



## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
 From: Carole McCombe  
 Date: February 3, 2025  
 Subject: February Report to the Board of Education

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### Field Trips:

- The Grade 4 trip to the Audubon Society in Pomfret on February 6, 2025 for snowshoeing and a science program on winter animal tracks has been postponed to a more suitable date.
- Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, and Grade 4 take monthly walking field trips to the Eastford Public Library.
- Grade 8 will visit Washington, D.C. on June 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2025. Mrs. Jennifer Barlow and Mrs. Catherine DePercio are planning the arrangements and itinerary and will be chaperoning the trip. We have four parent chaperones also planning to attend.

### Virtual Field Trips (CILC):

Kenai Fjords National Park	Glacier Explorers	Grade 4	03/12/2025
Longwood Gardens	Desert Plant Adaptations	Grade 4	5/08/2025

### Eastford Readiness Program:

The Program has 15 students enrolled at this time. We are looking to invite 2 part-day students to join the program for the remainder of the school year. Our application for the Early Start CT grant (formerly School Readiness Grant) was accepted. We are awarded \$94,665. We are still waiting for part B of the RFA to be released.

### Eastford Readiness Council Update:

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM via Zoom. The next meeting will be March 3, 2025. Registration for Kindergarten and Preschool is open for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Data on Student Progress:**

The second trimester ends on March 11, and report cards will go home on March 20. We will hold parent-teacher conferences on March 27 and 28. Students in grades 5-8 will continue to share their progress with families through Student-led conferences, while kindergarten through grade 4 will hold traditional conferences. Teachers in grades 3-8 are using the Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) with students as formative assessments and to build test-taking stamina and experience with the state testing formats. Students in grades 3-8 will begin taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) and Next Generation Science Assessment (NGSS) in April and May.

**High School Information and Updates:**

Mrs. Schleicher is providing students and families with information regarding applications, open houses, shadowing, and course selection at the various high schools. At this time, we know that only 4 of the 8 students who applied to Ellis Tech were accepted. Students need to confirm with Ellis by February 13. There will be another lottery drawing in March for Ellis so there is still a chance that some students will be accepted.

**Upcoming events:**

- Kindergarten will host Sally Rogers and the Science of Sound Program on Friday, February 7.
- We have a full calendar of after-school enrichment activities planned with our After School grant. Some activities include cupcake decorating, Puppetry, Mystic Seaport, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Ragged Hill Woods, CT River Museum, art club, board games, chorus, hydroponics, acting and filmmaking, and academic support.
- Student Council will hold a "Luv a Pup" fundraiser during February to collect items/funds to donate to Pawsafe Animal Rescue in Eastford.
- Students in grades 6-8 will be learning about basic First Aid Care in Health Classes. Eighth-grade students will earn their First Aid/CPR certification.
- Students in grade 5 will participate in the D.A.R.E. program beginning on February 7.
- We will celebrate Global School Play Day on February 5.
- School basketball has finished its season. We have interest in a track team and are advertising for a coach.

**Special Notes:**

- Frog Rock basketball is using the school gym Tuesday-Friday evenings for practices and Saturday mornings for basketball games.
- Congratulations to grade eight students Holly Dubina and Brooke Perry who were selected to be recognized by The Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) at their 26th ANNUAL ELEMENTARY CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS on Monday, February 3, 2025. Criteria for this selection are based on ability in the performing and/or visual arts, citizenship, and cooperative skills. The honorees will receive certificates in recognition of their excellence in the arts and positive contributions to their schools, and they will be treated to dinner as guests of CAS.