

## Superintendent's Report: March 2023

Highlight of the Month: March is the month set aside to honor those community members who are elected to serve as Board of Education members. Although we appreciate the voluntary efforts of our BOE throughout the year, we would like to take advantage of this designated month to publicly recognize them. We are fortunate in Eastford to have a BOE that is committed to advocating for a high-quality educational program for the learning community of Eastford. As in past years, I have purchased a series of books that will be dedicated to the library on behalf of our BOE members. Hopefully you also have the opportunity to view the bulletin board display created by our staff and students in your honor. See also the attached article that will be published in the Communicator. If you are not currently a parent of an Eastford student and have not had the opportunity to tour our school recently, I encourage you to arrange for a personal tour with Carole so you can see first-hand the products of your hard work.

### News and notes:

#### Student Achievement:

- Carole recently completed the waiver required by the State Department with respect to our reading program. This report required the commitment of many hours and highlights the success in reading achieved by our primary grade students.

#### Climate and Culture:

- Although to date we have not been successful, we continue to advertise for a part time social worker which the mental health grant funds allows us to hire.

#### Collaboration and Communication:

- We continue to work with the Town to obtain reimbursements from the State for dollars spent on the roof construction project.
- There will be a meeting of the Town Roof Committee at 5:30 on March 9 (prior to this meeting) to discuss and possibly award the contract for the PV portion of the construction project. Rob Ellsworth, the chair of this committee, may have additional information to provide at this meeting.

### Comments on selected agenda items

#### Unfinished Business

- A. Policy 5125, Confidentiality and Access to Education Records (FERPA) (sent via email)
  - B. Policy 4119.2, Concussion Training for Athletic Coaches (sent via email)
  - C. Policy 5142.2, Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drug Use (sent via email)
- Items A-C are policies for a second reading and possible adoption by the BOE.*

#### New Business

- A. Approve Seventh and Eighth Grade trip to Washington, D.C. May 16-19, 2023.  
*The grade seven and eight students will be traveling to Washington, D.C. together this year. Carole will be providing you with the details. Given this is an out of State, overnight trip it requires BOE approval.*
- B. Security Grant submission, Discussion and Possible Action  
*We are in the process of applying for a Security grant that will, if successful, provide some reimbursement for security-related projects previously completed by the district. Application for new projects would require approximately a guarantee of up to 50% funding by the BOE/Town which we do not believe we should request at this time. If we are successful, this money will be returned to the Town. Hopefully, the Town may allow us to spend this reimbursement to complete some new, needed projects.*
- C. REAP Grant Submission  
*I have made application to obtain REAP grant funding for the Fiscal Year 2023. The amount of grant funding we may receive is \$13,853. This grant will allow us to provide additional support services for students and professional development for staff in the areas of English/language arts, math, social emotional leaning and recognition and acceptance of diversity.*

D. Budget 2023-2024, Discussion and Possible Action

*On March 6 at 5:30PM there will be a joint in-person meeting between the BOE and the BOS. Steve and I will be attending this meeting. All BOE members are also invited to attend. Steve will report back to the BOE the outcomes of this meeting. The BOE may need to take further action regarding the 2023-24 BOE budget depending upon the outcome of this joint meeting. I will provide you with additional information as it becomes available following the BOE-BOS meeting.*

Financial Reports

*There are no transfer requests currently. As always, if you have questions regarding any of the financial reports, please do not hesitate to contact me so responses can be better prepared for the meeting.*