

## Superintendent's Report: December 2024

Highlight of the Month: In December 2018, this sign welcomed me to Eastford Elementary School:



When the photo of this sign appeared as one of my Google memory photos, I decided to focus this Superintendent's report on highlighting the accomplishments of the Eastford Learning Community over the past six years.

Educational Leadership: Provided support for:

Developing the Portrait of the Eastford Learner.

Initiating the development of an ongoing strategic planning process.

Navigating the Pandemic - we were open more than most districts.

Transitioning to CT-SEDS – the updated Statewide special education system.

Facilitated the improvement of MTSS with the coordination of CREC consultant.

Updating all the handbooks, documents and protocols related to our special education programs.

Updating our McKinney-Vento homeless student guidance.

Initiating the use of a Parent Planning document to assist families with the PPT process.

Introducing Student Led Conferences in the Middle School grades.

Updating BOE policies in response to current legislation.

Providing professional development focused on strategies to address the diverse social emotional needs of our students.

Establishing a full time Media Technology Specialist position.

Establishing a full time Guidance Counselor position.

Improving the use of Second Step programming in all grades.

Implementing new strategies and programs in ELA, Math and Science, with supportive professional development.

Maintaining/improving student achievement. As measured by the SBAC-NGSS assessments, student achievement fluctuates from year to year, but overall, our students consistently perform above the State average and do well compared to students in similar towns.

Facilities: Provided support for:

Installing a new heating system.

Removing the old steam boiler.

Purchasing a new boiler.

Installing a new roof over the elementary wing of the building.

Installing a second photovoltaic system.

Installing a new phone system.

Updating and installing additional security measures, including new fencing, additional cameras and a keyless entry.

Paving of school grounds.

Repairing/replacing front door and middle school entrance areas.

Restoring the portable used for storage.

Installing new stairway treatments throughout the building.

Installing new flooring in rooms 107, 110 and 117.

Replacing ceiling tiles and lighting where necessary in rooms 107, 110, 114, 120 and 132.  
 Upgrading the exit area to the back playground.  
 Purchasing safer, more effective, easier to use cleaning equipment.  
 Responding to all new State surveys regarding safe maintenance of facilities- structures and systems.

Finances: Provided support for:

Obtaining grants to cover the cost of heating.  
 Obtaining grant for new roof and PV system.  
 Obtaining grant to provide free after school programming to students in grades K-8.  
 Establishing a contingency account for special education needs.  
 Completing successful audits.  
 Managing the allocated district operating budget successfully. Placing money into a non-lapsing contingency account and/or giving back funds to the Town.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Budget amount remaining End of Year</b>	<b>Amount requested to apply to Town's Unexpended Fund</b>
2018-2019	\$0.00	\$0.00
2019-2020	\$20,501.20	\$20,500.00
2020-2021	\$20,261.22	\$20,000.00
2021-2022	\$100,032.21	\$84,019.68
2022-2023	\$30,008.08	\$30,000.00
2023-2024	\$115,401.43	\$90,401.38

Collaboration:

All achievements were made possible through the support of the BOE and positive relationships with the Town and local organizations, including the Congregational Church of Eastford and the Eastford Baptist Church.

All the educational progress, including but not limited to the highlights listed above, was made possible due to the hard work and commitment of a dedicated, collaborative staff.

All the financial success was achieved with the support of a highly qualified administrative team.

All upgrades of facilities were done in collaboration with the Town and the support of the Eastford Community.

**XII. Unfinished Business**

**A. Policy 3150, Board Budget Procedures and Line-Item Transfers**

*This is the second reading of this policy.*

**B. Review and possible action on 2024-2025 Strategic Plan**

*The BOE may wish to discuss, adjust and/or accept the 2024-25 Strategic Plan as presented.*

**C. High School Discussion**

*The BOE may wish to establish next steps in the process.*

**XIII. New Business**

**A. Presentation of new STATE facility surveys.**

*The State has required that districts complete a series of facility-related checklists each year. After review and completion, the surveys are to be posted on the district website. These surveys will be reviewed by the Facilities Committee at the meeting scheduled to be held on December 12, prior to the BOE meeting. Copies will be sent via email next week to both the BOE and the Facilities Committee. Rob will provide additional information at the meeting.*

**XV. 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 them.*