



## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
 From: Carole McCombe  
 Date: January 8, 2025  
 Subject: January Report to the Board of Education

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### Field Trips:

- Grade 4 will visit the Audubon Society in Pomfret on January 16, 2025 for snowshoeing and a science program on winter animal tracks.
- Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, and Grade 4 will take monthly walking field trips to the Eastford Public Library.
- Grade 8 will be visiting 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 16 students enrolled. This includes one who dropped out and a new student who enrolled. Current student needs require additional support staff in the preschool classroom. We can provide for this additional support with money brought in by Readiness tuition fees.

### 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 February 4, 2025. We will send the annual Needs Assessment in early February to families in town with young children. Registration for Kindergarten and Preschool is open for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Data on Student Progress:**

Mid-term progress reports for the second trimester will be sent home with students on January 17.  
Preschool progress reports will go home toward the end of January.

**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, eight students have applied to Ellis Tech, four have requested to attend E.O. Smith-pending acceptance to Ellis, and one student is interested in QMC. Students who applied to Ellis should hear from them beginning in February.

**Upcoming events:**

- E.O. Smith will hold an open house for new students and families on February 6, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 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.
- A Middle school Dance will be held on Friday evening, January 10.
- Student Council will hold a “Luv a Pup” fundraiser to collect items/funds to donate to Pawsafe Animal Rescue in Eastford.
- Students in 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 in February.
- We will celebrate Global School Play Day on February 5.
- PTO-sponsored Winter Wonderland craft collaboration with EPL will be held on January 25 at the town library.
- Preschool will hold a family engagement activity at school on January 29 from 10:30-11:30 for students and families in the Readiness Program.

**Special Notes:**

- Frog Rock basketball is using the school gym Tuesday-Friday evenings for practices and Saturday mornings for basketball games.
- Two New Copy machines and a new washing machine were purchased, delivered and installed.
- 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 guests of CAS.
- The Scholastic Book Fair raised \$1450 in Scholastic Dollars during our December book fair. Funds will be used to add books and resources to the library and to purchase prizes for the summer reading program.