To: Linda Loretz  
From: Heather Tamsin  
Subject: January Report to the Board of Education  
Date: January 7, 2016

Field Trips:

- Students in grade 8 will visit Willi Bowl on January 8, 2016.
- Students in grades 5 through 8 will see a performance of *Mummenschantz* at the Jorgensen Auditorium on January 22, 2016.
- Students in preschool will visit the Eastford Public Library on January 26 and February 25, 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>Henry and Mudge</th>
<th>Tues., April 5, 2016</th>
<th>Grades PK-3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Skippyjon Jones Snow What</em></td>
<td>Tues., May 24, 2016</td>
<td>Grades PK-3</td>
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- Students in grades 2 and 3 will see a performance by the New Haven Symphony Orchestra on May 4, 2016.
- 8th Grade Washington, DC trip is scheduled for May 17 through May 20, 2016.

Virtual Field Trips:

- Jan. 13 (Grade 7)- *History of the Silk Road*- IN
- Jan. 15 (K and Grade 1)- *Museum Storytelling*- WI
- Jan. 15 (Grade 8)- *Andrew Jackson and the Bank War*- TN
- Jan. 22 (Grade 6)- *Ancient Civilizations*- CA
- Feb. 12- (Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6)- *2016 Reading Discovery Distance Learning Program with First Lady Barbara Bush*- TX
- Feb. 26 (K and Grade 1)- *Exploring Antarctica*- GA
- Apr. 29 (K and Grade 1)- *Arbor Day: Celebrating Our Trees*- PA
- May 2 (Grades 7 and 8)- *Washington,DC: District Formation and Monuments Tour*- NC
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 January 4 and discussed outreach opportunities for Eastford families with young children. We finalized an informational pamphlet that can be sent to families and distributed to local establishments and pediatricians.

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 December 18 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 February 18.

Professional Development:

- Julie Fox attended a workshop, Promising Practices in Speech and Language Disorders and Dyslexia.
- Christine Kopplin will attend a workshop, Building Observation and Assessment Systems Based on the ELDS.
- Melissa Lessard will attend a workshop, The Best New Young Adult Books.
- Lori Crocker-Lincoln is participating in a video webcast, Self Regulation in Children.
- Kathryn LaRose, Tammy Hull and Dan Lussier will attend a workshop, Strategies to Help All Young Children be Successful in the Classroom.
- Kathryn LaRose will attend a workshop, Beyond Housekeeping Area: Developing Dramatic Play to Support Social Studies.

Research Opportunity:

- Students in grades 6, 7, 8 can participate in a UCONN study on friendship dissolution in adolescence. This is an online questionnaire that takes about an hour and information was sent home to families for voluntary participation.
**Fundraisers/Community:**

- The Annual Goods and Services Auction raised a total of $12,986.51.
- On December 16, I invited Sergeant Deptula and local EMT volunteers to observe a lockdown drill. Sergeant Deptula also had dispatch send responders to time their arrival to the school.
- The PTO raised $694 through donations during the Giving Tree event to support local families.
- The PTO and Readiness Council co-funded a Winter Holiday laser show for students and families on December 23.
- Sports Boosters will host the annual spaghetti dinner on January 25.
- Student Council will sell carnations in February.