To: Linda Loretz
From: Carole McCombe
Subject: August Report to the Board of Education
Date: August 2, 2017

Field Trips:
8th Grade Washington, DC trip is scheduled for May 15 through May 18, 2018

Programs:
We offered two summer programs provided by The EcoTarium of Worcester, MA and sponsored by The Primary Mental Health Program (PMHP) grant. On July 6, they brought live turtles and presented a 45-minute, hands-on program focusing on turtles of New England. On July 20, they again presented a 45-minute, hands-on program on the topic of animal adaptations.

Sports Requests for Participation:
The Request to Participate form was emailed to Union families on July 12 along with a reminder about our August 7 deadline. We have only received one request over the summer.

Eastford Readiness Program:
The program is currently full with 17 students. Four of these are partial day and thirteen are full day. There are three on the waiting list- two full day and one partial day.

Readiness Council Update:
The Council will meet next on September 11. We received notification that we were awarded the Readiness grant for the 2017-2018 school year. Jennifer Barlow has agreed to stay on as our Readiness Liaison.

Grants:
- We were awarded the Readiness grant.
- We are waiting to hear from the state regarding funding for the Primary Mental Health Project. This is on hold at the state level pending the outcome of the state budget. This grant funds our Playing and Learning Support (P.A. L.S.) program.
- We have applied for, and are waiting to hear about, the Local Prevention Council Grant (LPC). This is used to fund our after school enrichment programs.

Stipend Positions:
These have only recently been posted so there is nothing to report at this time. I will provide an update on these in September.
Extended School Year (ESY):
Our ESY summer school program ran from July 5 to August 3, 2017. We provided services to 10 students.

Current Enrollment (as of August 3, 2017):
PK 17
K 10
1 21
2 10
3 12
4 15
5 16
6 12
7 20
8 15
Total: 148

Professional Development:
- Mrs. McCombe attended Freedom of Information (FOI) training through CIRMA on July 26.
- Mandated Reporters training for new staff.
- Restraint and Seclusion refresher for all staff – new staff will have training as soon as possible.
- RTI team will attend a partial day workshop in Ellington on Successful Strategies for Tiered Intervention.
- K-8 teachers of science will participate in three, one-hour webinars about using Discovery Education for the teaching of next generation science standards (NGSS).
- Teachers who will be teaching enrichment will meet to coordinate and plan services to students.
- Mrs. McCombe will provide orientation to new staff.
- A representative from SERC (State Education Resource Center) will provide a three-hour workshop to all staff on a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) for behavior that will focus mainly on behavior, character education and building relationships.
- Mrs. McCombe and Mrs. Crocker-Lincoln will update staff on changes in RTI procedures, especially in regards to monitoring and documenting behavior, behavior referrals to RTI, and administrative referrals and the use of forms.

Community:
- A thank you to Jennifer Barlow for having a table with activities and books set up at Experience Eastford to provide information to families about our Readiness Program.
• A thank you to Diane Barlow and volunteers from the church who have been weeding and planting flowers in the garden under the front windows of the school.

• Mrs. Loretz and I met with parents of students in grades 5-8 to discuss planning for the annual eighth grade trip to Washington, DC. Due to a lack of volunteers, we discussed options for scaling back the fundraising and other options. As a result, enough volunteers committed their time and any changes will be minimal.

• Mrs. Kopplin and Mrs. Bibeault will host a *Meet and Greet* for preschool and kindergarten students and families so they can visit their classrooms and meet their teachers on August 25.

• Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m.

• School pictures will be taken on September 11, 2017.

• On July 18, Deborah Richards updated the emergency supplies that are kept at EES, the Congregational Church, and the Town Office Building. They are as follows:
  - **Under the stage at the EES are:**
    - 15 cots
    - 20 cot pillows
    - 50 shelter blankets
  - **At Eastford Congregational Church:**
    - Cases of bottled water
    - Snacks
    - Snacks expire 10/17 and will be replaced
    - The items at the church are just in case the school needs to evacuate from the school to the church

**Fundraisers:**

• The PTO will be sponsoring a Jeannine Fundraiser again this fall. It will “kickoff” on September 12 at the Open House. This fundraiser will sell wrapping paper, pies and cookie dough.

• The Annual Goods and Services Auction will take place on Saturday, November 18, 2017.

• Student Council used funds they raised to purchase a birdbath for the garden on the hillside. They also purchased the flowering plants used to decorate the gym for graduation, which each family was then allowed to take home.