To: Linda Loretz  
From: Heather Tamsin  
Subject: December Report to the Board of Education  
Date: December 3, 2015

Field Trips:

- Students in grades 3 through 8 will visit the Connecticut Science Center on December 9, 2015.
- Students in preschool will visit the Eastford Town Library on December 22, 2015.
- Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will see a performance of *A Christmas Carol* at the Hartford Stage on December 22, 2015.
- Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will see a performance of *Mummenschantz* at the Jorgensen Auditorium on January 22, 2016.
- Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will visit the Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe Houses on February 12, 2016.
- Girls in grade 8 will attend the Multiply Your Options Conference at the University of Connecticut on April 4, 2016.
- Community Cultural Committee Trips to the Hyde Theater:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Henry and Mudge</strong></th>
<th>Tues., April 5, 2016</th>
<th>Grades PK-3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skippyjon Jones Snow What</strong></td>
<td>Tues., May 24, 2016</td>
<td>Grades PK-3</td>
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- 8th Grade Washington, DC trip is scheduled for May 17 through May 20, 2016.

Virtual Field Trips:

- Nov. 20 (Grades 3 and 5)- *The Story of the Strange Bird: The Origins of Thanksgiving* - OH
- Nov. 24 (PK and K)- *Hibernation and More* - OH
- Dec. 3 (Grade 7)- *The Middle East and North Africa, Beyond the Headlines* - CA
- Dec. 4 (Grade 5)- *How Do We Know the Earth is Moving?* - NY
- Dec. 9 (Grade 6)- *Ancient Egypt: Proportions, Symmetry and Size* - WI
- Dec. 17 (Grade 6 and &)- *Kitchen Chemistry e-Lab* - WV
- Jan. 15 (K and Grade 1)- *Museum Storytelling* - WI
- Feb. 26 (K and Grade 1)- *Exploring Antarctica* - GA
- Apr. 29 (K and Grade 1)- *Arbor Day: Celebrating Our Trees* - PA
**Eastford Readiness Program** – Currently has sixteen (16) students enrolled for the Eastford School Readiness Program. Four (4) of these students are partial day students.

**Readiness Council Update:** We met on November 2 to discuss the non-residency option. The Council voted to not offer the non-residency option. We meet next on December 7.

**School Goal:** To improve student achievement through the inclusion of cross-curricular performance tasks that require students to demonstrate and apply their knowledge and skills. All teachers will create and contribute tasks that directly connect to the ‘claims’ reported in the SBAC results to improve student performance.

**Progress towards the goal:** Donna Drasch, EastConn Consultant, spent the day on November 16 in classrooms. Teachers requested her involvement for a variety of needs. Some teachers utilized her to support planning of activities for students, some had her demonstrate effective questioning during a performance task and others had her observe and provide feedback. She will return on December 18.

**Professional Development:**

- Julie Fox attended a workshop, *Promising Practices in Speech and Language Disorders and Dyslexia.*
- Patricia Moran will attend a workshop, *Anxiety Disorders in Children and Adults.*
- Melissa Lessard will attend a workshop, *The Best New Young Adult Books.*
- Christine Kopplin will attend a workshop, *Early Literacy Practices and Materials for Practitioners Working with Children with Disabilities.*
- Meribeth Tedisky continues her participation in the Woodstock Academy Health Advisory Council.
- Lori Crocker-Lincoln and Heather Tamsin will attend a workshop about the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments.
- Monica Racicot and Kathryn LaRose will attend a workshop, *Supporting Academic Success for Students with Significant Disabilities.*
- Christine Kopplin will attend a focus group on *Building Observation and Assessment Systems Based on the Early Learning and Development Standards.*
- Tammy Hull and Daniel Lussier will attend a workshop, *Strategies to Help All Young Children Be Successful.*

**Fundraisers:**

- Student Council hosted a movie night for K-4 and 5-8.
- Student Council will have a chocolate fundraiser before the winter break.
• Student Council will sell carnations in February.