

## Superintendent's Report: May 2026

Highlight of the Month: I enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the grade 8 students to discuss the books they enjoyed reading as young children and those that they now enjoy for possible donation to the library. Since I became Superintendent, I have purchased the books that our grade 8 students enjoy and want to donate to the library on their behalf. In the first few years I asked the middle school teachers to provide me with this information, but in the past few years I have experienced the enjoyment of speaking with the students directly.

### Educational Leadership:

- In addition to spending a significant amount of time following up on facilities issues, my time has been focused on the development of the 2026-27 budget for presentation to the BOE and to the Town.
- I have been involved in following the recent legislation that has the potential to impact the operation of the Eastford School District.
- I have been participating in conversations with local school leadership to discuss funding, educational and safety issues.

### Facilities:

- I continue to remain in contact with Imperial Roofing regarding needed repairs to the roof.
- I continue to remain in contact with Sunwealth regarding the replacement of the concrete bricks that are securing the solar panels on the gym roof.
- I secured and shared a bid from LaFramboise and a bid from Northeast Builders Roofing with the Facilities Committee. These contracts are being included in this packet for consideration by the BOE.
- We received quotes from a contractor, Bob Meyer, for repairs needed in the grade K classroom, modifications needed in both the inside and the outside of the connecting corridor that leads to the storage area, as well as modifications to the spaces in the special education area.

### Finances:

- Steve presented the Board of Education budget at the Town Budget Meeting on April 30. The budget, which represents a 3% increase over last year's budget, will be presented for a vote at the Referendum on May 14 at 7:00 PM.
- Kymberli and I continue to monitor our current 2025-26 BOE operating budget.
- Kymberli has been following up on the reimbursement we are supposed to receive with respect to our 2023 security grant application.
- There was a recent announcement from Governor Lamont that the Town of Eastford is to receive additional funding in the amounts of \$14,635 (Supplemental Town Aid), and \$37,888 (Supplemental School Aid). These dollars are intended to reduce the tax impact of the 2026-27 budget. Deb and I have been sharing information obtained from State level representatives and other Town and School leaders to better understand the use of these dollars.

### Collaboration:

- To the extent possible, we maintain an active role in the Eastern Connecticut Early Start Collaborative. (ECESC). I attended the evening meeting of the Community Table at Eastconn on May 7, and Carole is scheduled to attend the mandatory morning Early Start meeting on May 12.
- Deb Richards and I met several times to discuss the 2026-27 BOE operating budget and the 2026-27 Long Term Capital Plan. The reduction of the BOE budget request was one result of these meetings. Another result was the Town support of our request to have both the water filtration system and the new middle school roof included in our capital plan for 2026-27. The inclusion of these projects in the long-term capital budget frees up the DRIP money we will receive in June 2026 (\$37,075.20) as well as a similar promised allocation by June 2027. This money is to be used for needed building repairs.

## Unfinished Business

- A. Policy 6173, Parental Access to Instructional Materials
  - B. New 6000 series Policy, Library Collection Development and Maintenance
- Item A is a revision to our existing policy and Item B is a new policy. They are both included on this agenda for a second reading.*

## New Business

- A. Accept Roof Replacement Contract

*A bid by Northeast Builders Roofing Company in the amount of \$45,750 to replace the middle school roof is included in this packet. This bid was reviewed by the BOE Facilities Committee. The project is included in the Town Capital budget for the year 2026-27. The BOE can award this bid in accordance with the waiver section of the Purchasing Policy 3320: 'Time is a critical factor, and taking the time necessary to comply with the formal process would not be in the best interests of the school district.'*

- B. Accept Water Filtration Contract

*A bid by LaFramboise Water Services in the amount of \$27,100 to improve the water filtration system is included in the packet. This bid was reviewed by the BOE Facilities Committee. The project, which includes approximately \$2150 for electrical work, is included in the Town Capital budget for the year 2026-27. The BOE can award this bid in accordance with the waiver section of the Purchasing Policy 3320: 'Only one (1) reasonable or qualified source can be identified.'*

- C. Approval of the Fiscal Year 2027 IDEA Grants

*The 611 grant provides dollars for paraeducator salaries and the 619 grant provides for SLP services for students aged 3-5.*

- D. Policy 3240, Tuition Fees
- E. Policy 3313, Relations with Vendors
- F. Policy 3231, Medical Reimbursement for Special Education
- G. Policy 3250, Student Materials Fees
- H. Policy 3326.1, Paying for Goods and Services: Payroll
- I. Policy 3330, Code of Conduct for Procurement Under a Federal Award

*Please see the Policy Committee minutes for a brief explanation of the above policies. Lauren Barlow will provide a review of these policies at the meeting.*

- J. Resignation of Paraeducator

*The BOE needs to accept the resignation of Alaina Cody, paraeducator*

- K. Approval of funding

*In the past, the cost for the teacher chaperones for the DC trip was paid out of the professional development line. This year we placed these costs in a travel line, but it was cut from the budget prior to approval. The thought at that time was that it might be covered by the DC trip funds. Currently there is not enough in the DC trip account to cover all the costs for students. I am requesting that the BOE consider paying for the cost of our teacher chaperones. We have money in the budget that can be paid to the DC trip fund if the BOE approves payment of these expenses. Grades 7 and 8 are going together this year, so there is no trip next year. Going forward, however, I recommend that if the BOE wishes to pay for the teacher chaperones it should be paid from the travel line in the budget.*

## Financial Reports

*As always, please submit any questions or concerns regarding the financial reports and/or recommended transfers prior to the meeting so the administration can prepare the needed information.*

- C. Budget Transfers

*We are requesting the following transfers:*

\$100.00 from 100.2500.1.240.00.5 (Tuition Reimbursement) to 100.2500.1.235.00.5 (Flex Spending)  
\$1000.00 from 100.2500.1.250.00.5 (Insurances, Unemployment) to 100.2210.1.322.00.5 (Prof Development, Teachers)  
\$7500.00 from 100.1000.1.111.00.5 (Salary, Teachers) to 100.2190.3.323.03.5 (Purchased Services, BCBA)  
\$8000.00 from 100.2600.1.112.00.5 (Salary, Custodial) to 100.2600.1.340.00.5 (Purch Services, Maintenance)  
\$10000.00 from 100.1000.1.111.00.5 (Salary, Teachers) to 100.2220.1.731.00.5 (Equipment, Media)  
\$5000.00 from 100.1200.3.112.00.5 (Salary, Para, SE) to 100.2220.1.731.00.5 (Equipment, Media)