

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

DISTRICT NEWS!

OCTOBER 2016

A Great Start to a Great Year!













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Preparing Winooski Students for the Future

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

We all know that the world continues to change at a rapid pace and schools, in partnership with communities, have the interesting task of preparing students for this swiftly moving target.Our school board, with significant input from the Winooski community, has constructed a bold Ends Statement that describes what our students will look like when they graduate: "All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community."

Every organization, including schools have a lofty mission, vision and/or Ends Statement...so what? Of course we want all these elements such as college and career readiness, health and success for our children, but how do we support learning that enables students to truly gain the requisite skills, knowledge and behaviors to reach theses ends? First, Winooski middle/high school teachers, students, parents and community members have collaborated to write a set of Graduate Expectations (GXs) that we believe will arm students with the necessary skills, knowledge and behaviors to be ready for college and career. Our GXs will be taught and rigorously assessed from Kindergarten through graduation and students will be required to demonstrate proficiency before earning a diploma. These GXS are listed below with a brief description.

- **Critical Thinking**: I ask challenging questions, examine complex problems, and identify and propose solutions.
- **Well-Being**: I identify my physical, social, and emotional strengths and weakness and take intentional steps to grow.
- **Communication**: I am skillful at taking in and expressing ideas in speech and writing.
- **Creativity**: I express myself through various media and apply my learning in new ways.
- **Persistence**: I accept the challenge of difficult or long-term problems, and I push myself to reach my goals.
- **Culture and Community**: I know and appreciate different people, cultures, and perspectives, and participate in the life of my community and the greater world.

You may be asking yourself "What about Math, Science, English and Social Studies?" These essential content areas and others are the vehicles for students to practice our Graduate Expectations (GXs). Teachers will help students learn math and science content while solving complex problems, communicating their learning orally and through writing and persisting throughout the process. Two years ago elementary teachers began a multiyear professional development endeavor which combines our GXs with these important content areas. It is called Project-Based Learning (PBL):

8 Essentials of Project-Based Learning (PBL)

- Key Knowledge, Understanding, and Success Skills
- Challenging Problem or Question
- Sustained Inquiry
- Authenticity
- Student Voice & Choice
- Reflection
- Critique & Revision
- Public Product

(http://www.bie.org/about/what_pbl)

This will prepare our younger students for a future of blending skills, content and behaviors. When they hit middle and high school they will be ready to tackle student-centered learning opportunities offered through the iLab, in individual courses, internships and apprenticeships and, ultimately, earn a diploma that ensures they are ready for the world.

Lastly, we cannot forget that students need to be physically, socially, emotionally and behaviorally ready to accomplish all of this learning. These needs must be met for our students to truly be ready to learn. As you know we have a number of "ready-to-learn" programs that have shown great results thus far such as Mindfulness, Spartans-In-Motion (SIM), Universal PreKindergarten and free student meals. In addition, we have just unveiled our new WSD School-Wide Student Expectations. All WSD students will be taught and held responsible for meeting these expectations to create a caring climate and rigorous place of learning.

- Honest
- Engaged
- Appropriate
- Responsible
- Timely

All of this work will lead Winooski students toward college and career readiness, healthy, productive and successful lives and local and global community engagement. Thank you for working with WSD to benefit our students!

.....

"All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community."

ENDS

By Tori Cleiland, School Board

Why educate your kids in Winooski? As a parent in Chittenden County, I answer: Because Winooski School District is one of the most innovative, studentcentered schools in Vermont that looks like, and operates like the real world. WSD is a front runner in redesigning public schools to better meet the needs of, and educate our students for their future, and provides highly skilled and dedicated teachers. WSD operates with clarity as to its purpose, which it gets from YOU. Community input guided the school board as we wrote an ENDS statement, which defines what we want for our kids at the END of their Winooski education: college and career ready, locally and globally engaged, and leading healthy, productive and successful lives. We also want this publicly funded education to be reasonable for the community.

