

Superintendent's Report: December 2023

Highlight of the Month: As always, it was great fun to participate in the EES Annual Auction, a true example of the welcoming and generous spirit in support of our students that permeates the Eastford community.

News and notes:

Educational Leadership

- We recently received an answer to our K-3 Reading waiver request. We were placed in a transitional status based on the review of our current program materials. Carole and I are in the process of reviewing the program materials that are being suggested to enhance our current offerings. There is grant money available for the purchase of some additional materials. The press release of district status is included with your packet. If a district already purchased the new materials recommended by the State, they are not included on the list.
- We are still waiting for the official awarding of the After School grant.
- I continue to communicate with the Department of Administrative Services regarding the reimbursement owed to the Town for our HVAC project.

Facilities:

- Eastern Pipe Services inspected the current condition of the sewer pipes that are located under the concrete slab. They provided us with the results of their inspection together with a preventative plan for our consideration. This report will be reviewed at the meeting of the Long Range Facilities Committee on January 18, 2024 at 5:15 PM.
- The November meeting of the Town Roof Committee meeting was postponed to January 11, 2024 at 5:15 PM. The contractor needs to make some corrections to the PV panels. The work is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of December 9. We have still not received the connection agreement from Eversource.

Collaboration and Communication:

- We have been experiencing some issues with our transportation services. I have been in contact with Eric Protulis, the Executive Director at Eastconn, to resolve these issues. He has been responsive to our concerns.
- Carole and I will meet with members of the Thompson security staff in December to learn more about their security measures.
- Deb Richards and I have been in conversation about the ongoing audit as well as other shared projects, including the awarding of the ceiling project.

Finance:

- The staff and administration are in the initial phase of creating the 2024-25 budget request that will be presented to the BOE in January.

Comments on selected agenda items

V. Election of Board Officers:

The BOE will need to elect the BOE officers for 2024-2026. The superintendent will call for nominations and a vote for the BOE chair position and the BOE chair will do the other officers.

XIII. New Business

A. Appointment to Board of Education

This item needs to be moved up before the Election of Officers. The BOE needs to vote to appoint Michael Bilica to the two-year term open on the BOE.

B. Committee Appointments

The BOE chair will invite members to volunteer for committee membership. This could include a member's request to remain on a subcommittee they are currently on.

C. Receive Annual Report for School Year 2022-2023

The annual report was sent via email and will be forwarded to the Town.

D. Policies recommended for repeal: 2210, Administrative Leeway in Absence of Board Policy; 6000, Concepts and Roles in Instruction; 6111, School Calendar; 6112, School Day; 6113, Opening Exercises; 6121, Non-Discrimination: Instructional Programs; 6140, Curriculum and 6141, Curriculum Design (sent via email)

These are old policies that are not required nor included in the Shipman & Goodwin model policy guide. Lauren Barlow may wish to elaborate.

E. Policy 6115, Fire Emergencies (sent via email)

This is not a Shipman & Goodwin required policy, but the policy committee is recommending that the BOE consider retaining this policy and replacing it with the updated C.A.B.E. policy.

Lauren Barlow may wish to elaborate.

XV. 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. Kymberli and I reviewed the status of our budget and are recommending the following transfers:

\$12,000.00 from 100.1000.1.111.00.5 (Salary, Teachers, Reg Ed) to 100.1000.1.121.00.5 (Substitutes, Certified)
\$5,000.00 from 100.1200.3.112.00.5 (Salary, Para, SE) to 100.1200.3.121.03.5 (Substitutes, Non-Certified, SE)
\$255.00 from 100.1200.3.122.02.5 (Summer School, SE Para) to 100.1200.3.122.01.5 (Summer School, SE Teachers)
\$2,582.00 from 100.1200.3.122.02.5 (Summer School, SE Para) to 100.1200.3.121.01.5 (Salary, Tutors)
\$1,694.00 from 100.2190.3.323.00.5 (Purchased Service Occupational Therapist) to 100.2190.3.323.01.5 (Purchased Service Physical Therapist)
\$50,000.00 from 100.1200.3.563.00.5 (Tuition, SE, Private) to 100.1200.3.561.31.5 (Tuition, SE, Woodstock Academy)