

## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
From: Carole McCombe  
Subject: Report to the Board of Education  
Date: March 3, 2022

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### Field Trips:

- Washington, D.C. trip: The Auction Committee has set March 26, 2022 as the date for the annual Goods and Services Auction. We have booked hotel rooms, a coach bus and are in the process of booking other venues for grade 8 students. They will visit Washington, D.C. May 17 through May 20, 2022.
- Grades 3 and 4 continue to travel to the Eastford Public Library on a monthly basis and Preschool is planning to begin regular visits starting in March.

### Virtual Field Trips through the Center for Interactive Learning (CILC):

Author Valerie Marsh	Snow Much to Know! Action Science	Grade 4	03-02-2022
Casa Grande Ruins National Monument	Ancestral Sonoran Desert People	Grade 4	03-15-2022

Additionally, three Eastford Elementary teachers have received scholarships for CILC programs through Internet2 Community Anchor Program's 2022 Distance Learning Scholarship. Michelle Bibeault will facilitate a program on *Digital Citizenship* for kindergarten and first grade students, Megan Dill will facilitate *Wagons West* for grade 4, and Charlie Kernan will facilitate *Meet the Medieval King – Alfred the Great* for grades 5-8. The combined value of these programs is \$500.00. Congratulations to Michelle Bibeault, Megan Dill and Charlie Kernan for being selected to receive these free programs for students.

### Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program has 17 students enrolled. Additionally, Readiness staff conducts screenings by appointment for children ages three and four that are not enrolled in the program. This helps families to understand typical early childhood development and allows us to intervene in the early stages if development is not typical – regardless of whether or not children are enrolled in the Readiness program.

The annual Needs Assessment Survey has been mailed to all Eastford families that we have knowledge of with children who will be turning three or four in 2022. This will begin the open enrollment period for our School Readiness program. To date, we have received 14 registrations for only 5 or 6 openings created by current students moving up to Kindergarten. Enrollment is based on maintaining a 60:40 ratio of families with income below and above the State Median Income (SMI) level.

### **Readiness Council Update:**

The Council meets the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM via Zoom. The Council continues to review and revise policies to maintain compliance with NAEYC and the Office of Early Childhood. The Readiness Grant and Quality Enhancement Grant are now open for renewal applications and are due back to the State in early May. I will be working on completing these applications with our Readiness Liaison.

### **Data on Student Progress:**

Students will take the NWEA assessment in the areas of English-Language Arts, math and science in March and will then prepare for the State summative assessments (SBAC and NGSS) in late April and May. Teachers in grades 3-8 are utilizing the Interim Assessments to provide practice for students, to assess student mastery of standards, and to guide teaching and reteaching of skills and standards. Student progress will be shared with families during our parent-teacher conference days, March 24 in the evening, and March 25 in the afternoon. Second trimester report cards will be sent home on March 18 and we will recognize students who have earned Honor Roll Status and those receiving trimester awards on March 25.

### **Curriculum Updates:**

The Board of Education Curriculum Committee met on March 1. The agenda included updates on the process for selecting new math curriculum materials and updated progress on Domain 4 of our Strategic School Improvement Plan – improving Climate and Culture.

### **Professional Development:**

- Mrs. Jennifer Barlow will attend monthly Math Council meetings through EastConn.
- Ms. Murana will attend monthly Social Emotional Council meetings through EastConn.
- Mrs. Bibeault will attend monthly Technology Council meetings through EastConn.
- I am participating in a regional Principals' Community of Practice through EastConn. We will meet four times over the course of the school year. I also attend monthly Regional Staff Development sessions facilitated by EastConn.
- We continue our partnership with EastConn support in the areas of social-emotional learning and restorative practices, and in incorporating the Reading and Writing Units of study resources across all grade levels. EastConn staff will work with us on March 4 for social-emotional learning and school climate.
- March 4 professional development day for all staff will include follow up on required training for all staff, support for social-emotional learning and school climate (follow up from a recent learning walk with EastConn staff), time for the math committee to meet regarding options for new programs, and time for staff to collaborate on and generate solutions to “problems of practice” using a set protocol.

## **Community and Other Events:**

- Up-to-date high school information can be found on Ms. Murana's section of the school website. All grade 8 students are working through the course selection process at The Woodstock Academy with Ms. Murana and representatives from The Woodstock Academy. Students should be notified by the end of March of their acceptance to most schools other than The Woodstock Academy if they have so applied.

### **Likely high school attendance as of this time:**

The Woodstock Academy: 8 students

QMC: 1 student

Ellis Tech: 1 student

E.O. Smith: 1 student

Private school: 1 student

- The "Penny Power for Pups" fundraiser sponsored by Student Council has raised about \$745. Student Council will donate most of this to local animal shelters and will fund other Student Council initiatives with the rest.
- The PTO Munson's Chocolate Fundraiser ended on March 1. Orders will be ready for distribution on April 1.
- Our PALS program will be sponsoring a series of evening events for students in the program, our preschool children and their families. The first event was held in February. The second one is scheduled for March 11.
- On Friday, March 11 and Friday, March 18, Mr. Roger Wolfe from the Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection will visit grades 3 and 4 during their science classes to assist them in building birdhouses with precut wood for them to take home. Grade 8 students will also assist with the younger grades in this project. Students will observe and collect data on their birdhouses to learn about bird habitats, eating and breeding patterns and environmental protection.
- The PTO will sponsor the spring Scholastic Book Fair from May 2 – May 6.