

## Superintendent's Report: October 2024

Highlight of the Month: In addition to the normal flurry of activity associated with the opening of a new school year, we have been challenged with unanticipated facility, financial and student-related needs. I am fortunate to have the support and dedication of an outstanding administrative/office team, Carole McCombe, Charles Kernan, Mary Seguine, and Kymberli Gaylor, to share ideas, time and effort to address and resolve, to the extent possible, these challenges.

### News and Notes

#### Educational Leadership:

- Keeping current with recent legislation to ensure our policies and practices are aligned and recommending adjustments as needed. A copy of the Model Policy Changes will be sent to members of the Policy Committee. I will work with the Policy Committee to set a policy meeting to continue to address recommended changes.
- Meeting regularly with Carole and Charlie to discuss evolving needs of staff and students.
- Participating in meetings with other district leaders to discuss the current challenges we are facing regarding state requirements and budgetary challenges.
- Beginning review of our prior RFP for bus contracts. A copy of the former proposal will be sent to the Transportation Committee for review and suggestions. At this time, we will not be partnering with any other town to conduct the bid process. I will work with the Transportation Committee to determine a meeting date.

#### Facilities:

- We received two estimates of approximately \$8,800.00 each to replace the dehumidifier. Given this is a significant portion of our building repair budget, we are deferring purchase and monitoring the operation of our current dehumidifier.
- I continue to work on the additional one-year and five-year indoor air quality reports.

#### Communication and Collaboration:

- Deb, Lisa, Kymberli and I will meet with the auditor on October 15.
- I continue to discuss possible opportunities to share resources with neighboring superintendents. I initiated outreach to the new Brooklyn superintendent.
- We began the process of updating our contract with E.O. Smith. After Sharon Cournoyer (Regional District 19 Superintendent) and I review the current contract, an updated copy of a draft proposal will be sent to the BOE for review and possible approval at the November meeting.

#### Finance:

- Due to unanticipated expenditures, we are deferring purchases that are not time sensitive in areas such as supplies (excluding health, maintenance, paper and ink), additional library books and technology.

### New Business

- A. Approve submission of Title I, Title II and Title III Grants  
*These are yearly grants we apply for based on the allocations designated for Eastford.*
- B. 2025 Board of Education Meeting Dates  
*The dates are all the second Thursday of each month, except the option of a later August date.*

C. Approval of School Safety and Security Plan submission

*The School Safety and Security Plan will be submitted to the State by November 1.*

D. High School Discussion

*You have received the packet of information provided by The Woodstock Academy, E.O. Smith, Killingly and Putnam. Included with this packet is additional information from Putnam. The BOE needs to determine whether they want to continue researching an alternative designated high school, as well as the next steps if they wish to continue. The current contract with The Woodstock Academy ends June 2027.*

**Financial Reports**

If there are any questions regarding any items mentioned in the administrative reports and/or financial documents please, if possible, send your questions or concerns in advance of the meeting so we can be prepared to discuss. At this time, we will not be requesting the BOE to approve any transfers.