Our school district actively and intentionally uses our ENDS statement to guide what happens inside our schools, PreK-12. The school board governs by this statement and the administration leads by this statement. When there is a clear focus as to what we want for our kids, great things can happen.

Changing and redesigning public schools is not easy but it is necessary. Our job as your school board is to communicate with you about what's happening in our schools and why.

At right is a list of things our school is doing to make our ENDS statement come alive for our students. Please let us know if you have questions. Your sense of your school district matters to us.

Miss a School Board Meeting? Watch it Online!

Did you know you can watch Winooski School Board meetings on the internet on your own schedule? Visit www.retn.org and click on "Meetings" under the "Watch" heading. You will find Winooski School Board listed alphabetically at the bottom of the list of area schools. Clarity is the most important thing. I can compare clarity to pruning in gardening. You know, you need to be clear. If you are not clear, nothing is going to happen. You have to be clear. Then you have to be confident about your vision. And after that, you just have to put a lot of work in. — DIANE VON FURSTENBERG

ENDS Growth

Notes from the School Board Retreat – 9/10/2016

What we are doing to help our students become college and career ready:

- Student-Centered Learning (SCL) & Project-Based Learning (PBL)
 Graduate Expectations (GXs) & Graduate Proficiencies (GPs)
- Student Leadership: board reps, WMHS Community meetings, Leadership organizations & conferences
- Act 166 Preschool, Kindergarten entry date change
- Newcomer programming K-12
- Data systems: Attendance, Behavior, Reading, Math, NMEF Student & Teacher data
- Teachers receive the following:
 - Mentoring
 - Professional Development
 - Teaming: Pre-K, Elementary grade-level, Middle School, High School Houses
 - Retention data & discussion

Cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community

• Successful budgets with additional resources to support students

• Director of ELL & Curriculum, Wellness Coordinator, Data Manager, Special Education, ELL

Steps we are taking to help our students lead healthy, productive and successful lives

- Food Security: Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), VT Foodbank, Fresh Fruits & Vegetables, Backpack Program, VYCC school garden & crews
- Mindfulness & Movement: Center for Mindful Learning (CML), Spartans-In-Motion (SIM)
- Programs that guide student management
 - PBiS, HEART, Responsive Classroom/Developmental Designs, Advisory, Restorative Justice
- 21C Afterschool & Summer opportunities (GX related), supporting K-12 Early Release
- WHS-JFK student mentoring
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data

Manifestations of Local & Global Community Engagement

- Within Winooski: Senior Center, Winooski's Got Talent!, PeaceJam, SOVT/Penguin Plunge/Unified Sports, Back-To-School BBQ, interpretation equipment, Parents as Educational Partners (PEP), City-School collaboration, New cultural liaison positions
- Global: 35% of student population speak languages in addition to English

1-to-1 Computing Update

By Drew Blanchard, Technology Integration Specialist

For 2016-17, all students in grades 3-12 will have their own iPad or laptop as part of their own personalized learning environment. This may look different at different grade levels, but all share common expectations and agreements. These formal agreements were written by groups of students, then reviewed and approved by all their classmates. The agreements all begin with the words: "The purpose of technology used at school is to enhance learning. When asked, I will be able to explain how the technology I'm using is connected to the work I'm doing." From there, JFK, middle school and high school agreements include different details, to focus on things the students believe are most relevant to them.

We are working to ensure students are responsible digital citizens - and helping them learn from mistakes and missteps. At the same time, we empower and encourage our students, as they expand their understanding of what's possible when it comes to demonstrating their classroom learning. We expect students to be able to work and collaborate beyond the regular 8 - 3 school day; providing students with the technology necessary for doing so is a critical component of this plan.

The 2016-17 school year continues a major shift in the devices used by students in grades 6 - 9, as they dive more deeply into the world of ChromeBooks. The rapidly expanding opportunities and options afforded via Google Apps and Chrome Extensions makes it possible for us to do some incredible projects with students. A small number of iPads remain in the middle school, though - used mostly for ELL newcomers and for some specific projects which benefit from some paid apps on those devices.

