



Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake
 From: Carole McCombe
 Date: November 2, 2023
 Subject: November Report to the Board of Education

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.

Virtual Field Trips (CILC):

None scheduled at this time.

Eastford Readiness Program:

The Readiness Program is full with 17 Readiness students and one non-Readiness, part-time student.

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. This grant allows us to add additional part-time support staff to the program. The Council continues to work on aligning policies with updated NAEYC Standards and to prepare for our 5-year NAEYC reaccreditation – due in April 2024.

Data on Student Progress:

- In October, all students in grades 2-8 took the NWEA computerized assessment in the areas of reading, language, math and science. The results were 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 were 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. Students in grade 5-8 will conduct Student Led Conferences. Preschool through grade 4 will hold traditional conferences.

- The State Department of Education has released The District Next Generation Accountability Reports. Eastford Elementary School has been identified as a ***School of Distinction*** based on High Growth for all students in ELA and High Growth for high needs students in ELA. I will have data available for the meeting showing our progress in all the applicable areas of the twelve categories that are measured for this report.

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:

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

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

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

Application Process:

Applications for Ellis Tech open in November. Completed applications are due prior to our winter break.

School Safety and Security Plan:

The Plan has been updated for the 2023-2024 school year and sent to the appropriate officials at DEMHS. Dr. Leake and I have spoken with safety officials at Thompson school about recent changes and updates to their school security. We plan to tour their facility and speak with the Superintendent there at the end of November.

Update on School Sports:

Mr. Kernan will provide an update at the meeting on the success of our school soccer team and an update on the upcoming basketball season.

Community and other events:

- Thanks to the EIFC for assisting in a fire drill evacuation exercise with us in October and for taking the time to show their equipment and talk with our younger students about fire safety.
- Students will vote for a winning school sign design on November 7. The new sign will be displayed soon after near the front steps of the building.
- On November 21 the PTO will sponsor a character development assembly for all students.
- School picture retakes are scheduled for November 30 with our school photographer, Irvin Simon.
- 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. STEM activities and Academic Support have been added in November.
- The annual Goods and Services Auction will be at the school on Saturday, November 11. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Thanks to the parent volunteers, and to Mr. Jeremy Barlow and Mr. Kernan in particular, for their work in organizing this event.