



## Shaping Futures Together

To: Dr. Donna Leake  
 From: Carole McCombe  
 Date: February 4, 2026  
 Subject: February Report to the Board of Education

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### Field Trips:

- Grades PK-8 have arranged monthly walking trips to Eastford Public Library.
- Grades K-4 will attend a performance of *The Magic School Bus* at the Loos Center for the Arts on February 23, 2026. The performance is free for our students.
- Students in preschool and kindergarten will travel to Southwick Zoo in Mendon, MA on May 1 to experience diverse animals and habitats.
- Grades 7 and 8 (29 students) will visit Washington, D.C. May 19-May 22, 2026. Six parents plan to chaperone. They will enjoy a Washington Nationals baseball game, visit Arlington Cemetery, the National Monuments, the Smithsonian Museums, the National Zoo and the National Spy Museum.

### Virtual Field Trips (CILC):

Provider	Program	Grade	Date
Wind Cave National Park	Exploring an Ancient Maze Cave	Grade 3	2/5/2026
Joshua Tree National Park	Plants and Animals of Joshua Tree	Grade 4	2/9/2026
Pro Football Hall of Fame	Movement in Motion	Grade 3	2/12/2026
UCAR Center for Science Education	Weather Wow! Hurricane Trackers	Grade 3	2/19/2026
Midwest Archeological Center-NPS	Module 1: Introduction to Archeology	Grade 3	2/26/2026
Longwood Gardens	Operation Pollination	Grade 3	3/26/2026
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore	Watching our Watershed	Grade 3	4/9/2026

Southeast Arizona National Parks	Ecosystem Connections	Grade 3	4/23/2026
The BLM Campbell Creek Science Center	Creekside Curiosities	Grade 3	5/21/2026
Longwood Gardens	Carnivorous Plants	Grade 3	5/28/2026

**Eastford Preschool Program (formerly Eastford Readiness Program):**

The Program has 15 students enrolled. We provide walk-in speech services for one preschool-aged child who is not attending the program. Our National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) annual report and fee to maintain our accreditation is due by April 1, 2026. Currently, the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) is paying the annual fees for all programs in Connecticut.

**Early Start CT and Local Governance Partnership (LGP) Update (formerly Eastford Readiness Council Update):**

The Local Governance Partnership (LGP) is tasked with overseeing local programs in its jurisdiction. Our LGP covers the towns of Bozrah, Chaplin, Eastford, Franklin, Hampton, Scotland, and Sprague. The LGP has named our collaborative group Eastern CT Early Start Collaborative (ECESC). The next Community Table meeting of the ECESC is scheduled for February 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Data on Student Progress:**

The second trimester ends on March 12, and report cards will go home on March 19. We will hold parent-teacher conferences on April 1 in the evening, and April 2 in the afternoon. Students in grades 3-8 will continue to share their progress with families through Student-led conferences, while kindergarten through grade 2 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:**

- One student has applied to ACT; they have not heard about acceptance yet
- One student has applied and been accepted at Ellis Tech; they plan to attend
- Five students plan to attend The Woodstock Academy

**Upcoming events:**

- The February calendar of after school activities has been shared and permission slips are out for sign-ups. A variety of events will be offered on Monday and Wednesday afternoons for students in grades 2-6 such as Mystic Seaport, Ragged Hill Woods, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Board Games (K-1 and 2-3), Dance Club, and Art Club. Academic Support will be held on Tuesdays for students in grades 2-8, and the YMCA Childcare program will be offered daily from 3:30-5:30. This month there is a family program scheduled for Friday evening, Feb. 6 to participate in mindfulness, yoga, and a craft.
- Students in grade 5 will be participating in the D.A.R.E. program through the CT State Police. This began on January 26 and will continue weekly during student Health classes until early April.

- Student Council is conducting a 'Luv a Pup' fundraiser through the month of February. Proceeds will benefit Vintage Pet Rescue in Foster, RI. Students are asked to bring in checks or Amazon Gift Cards to purchase items from Vintage Pet Rescue's Wish List.
- We are making plans to celebrate Read Across America during the week of March 2. We are tentatively planning to have student readers from The Woodstock Academy, therapy dogs for students to read to, opportunities for buddy reading by pairing older and younger students, a reading related spirit week, and other ideas in the making.
- Student Council will host a dance for students in grades 5-8 on March 27 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Special Thanks to:**

Mrs. Spink who has been working with our students in grades 6-8 on basic First Aid Care in Health classes. Eighth-grade students will earn their First Aid/CPR certification.