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

Field Trips:
• Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will visit the Jonathan Trumbull House and Nathan Hale Homestead on October 2, 2015.
• Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will visit the Worcester Art Museum on October 6, 2015.
• Students in grades 7 and 8 will visit the Newport Mansions on October 9, 2015.
• Students in grades Kindergarten through 8 will attend a science presentation in Thompson through a JASON Learning grant on October 23, 2015. Students in grades Kindergarten through 4 will attend a morning session, followed by students in grades 5 through 8.
• Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will attend a performance of *A Christmas Carol* at The Hartford Stage on December 22, 2015.
• Community Cultural Committee Trips to the Hyde Theater:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miss Nelson is Missing</th>
<th>Wed., November 18, 2015</th>
<th>Grades K-5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henry and Mudge</td>
<td>Tues., April 5, 2016</td>
<td>Grades PK-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skippyjon Jones Snow What</td>
<td>Tues., May 3, 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:
• September 8 (Grade 7)- *Daily Life in Ancient Rome* - Pennsylvania
• September 17 (Grades 5-8)- *So You Know the Founding Documents* - Ohio
• September 17 (Grade 7)- *Ancient Civilizations* - California
• September 17 (Grades 1 and 2)- *Patriotism* - Ohio
• September 18 (Grade 8)- *George Washington and the French and Indian War* - Pennsylvania
• Sep. 25 (Grade 8)- *Young America* - Washington, DC
• Oct. 16 (Grade 8)- *Math Connections in Art: Gridding* - Ohio
• Oct. 23 (Grade 8)- *Math Connections in Art: Gridding* - Ohio
• Nov. 6 (Grade 8)- *Math Connections in Art: Gridding* - Ohio

Eastford Readiness Program – Currently has seventeen (17) students enrolled for the Eastford School Readiness Program. Four (4) of these students are partial day students.
Readiness Council Update: The Council will meet next on September 14. We met on August 19 to discuss the non-residency option and will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

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.

Professional Development:
- We were awarded all 10 days of coaching through the Connecticut State Department of Education. Donna Drasch from EASTCONN will be working with teachers, primarily in classrooms, to support rigor in questioning, performance tasks and the Writer’s Workshop model.
- Lori Reynolds provided professional development to the entire staff regarding Writer’s Workshop and the Units of Study for the start of the school year. She is offering future sessions for collaboration and discussion.
- Mary Jo Chretien provided professional development regarding the new Restraint and Seclusion Laws to the staff.
- Krista Kulpa provided professional development for the staff on life-skills programming, inclusion and adaptive educational practices.
- Teachers attended professional development at Woodstock Academy with a motivational speaker, John Perricone, and a Risk Assessment presentation.
- The Technology Learning progression was provided to all teachers for review and reference this year. The response to the document was very positive and has already impacted collaboration between our Library Media Specialist and grade level teachers.

CMT Science and SBAC:
- Data provided on our performance by grade level and school.
- Shared data with teachers showing the performance by Claims categories for potential professional development and curricular discussions.
- Data will also be shared with Donna Drasch for consideration in the coaching days and her individual work with teachers and students.
- Concepts and Procedures Claim in Mathematics is an area that we will be looking closely at in instruction and curriculum this year.

Research Opportunity: We have been approached by the University of Connecticut to participate in a research study.
- Grade 3 Research- How We Read the Hard Words- Parents will be provided with information about the opportunity for potential consent. After a brief assessment, students struggling to read will receive free supplemental reading support from UCONN staff. Teachers will receive student data to plan instruction.

Soccer Team:
• Girls team currently has 14 players
• Boys team currently has 13 players

**World Language Online Programs:**
Middlebury and Proximity Learning are two companies that offer
  o Variety of language and cultural activities
  o Includes a live teacher available through our teleconferencing equipment
  o Optional use of online program available for additional practice
  o Flexibility to fit into our current schedule
  o Access available online with flexible schedule
  o Functionality training

**Fundraisers:**
• The PTO will be sponsoring a Jeannine fundraiser which will start in September with an Open House kickoff. They will sell wrapping paper, pies and cookie dough.
• The Annual Goods and Services Auction will take place on November 21, 2015.