school sign near the original entrance to the building.

- The PTO continues to collect Box Tops for Education to earn funds for items to support students and school programs. Box Tops are becoming electronic, but physical box tops will also continue to be collected.
- Ms. Dill and the grade 4 students are planning a virtual visit from a meteorologist from NOAA in November to reinforce a non-fiction reading unit that also involves research and a project.
- Mrs. Kopplin and Mrs. Bibeault recently held virtual curriculum nights for preschool and kindergarten families to keep them informed about curriculum expectations and typical routines in both classes.
- Students in Mrs. Lincoln's grade 2/3 blended class created cards, notes and drawings to honor veterans in Connecticut as part of their learning about the Veterans Day Holiday on November 11. They will be delivered to 103rd Air Wing in East Granby, CT. this week.

