Field Trips:
• Grade 8 students will visit Ellis Tech and The Woodstock Academy on October 16.
• Grade 8 Washington DC trip is scheduled for May 14 through May 17, 2019.
• Grade 3 will visit the Eastford Public Library on the first Thursday of each month.

Virtual Field Trips:
• Sept. 28, grades 3-6 - Amazing Monarchs: Royal Botanical Gardens, Canada
• Sept. 14, grade 8 - Young American: Smithsonian American Art Museum

Eastford Readiness Program:
The Readiness Program is full with 17 students. The Program will transition from using the Preschool Assessment Framework (PAF) to the Documentation and Observation for Teaching System (DOTS) to observe and evaluate student progress toward skills and standards.

Readiness Council Update:
The Council meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30. At their first meeting on September 4 they set the following three goals:

1. Update the Professional Development plan to ensure it includes all components for SRC and NAEYC and insure that it includes PD for staff on curriculum and assessment.
2. Compare Program policies to Connecticut State policies and revise to ensure compliance.
3. Revise Preschool Parent Surveys. The Program is no longer obligated to use the State Survey so they will devise a survey that is more reflective of the needs and practices of the Eastford Readiness Program.

Data on Student Progress:
The state has released additional information regarding students’ Smarter Balanced results from 2017-2018. Please see charts that show student achievement and growth, grade level comparison from year to year, and school results in comparison to state results.
School Sports:
Soccer practice is underway for both boys and girls teams under the supervision of Tom Ayer and Stephanie Bulan. We have 13 boys and 15 girls participating. The first game is scheduled for September 20 vs. Ashford.

Honors Algebra:
Eleven 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 an 85 will receive high school credit. Others may qualify to be exempt from the algebra requirement but will not get credit toward graduation. Students not enrolled in the Honors Algebra course are taking the traditional grade 8 math course. Two students in grade 7 are enrolled in an online Honors Pre-Algebra course through Johns Hopkins University.

Computers:
We have a total of 135+ computers in circulation: 85 Chromebooks, 20 mac airs and 30 Macbook Pros. These are housed on 4 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:
- Melissa Lessard will attend Best New Young Adult Books of 2018 conference sponsored by TTL Seminars on 11/27/18.
- Beth Harrington will attend a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) symposium sponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services on 9/11/18 and the SERAC Annual Meeting on 9/18/18.
- Carole McCombe will attend Performance Matters sponsored by CSDE on 9/11/18 for updates regarding state testing.
- Melissa Lessard will attend the Google for Education Connecticut Summit sponsored by Ed Tech Team on 10/13/18.
- Patricia Moran will participate in Mentor training to mentor new teachers on 9/18/18, 9/26/18 and 10/1/18.
- Carole McCombe and Beth Harrington will attend a SERAC meeting to review details related to reapplying for the LPC grant on 9/14/18.
- Carole McCombe will attend Leading Schools to Develop Resilient Learners sponsored by CAS on 9/21/18.
- Carole McCombe will attend Coherent Leadership sponsored by EastConn on 9/26/18.
- Carole McCombe will attend TEAM District Facilitator training sponsored by EastConn on 9/28/18.
• Patricia Moran, Lori Crocker-Lincoln and Michelle Bibeault will continue their participation in ReadConn with a series of online and in person workshops that focus on reading instruction and reading development in grades K-3.

Fundraising:
The Middle School Fundraising group will meet on September 12 to continue planning for this year’s auction. The auction is set for November 17, 2018.

Community and Other Events:
• School pictures will be held on September 11.
• Open House will be Thursday evening, September 20 from 6:00-7:30. Tables will be set up to provide information on high school choices. Representatives from The Woodstock Academy, Killingly High School and Killingly Ag-Ed, Putnam High School, 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. Students and families will also have an opportunity to visit classrooms and teachers.
• 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 are also working on developing a more formal mentoring program where volunteers will work 1:1 with selected students to provide support with academics and spend quality time together in areas of mutual interest, such as hobbies or crafts.
• The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), will be administered to students in Grade 8 in reading and math on January 29, 2019.