

## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
From: Carole McCombe  
Subject: Report to the Board of Education  
Date: May 6, 2022

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### Field Trips:

- Washington, D.C. trip is scheduled for May 17 through May 20, 2022. We have 10 students, 2 staff members and 4 parent chaperones attending.
- Grades 3, 4, and preschool continue to travel to the Eastford Public Library on a monthly basis.
- On May 17, students in grades 4 and 5 will attend an opera performance at the Loos Center for the Arts at The Woodstock Academy.
- On June 3, students in PK and Kindergarten will travel to the Southwick Zoo.
- On June 9, students in grade 3 will host the third graders from Scotland Elementary School. The group will participate in an author presentation and an activity.
- On June 9, students in grade 5 will travel to Plimoth Plantation in Plymouth, MA to explore the living history museum.

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

|   |  |                      |            |
|---|--|----------------------|------------|
| Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum   | Out of this World                              | Grade 5, Mead        | 05-13-2022 |
| Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum   | Fraction Interactions                          | Grade 4, Dill        | 05-13-2022 |
| Central Michigan University: Museum of cultural and Natural History | Rock On! The Secret Life of Rocks and Minerals | Grades 5, 6, 7, Mead | 05-19-2022 |
| Learn Around the World  | Elephant PooPooPaper Park                      | Grade 8, Mead        | 05-24-2022 |
| San Diego Model Railroad Museum                                     | The Able Arch and The Trusty Truss             | Grades 5,6,7,8, Mead | 05-27-2022 |

### 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.

To date, we have received 17 registrations for only 5 openings created by current students moving up to Kindergarten. We continue to learn about more students involved with Birth to Three that we are obligated to provide services for, and this is also limiting the number of slots available. Enrollment is based on meeting students' developmental needs and maintaining a 60:40 ratio of families with income below and above the State Median Income (SMI) level.

The Readiness Program is planning a series of transition events to familiarize incoming students and families with the Readiness Program and to ease the transition of current students and families as they move up to Kindergarten.

### **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 have been completed and submitted. We anticipate the same level of funding as in previous years.

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

Students in grades 5 through 8 have begun working on their Smarter Balanced Assessments and students in grade 5 and 8 have completed their NGSS science assessments. Students in grades 3 and 4 will begin testing the week of May 16. Students will test for 20 to 40 minutes each morning, depending on grade level.

### **Curriculum Updates:**

Our math committee continues to research and evaluate potential math programs to replace our current Envision 2.0 math program. The committee has had numerous Zoom sessions and has visited nearby schools that are using different programs. They have also had the opportunity to use some sample materials with students. Math committee members are Mrs. Jennifer Barlow, Mrs. Crocker-Lincoln and Mrs. Rynhart.

### **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.
- Ms. Dill will attend monthly ELA 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.

- Numerous staff members are participating in virtual training on using the new state site (CTSEDS) for documenting IEPs and 504 plans. The official transition from our current system will take effect over the summer.

### **Community and Other Events:**

- Through the Northeast Department of Health, students in grades PK, K and 6 will receive a dental screening with a dental hygienist during the school day on May 11. The State of CT now requires this for entry into school and again in grade 6.
- The Eastford Elementary School Book Swap will be taking place during the week of May 16. Students and staff are invited to bring in books that they no longer use and swap them out for different titles.
- The PTO sponsored Active-A-Thon runs from May 8 to May 28. Students commit to 30 minutes of physical activity for a set number of days. Donors pledge a dollar amount for each block of 30 minutes that students are active.
- Mrs. Jeannine Spink will be providing CPR instruction to all students in grades 7 and 8 during a portion of their Health classes for the remaining weeks of school. Upon completion, students will receive CPR and First Aid certification.
- On May 23, Eastford Elementary School, in conjunction with The Congregational Church of Eastford, will host an evening parenting workshop on Child Temperament and Parenting Styles. The event will feature Dr. Sonia Greene, PhD. It will be held at the Congregational Church of Eastford with dinner and childcare provided.
- On May 26 there will be an evening orientation program for students entering preschool and kindergarten to learn more about what to expect in these programs.
- On June 1 there will be a family game night event for all EES families. Mrs. Mead, Mrs. Jennifer Barlow and middle school students will organize and run this event.
- Mr. Tomanelli and Mrs. Mead have completed their production of “Science Rocks” with students. It will premiere on Friday, May 27 at 2:30 PM for students and staff.
- Mr. Tomanelli is inviting all students to participate in singing patriotic songs at the annual Eastford Memorial Day celebration.
- The interview process for an elementary teacher and a middle school ELA teacher should be completed in the next few weeks.
- Graduation will be held on June 16 at 7:00 PM in the school gym.