

Superintendent's Report: September 2023

Highlight of the Month: We have a staff that is second to none! Join me in thanking them for making EES an amazing home away from home for our students.

News and notes:

Educational Leadership

- Staff participated in professional learning opportunities on August 28 and August 29. Thank you, Carole!
- On August 30, we welcomed staff and students back to the 2023-24 school year.
- Our basic before and after school programming is underway. Given the availability of previous grant funding, we are currently offering the afterschool programming for K-8 students at no cost. We are currently waiting for a final decision on our competitive grant application and if it is approved, we will begin offering additional programs of interest for students throughout the year.
- Charles Kernan will present a review of our recent SBAC results.
- Our Strategic Plan is the basis for updates in our leadership goals and BOE goals. The update of BOE goals should take place at the October BOE meeting unless the Board would like to set up a workshop to discuss the Strategic Plan and related goals in greater depth. A copy of the current BOE goals is included with this report.

Facilities:

- The PV project is nearing completion. Once the architect has reviewed the remaining items on the punch list, the Town Roof Committee will meet to approve the final payment for the project.
- We installed a new ceiling in grade 4. We recently received a quote for the additional ceilings we hope to replace. This quote will be shared with the Town and with the BOE Facilities Committee.
- All summer projects with EMCOR have been completed.
- All security projects have been completed. A special thank you to all those who donated the bollards outside our front entrance/window areas.

Collaboration and Communication:

- Deb Richards and I continue to meet regularly to review shared concerns, grant projects, etc.

Finance:

- We received word from the State that we will finally get reimbursement dollars for our approved HVAC reimbursement grant.
- We received additional dollars in our new Title I, II, and IV applications.
- We are still waiting for a response to our security grant application.

New Business

I. New Business

- A. Approval of Title I, Title II, and Title IV Grant submissions- It is recommended that the BOE approve the applications for these Title grants.
- B. Overnight trip to Mystic Seaport- It is recommended that the BOE approve the grade 7 students' overnight experience at Mystic Seaport.
- C. Discuss unplanned school closings- We dismissed our students at 1:00 PM on September 6 and September 7 due to higher than usual temperatures throughout the building. Most of the schools in our area that do not have air conditioning also closed one – three days from the 6th-8th. We returned to full session on Friday, September 8. We typically have early dismissals, late arrivals or full school closings for weather and other unanticipated events that impact the safe operation of the school. This is the first time during my tenure we did an early closure for heat conditions. The BOE is encouraged to participate in a discussion regarding guidelines for future unplanned school closings.

- II. Financial Reports- If there are any questions about any of the financial reports, please send them to me so responses can be prepared for the meeting. There are currently no transfer requests.