Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake
From: Carole McCombe
Date: January 2, 2020
Subject: January Report to the Board of Education

Field Trips and Special Programs:
- Grades PK, K and 3 will visit the Eastford Public Library on a monthly basis throughout the school year
- Grade 8 Washington, D.C. trip is scheduled for May 12 through May 15, 2020

Virtual Field Trips:
- No programs are scheduled at this time.

Eastford Readiness Program:
The Readiness Program is full with 17 students. Mrs. Kopplin is planning a Winter Wonderland family event for January 24. This will be held during the school day for preschoolers, parents and younger siblings.

Eastford Readiness Council Update:
The Council did not meet on December 3 due to a weather related closing. They will meet again on January 7 at 5:30 PM. The Council continues to work on revising and aligning policies to include all components for School Readiness and NAEYC. Based on areas of weakness from our recent NAEYC Accreditation, the specific goal focus areas for this year are:
- meeting all criteria for NAEYC Health Components;
- assisting families in connecting with one another; and
- aligning preschool curriculum and instructional practices with kindergarten expectations.

Principal and Staff Goals: 2019-2020 Goals are aligned with two broad focus areas:

Focus Area 1:
Climate, culture, and social and emotional factors for students and staff

Focus Area 2:
Targeted and focused improvement of curriculum and instruction
Data on Student Progress:
Next Generation Science Standard (NGSS) assessment results were sent to districts in November. In December, the State Department of Education (CSDE) released state averages for students in grades 5, 8 and 11 who achieved performance at level 3 or level 4. Students achieving level 3 are considered to have ‘met’ the standard expectation, while students achieving level 4 are considered to have ‘exceeded’ the standard expectation. The chart below shows average results from all Eastford students in grades 5 and 8 and how they compare to the state average of all students in grades 5 and 8.

NGSS PERCENT AT LEVEL 3 OR HIGHER – FIRST YEAR OF ASSESSMENT 2018-2019 - ACHIEVEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED</th>
<th>PERCENT AT LEVEL 3 OR HIGHER</th>
<th>STATE PERCENT AT LEVEL 3 OR HIGHER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRADE 5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADE 8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
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High School Updates:
- Student high school application deadlines are approaching in January and February. To date, this is where students are applying:
  3 - Ellis Tech
  1 - Killingly Ag Ed
  0 - QMC
  0 - E.O. Smith High School
  2 - ACT
- Woodstock Academy representatives will hold a parent/student information event at EES on January 28 at 6:00 PM.

Professional Development:
- On January 15 and 23, all staff will participate in follow-up sessions from our November 11 PD on integrating Social Emotional Learning and Restorative practices with academics.
- ELA teachers will continue to receive support from EastConn on implementing Reader’s Workshop. This will take the form of in person coaching at EES and workshops at EastConn through the spring.
- On January 31, Stephanie Murana, school counselor, will attend training in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and Restorative Practices sponsored by CREC.
- I continue to attend monthly Regional Staff Development meetings at EastConn to network with area administrators on current topics.
- A team of teachers, Dr. Leake and myself will receive support from EastConn in developing a “Portrait of an Eastford Learner.” This will support and guide our curriculum and SEL decisions as we move into next school year.
Fundraising:
- No events are planned at this time.

Community and Other Events:
- Volunteers from the Congregational Church of Eastford and the Eastford Baptist Church continue to offer after school enrichment activities for students on a monthly basis.
- PTO sponsored *Giving Tree* will stop taking donations on January 10. Proceeds will be used to support EES students and families in need.
- Our school Geography Bee will be held on January 17 at 2:30 PM. Two finalists from each grade (4-8) will compete in this school Bee. Finalists were selected through preliminary competitions in grade level classrooms.
- Eastford Elementary School is pleased to support a new program, “Raising Highly Capable Kids.” This program will be held at Eastford Congregational Church beginning January 21 and is open to all Eastford families who are interested in building the confidence, tools and skills needed to raise healthy, caring and responsible children in our rapidly changing society. The program is free and dinner and child care will be provided.