Shaping Futures Together

To: Linda Loretz
From: Carole McCombe
Date: February 28, 2018
Re: March Board Report

Field Trips:
• Preschool and grade 3 students continue to visit the Eastford Public Library on a monthly basis.
• On March 28, grades 4-6 will visit The Woodstock Academy Cultural Arts Center to see a play called “Freedom Train.”
• On June 1, band and chorus members will compete at the High Note Musical Festival and visit Lake Compounce.
• Grade 8 students will visit Washington, DC May 15-18.

Virtual Field Trips:
• Grades 2 and 3, March 1, Muskingum Valley Educational Center, Celebration of Seuss
• Grades PK and K, March 28, Durham Museum, All Aboard
• Grades K and 1, April 10, Don Harrington Discovery Center of Amarillo, Science Live! - Unseen Forces: Physics at Work

Eastford Readiness Program:
The Readiness Program currently has 17 students. There are 14 students in the process of registering for next year.

Readiness Council Update:
The Council will meet again on March 5. They continue to review and update policies at their monthly meetings to be in compliance with both NAEYC and Readiness requirements.

Principal Goals:

1. Support teachers in developing effective classroom management techniques and assist them in planning for rigorous instruction and active engagement of students.

I have met with all teachers for mid-year goal conferences and continue to conduct observations and provide feedback on a regular basis to support staff in developing effective management techniques and planning for rigorous instruction and active engagement of students.
2. Support staff in developing and communicating school-wide positive behavioral supports to improve students’ social-emotional and academic competencies.

Mrs. Harrington, school counselor, visits all classrooms over the course of the week to teach and support lessons using Second Step and Review 360 materials. She also facilitates classroom activities relating to a school wide monthly theme. February’s theme was kindness, which culminated in an assembly where students shared their work and thoughts about kindness through posters, skits and presentations. A PowerPoint created by students is on the school website. The theme for March is honesty. In addition, the RTI team and staff have collaborated on a checklist style document to facilitate communication between special area teachers and classroom teachers about student behavior. Many teachers have a classroom incentive or reward system to recognize positive behaviors.

Professional Development:

- I continue to visit with mentor principal, Michael Larkin on a regular basis.
- Mrs. Crocker Lincoln and I attended ReadConn on February 28. ReadConn is sponsored by LeanZillion and CSDE and is a professional learning series designed to provide participants with a deeper understanding of foundational reading skills and is aligned to the objectives of the teacher reading survey which is administered statewide on a biannual basis to teachers in grades K-3.
- Mrs. Moran and Mrs. Bibeault will also attend future sessions of ReadConn over the next year. As a team, we will bring back information to share with staff on future professional development days.
- I will attend a session on Data Privacy at Shipman and Goodwin on March 15.

Fundraising:

- The PTO is selling Braided Pastry and Cookie Dough through March 12.
- Sports Boosters are collecting orders for school logo sweatshirts and T-shirts.
- Student Council is sponsoring a “Disney Dance” afternoon for students in grades K-3.
- A baseball candy fundraiser will begin on March 1.
- The PTO will hold their spring Scholastic Book Fair the week of April 2.

Middle School Baseball Update:
There will be a preseason baseball meeting on March 1 to update families, distribute candy for the fundraiser, hand out practice and game schedules and collect sizing information to order uniforms. Mr. Ayer has provided an updated budget based on actual costs of uniforms and equipment and I have included the total amount of money that has come into school for donations.

Community and Other Events:

- There will be an assembly on March 1 for all students. A Russian Folk ensemble will entertain students with music, dance, and Russian culture.
- Students and staff will celebrate Read Across America day on March 2. Student athlete leaders will read with students in grades PK-6. Judge dos Santos will read with students
in grades 6-8. All students will attend one of three Skype sessions scheduled with authors. Students are invited to dress up as their favorite Seuss character and additional, age appropriate activities will be provided by classroom teachers.

- The PTO will sponsor a Laser Light show on March 8.
- Second trimester report cards will be sent home on March 15 and we will hold our trimester awards ceremony on March 16 at 9:00 a.m.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be held on the evening of March 28 and the afternoon of March 29.
- The Smarter Balanced testing window opens March 26 and continues through May 25. We will begin testing after April vacation.
- Community volunteers and LPC continue to hold monthly Board Game activities for students in the lower grades. In addition, there will be a “Boot Camp” style exercise activity offered to middle school students on February 28 and March 7, and a St. Patrick’s Day holiday story and craft activity on March 16 for students in grades 2-4, and a series of “Read, Snack, Learn” sessions for students in grades K-2 on March 20, 27, April 3 and April 10.
- I will be meeting with Deb Richards and am reaching out to State Police and EFD to review and discuss our School Safety and Security plan in light of recent events. We continue to hold monthly drills to review fire and lock down procedures.