



Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake
 From: Carole McCombe
 Date: June 5, 2024
 Subject: June Report to the Board of Education

Field Trips:

- On June 11 students in grades 4 and 5 will travel to the Connecticut River Museum in Essex to study Connecticut River ecosystems.
- On June 11 Grade 3 students will take a bus tour of Eastford to complete their unit of study about the town, its history, and resources. Eastford Historical Society members will participate to share information about local highlights.

Virtual Field Trips (CILC):

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|
| Butterfly Pavilion | Who Needs a Habitat? | Grades 1, 2 | 06/12/2024 |
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Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program is full with 17 Readiness students and one non-readiness part-time student. We are currently providing walk-in special education services to two students. We have 19 students registered for 17 spaces for fall 2024.

Eastford Readiness Council Update:

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM via Zoom. The next meeting will be October 1, 2024. Our NAEYC reaccreditation visit will take place between July 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025. On this visit, they will observe our preschool space, the children and their classroom routines, and review the classroom and program portfolios being prepared by Mrs. Kopplin, Mrs. McCombe, and our Readiness Liaison, Mrs. Greene.

Data on Student Progress:

Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC) and Next Generation Science Assessment (NGSS) were completed by students in grades 3-8 on May 28. These assessments are nationally normed, are used to

calculate student growth and achievement, and are used for district accountability and to inform instruction. Preliminary results are available to teachers now, and family reports will be available early next school year. We will hold our trimester awards ceremony on June 14 at 9:00 AM to recognize students for their achievement over the third trimester.

School Climate Survey and Progress Toward Goals:

Each year, annual climate surveys are given to students, staff and families. The results of the surveys inform areas of strength and areas for improvement. Staff will also consider this feedback when developing goals for next school year. Specific survey data will be available at the August meeting for review. A brief summary of the combined results is below:

| Strengths/Improvement from last year | Areas for Growth |
|---|---|
| Good communication with families | Bus monitors to improve behavior on the bus |
| Students are appropriately challenged and well prepared socially and academically | Standardize use of Google Classroom – frustrating for parents to navigate |
| Small size of school is a benefit | Add a cafeteria or school lunch program |
| Staff are well liked by parents and families feel informed about school. | Support teachers with classroom management |
| School is responsive to family and student needs | |
| Staff help students do their best | |
| Students mostly feel safe and have least one trusted adult to go to if needed | |
| Overall pleased with school efforts and student performance | |
| Overall culture and climate are positive and supportive | |
| Overall comfort with current safety measures in place | |

Curriculum Updates:

- Mrs. Mead has been facilitating monthly meetings for all science teachers to support each other in using the new science materials and to align practices with the NGSS standards.
- Math teachers have completed two years of using Illustrative Mathematics math materials in grades K-5. They have met monthly to collaborate and support each other and to maintain a current pacing guide to ensure that all students are receiving instruction in all areas of the math standards.
- Language Arts teachers have been meeting monthly to review materials and teaching practices so that we can better align with the State recommendations around the Science of Reading Legislation. Recommendations for new materials will be brought to the Curriculum Committee in June.

2024 Fall Sports Update:

Signups were conducted for boys’ and girls’ soccer for the fall of 2024. We have received confirmation of interest for 11 boys and 7 girls. We have let the QVJC league know that we can field

one co-ed team if we are able to hire a coach. Students from Union School have been invited to join us. I have not received any confirmation of interest from them to date.

High School Information:

Current High School attendance information (11 students in grade 8):

The Woodstock Academy: 10

Ellis Tech: 1

Professional Development:

- Mrs. Kopplin and I attend monthly meetings to support our development of a portfolio that documents how we meet the NAEYC standards for our NAEYC reaccreditation. I attend an additional monthly NAEYC meeting for Readiness Program Administrators as well.
- Beginning in March, Mrs. Bibeault and I began attending a series of trainings at EastConn around developing our new Educator Growth and Support Plan. New plans are due to the State in August, 2024. Eastford's Professional Development Evaluation Committee (PDEC) is made up of seven staff members, a paraprofessional, and me. The PDEC committee recommends adopting the state template for Leader and Educator Growth and Evaluation. Copies of the new plan are available if anyone would like to review them over the summer.

Community, other events, and recognition:

- Thanks in advance to Jeannine Spink for volunteering to provide piano accompaniment for our graduation rehearsal and for the evening ceremony on June 13.
- Graduation will be on June 13 at 7:00 PM in the school gym. There will be an in-school rehearsal on June 13 at 9:30 AM.
- EES will be a busy place over the summer weeks. Extended School Year (ESY) services will be provided to 12 EES students for three (3-day) weeks in July. Mrs. Moran and Mrs. Kopplin will facilitate this with paraprofessional support.
- A Summer STEM Enrichment program will be offered in conjunction with Mystic Aquarium for four weeks (two 2-week sessions) over the summer. Students will travel to Mystic Aquarium each Friday during these weeks for hands on exploration of the classroom concepts. Mrs. Mead and support staff will facilitate this program for approximately 40 students.
- A summer sports camp organized by local church groups will use the school grounds and facilities during the week of July 22 - 26.
- The Town of Eastford is working with the State to pave the blacktop areas behind, on the side, and in the front parking lot of the school. Work may begin at the end of June.