

Superintendent's Report: February 2024

Highlight of the Month: There have been many exciting things happening at EES in the new year with many more scheduled to happen in the coming months. Among my exciting moments was the opportunity to meet Rasheed. Rasheed, the lion, is the first-grade mascot, who is helping all the students in Beth Rynhart's first grade classroom learn phonics.

News and Notes

Educational Leadership:

- As a result of obtaining continued funding for our after-school programs for the next two years, we are looking to expand opportunities for all our students to participate in new and exciting learning opportunities.
- Building strong family-school partnerships is an important priority at EES. The additional funding provided by our renewed two-year after-school grant will allow us to provide new and exciting family partnership opportunities.
- Obtaining the after-school grant freed up the remaining dollars in our current expansion grant. This will allow us to offer a STEM summer program.
- Finally... a deposit of \$208,058.00 was made to the Town account from the Department of Administrative Services for our HVAC (heating) project. In addition, I have also been assured that the reimbursements due to us for our Roof/PV project are under review.

Facilities:

- Currently, the only item remaining relative to the Roof/PV project is the interconnection agreement from Eversource.
- EMCOR was onsite on the MLK holiday to investigate the cause of the reduced flow through HV-2. They are planning to return to rework the vent line.
- EMCOR and our custodial team have been working on the new yearly facility checklists that must be completed and posted on our website each year. I have also been in consultation with the facility managers at Eastconn and neighboring towns regarding the new 5-year facility report. Details as to the requirements of this report and the qualifications of the personnel needed to do the inspections are being reviewed and finalized.
- At the request of the BOE, I surveyed other towns regarding their water testing companies. LaFramboise does the work for many of the towns in our area. I have attached a copy of their contract for your review. I also reached out to Banner Water. Banner does residential water testing but is not licensed to do school water testing.

Collaboration and Communication:

- Deb Richards and I communicate regularly regarding school and town matters.
- We continue to collaborate with other towns regarding special transportation needs.
- We have been collaborating with other towns regarding new and/or shared after school opportunities as well as preschool and special education programming.

Finance:

- We completed the 2024-2025 budget as requested by the BOE Finance committee.
- We are in the process of following up on the question regarding application for Medicaid reimbursements.

Comments on selected agenda items

XI. New Business

- A. Policy 1140, Distribution of Materials, first reading (sent via email)
- B. Policy 4118.1 4218.1, Employee Use of District Systems, first reading (sent via email)
- C. Policy 5116, Student Discipline, first reading (sent via email)

- D. Policy 5131.81, Student Use of Private Technology, first reading (sent via email)
- E. Policy 5131.82, Student Use of District Technology, first reading (sent via email)

The Policy Chair, based on the review of the Policy Committee, may recommend, due to the limited impact of the changes, that the policies listed in A. - E. be approved.

- F. Policy 6142, Separation of Church, and State, recommended for repeal (sent via email)
- G. Policy 6143, Bilingual Education, recommended for repeal (sent via email)

The Policy Chair, based on the review of the Policy Committee, may recommend the BOE repeal the policies listed in F. - G.

- H. New Kindergarten Age Policy, first reading

This policy was prepared in response to a change in the age for entrance to kindergarten. The policy recommendations were reviewed by the administration and the Policy Committee. The Policy Chair may wish to discuss this new policy with the BOE.

- I. C.A.B.E sample Exit Policy and Exit Survey

There is a new legislative requirement for the BOE to 1.) develop and conduct exit surveys of teachers voluntarily leaving employment with the BOE and 2.) add teacher attrition to their strategic school profile report. Although not required as a policy, the Policy Committee, after review, is recommending that the BOE consider adopting the C.A.B.E. model policy and exit survey.

- J. School Calendar 2024-2025, Discussion and Possible Action

The attached school calendar includes two new concepts for the BOE to review and consider. These two new concepts include a floating Professional Development Day for teachers as well as a Wellness Day off from school. The administration will discuss the rationale for including these professionally respectful additions to the school calendar.

- K. Capital Plan, Discussion and Possible Action

The long term capital plan, attached, was reviewed by the BOE Facilities Committee. The Chair of the Facilities Committee may wish to comment on this plan. Once approved, this document will be submitted to the Town.

- L. Budget 2024-2025, Discussion and Possible Action

The attached, revised administrative budget is responsive to the recommendations of the BOE Finance Committee. Once approved, this document will be submitted to the Town as the Board of Education's 2024-2025 budget.

- M. Preschool Discussion

The administrative team has been reviewing data concerning programming for preschool students. Mrs. McCombe will present information regarding preschool programming for BOE review and discussion.

XIII. Financial Reports

As always, please submit any questions or concerns regarding the financial reports prior to the meeting so the administration can prepare the needed information.

C. Budget Transfers

Currently, we are recommending the following transfers:

\$27,648.95 from 100.1000.1.111.00.5 (Salary, Teachers, Reg Ed) to 100.1000.1.330.00.5
(Purchased Service, Certified Position)

\$7,647.06 from 100.1000.1.111.00.5 (Salary, Teachers, Reg Ed) to 100.1200.3.111.60.5 (Salary,
SE Director)

\$8,000.00 from 100.1200.3.112.00.5 (Salary, Para, SE) to 100.1200.3.121.03.5 (Substitutes, Non-
Certified, SE)