



## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
 From: Carole McCombe  
 Date: October 6, 2023  
 Subject: October Report to the Board of Education

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### Field Trips:

- We are not planning a Washington, D.C. trip this school year. The annual Goods and Services auction fundraiser is planned for November 11, 2023.
- Students in grades PK, 2, 3, and 4 will take monthly walking trips to the Eastford Public Library on separate, designated days.
- On October 10 students in grades 5 and 6 will travel to Plimoth Plantation to visit the living history museum and the Mayflower II. This will be an extended day for students.
- On October 23 students in grades 1 and 2 will travel to Foster Farm in South Windsor to learn about agriculture, the seasons, and to explore a corn maze.

### Virtual Field Trips (CILC):

Valerie Marsh	Folktales and Food	Grades 1 and 2	10/30/2023
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### Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program is full with 17 Readiness students and one non-Readiness part-time student. The Program is holding a curriculum information session for families on October 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the school.

### Eastford Readiness Council Update:

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM via Zoom. In addition to both the Readiness and Quality Enhancement grants we also received an Enrollment Based Grant for \$10,240.00. The Council continues to work on aligning policies with updated NAEYC Standards and to prepare for our 5-year NAEYC reaccreditation.

**Data on Student Progress:**

In October, all students in grades 2-8 will take the NWEA computerized assessment in the areas of reading, language, math and science. The results will be immediately available to teachers and will be used to inform instruction and to identify areas of strength and areas that need support.

Student mid-term progress reports will be sent home with students on October 13 and parent teacher conferences are scheduled for December 8 in the afternoon and December 11 in the evening.

**High School Information and Open Houses:**

Ms. Murana is providing students and families with information on area high schools and the application process. This information is available on her website, in the Newsletter and on a bulletin board near her office.

**Current Open House Dates:**

Ellis Tech: October 12, 5:30 p.m.

The Woodstock Academy: October 26, 6:00 p.m.

Killingly Agriculture: November 9, 6:00 p.m.

ACT: November 16, 6:00 p.m.

QMC: December 5, 6:00 p.m.

**School Visits to EES:**

Killingly Agriculture has come to EES to speak with grade 8 students about their respective school programs and activities. Ellis Tech will visit on October 16.

**Professional Development:**

October 6 Professional Development Day for all staff will feature:

1. Completion of mandated training modules and Psychological Management Training (PMT) refresher course.
2. Grade level curriculum work to document pacing and resources and to compile curriculum overview brochures.
3. Review of Strategic School Improvement Plan, Leadership Goals and development of Growth and Evaluation Goals.
4. Paraprofessional training in working with students with special needs.

**School Safety and Security Plan:**

The Plan has been updated for the 2023-2024 school year and, with your approval, it will be sent to the State. This year, the template includes a new form to document crisis drills such as fire drills and lockdown drills and to note the impact of such drills on students' and staff mental health and well-being. The Safety Committee, led by Mr. Kernan, will meet on October 12 at 5:00 PM to discuss revisions to Annex 14 regarding Reunification. Mr. Kernan will provide an overview and necessary training for staff on elements of the plan during staff meetings.

**Community and other events:**

- The PTO "Design the School Sign" contest is ongoing through the month of October. All students will have an opportunity to vote on the winning sign design on November 7. The theme this year is Perseverance.
- The PTO is sponsoring a school logo wear fundraiser. Orders are due by October 27.

- In October, the EIFC will visit the school for our annual Fire Prevention Program. This will include a fire drill for everyone and an opportunity to visit the fire trucks and learn about the fire gear for our younger students.
- On October 31 the Eastford Recreation Commission will use the school/Town Office parking lot for their Trunk or Treat event. This event will move into the gym if it is raining.
- The After School Grant from last year is funding multiple opportunities for student enrichment during the after school hours. Currently, we have weekly visits by Mystic Seaport, and Board Games scheduled on a regular basis. More offerings will be added once we are notified that we have received the grant for the upcoming year.