

Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Leake
From: Carole McCombe
Subject: Report to the Board of Education
Date: September 13, 2019

Field Trips:

- Grade 8 students will visit The Woodstock Academy on October 1, 2019 for an overview of what they have to offer.
- Grade 8 Washington D.C. trip is scheduled for May 12 through May 15, 2019.
- Grades PK and K will visit the Eastford Public Library on a monthly basis throughout the school year.
- Grade 7 students will visit Mystic Seaport overnight on October 17, 2019.

Virtual Field Trips:

- Nothing is scheduled at this time

Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program is full. We have 14 full time students and 3 partial day students. We have received two registrations for next school year's program as well. The group has made a good adjustment to the school setting!

Readiness Council Update:

The Council will hold their first meeting on Tuesday, October 1 at 5:30 PM. At this time, they will set goals for the upcoming school year.

Data on Student Progress:

At this time, the state has not yet released additional information on student progress. I expect this to be released any day. I should have data to report by the next board meeting.

School Sports:

Soccer practice is underway for both boys and girls teams under the supervision of our coaches, Tyler Bridgewater and Stephanie Bulan. We have 8 boys and 11 girls participating. The girls will follow the competitive league schedule and the boys will scrimmage other towns with the understanding that we only have 8 players. We have 5 scrimmages already lined up. The first game is scheduled for September 17 for the girls.

Honors Algebra:

Four students in grade 8 are taking an Honors Algebra 1 class offered collaboratively with The Woodstock Academy. This is an Advanced Credit (AC) course. Students who receive a final grade of at least a B (85) and pass the final exam with at least a 75% will receive high school credit. Students not enrolled in the Honors Algebra course are taking the traditional grade 8 math course.

Computers:

We have a total of 135+ computers in circulation: 85 Chromebooks, 20 Mac Airs and 30 Macbook Pros. These are housed on 6 carts around the building. There is an additional cart on the lower level that is being restocked with more efficient machines repurposed from around the building that will provide additional access to Google Classroom when working in the library or resource rooms. This will have 10-15 computers on it.

Professional Development:

- Carole McCombe will attend TEAM District Facilitator training sponsored by EastConn on 10/1/2019.
- Carole McCombe will attend Performance Matters sponsored by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) on 10/17/19 for updates regarding state testing.
- Lori Crocker-Lincoln, Megan Dill and Melissa Lessard will attend training at EastConn on implementation of Reading Units of Study on 10/22/19.
- Melissa Lessard will attend a Best New Young Adult Books of 2019 conference sponsored by TTL Seminars on 11/13/19.

Fundraising:

The Middle School Fundraising group will meet on September 17 to continue planning for this year's auction. The auction is set for November 23, 2019.

Community and Other Events:

- School pictures will be held on September 10.
- Open House will be Thursday evening, September 10 from 6:00-7:30 PM. There will be an ice cream social in the gym sponsored by the PTO from 6:00 to 7:00 PM and classrooms will be open for family visits from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Tables will be set up in the gym to provide information on high school choices. Representatives from The Woodstock Academy, Killingly Ag-Ed, Quinebaug Middle College (QMC), Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT), Ellis Tech and E.O. Smith High School will provide information to students and families. Other tables will also provide information about our parent groups, Boy Scouts and Town organizations.

- Volunteers from the local churches continue to support our afterschool enrichment activities and the afterschool homework club by providing volunteers to work with students. There are three enrichment activities scheduled in September: Stenciling, Board Games and Model Rocket Workshop. We will also continue with a more formal mentoring program where volunteers will work 1:1 with select students to provide support with academics and spend quality time together in areas of mutual interest, such as hobbies or crafts.
- I would like to thank local volunteers who have donated numerous boxes of school supplies. We have used these to “build” backpacks for students full of all their necessary supplies. We greatly appreciate the community support in all that we do.