ChromeBooks work extremely well for everything we ask students to do at school. They also have a battery which can last all day long, and cost about 1/3 as much as Mac laptops we used years ago. The lower cost of the laptops was not why we choose to go with ChromeBooks last year, but it's a nice bonus - and it allows us to spend money on other technologies which support students' learning. The pace of change in technology remains extremely rapid (and impressive), but ChromeBooks (unlike more traditional laptops) are able to keep themselves up-to-date at all times, which means never needing to make sure students have installed the latest updates, have the latest antivirus or anti malware installed, and generally makes this whole thing run much more smoothly.

Greetings from the New VSAC Gear Up Counselor

Hi All, I'm Liam Danaher and you will be seeing me around school all the time from here on out. I am the VSAC GEAR UP Counselor and I couldn't be happier about finding a home at Winooski. I am always available to help out any student, parent, or community member when it comes to all things career and college. If you've got an idea, I'm happy to help see it through! I will be in the library pretty much every Wednesday and Friday so feel free to swing in and introduce yourself.

If you prefer, my email is Danaher@ vsac.org or find me on Facebook.



Who Are You?

By Hal Colston, Director, Partnership for Change

As educators, do you ask your students, "Who are you?" Who might be showing up to learn today? Education is changing before our eyes because it must prepare our students for the challenges of the 21st century. According to a recent *New York Times* article, when kindergarteners entering school today graduate from high school, 65% percent of the jobs available to them have not yet been created. We need to know, who are you?

I feel that educators need to shift from teaching to the subject to teaching to the student. The one-size classroom for all does not work well today or for our future. Teaching to the student effectively



and meaningfully requires unconditional love. You may not like all of your students but loving them is critical. They know if you care. Then, they show up to learn.

I was fortunate to participate in a site visit to Puerto Rico in September 2014 sponsored by the Institute of Democratic Education in America. We visited an alternative elementary school, Diego Vazquez, in Caguas, PR. Caguas is about 45 minutes from San Juan and is notorious for being a poor community, riddled with violence and drugs, gangbanging, and parents in and out of jail. Diego Vazquez is one of the top performing elementary schools on the island!

How can this be? After our first hour of a daylong visit, it was obvious. Every adult in the school first and foremost loved every child. Then, they taught them. Education is a relational experience. Ask the question, who are you? Teaching today is about learning the answer to this question.

WELCOME NEW STAFF!



Welcome New JFK Staff

Back Row – Left to right: Emily Fisher, Teacher; Daniel Quigley, Instructional Assistant; Balla Sankareh, Behavior Interventionist; Brian Dalla Mura, Teacher; Ryan McFarling, Teacher; Amadeus Dorfman, Instructional Assistant

Front Row – Left to right: Lynn Garcia, Teacher; Amanda Babcock, Teacher; Amanda Mormile, Teacher; Rebecca Booth, Instructional Assistant; Allison Saft, Teacher

Welcome Other New Staff

NOTE: some new staffers were hired after school started or were not available to be included in the group shots above.

Photos row 1 (left to right): Catrina Hughs, District-wide SLP/ Teacher; Laura Zeena, Instructional Assistant, JFK/WMHS; Matthew Gile, District Librarian; Katharine Monje, Nurse

Photos row 2 (left to right) Joshua Neilson, Instructional Assistant, JFK; Lisa Borducci, Instructional Assistant, JFK; Claire Gustafson, Behavior Interventionist, JFK; Krista Parisi, Administrative Assistant, JFK

Missing: Kristi Theise, District Home School Coordinator; Jenal Dumas, Instructional Assistant, JFK; Scott Brown, Instructional Assistant, WMHS; Rebecca Trayner, Instructional Assistant, WMHS; Lisa Italiano, Teacher, WMHS



Welcome New Middle/High School Staff

Left to right: Amanda Spencer WMS Teacher/Guidance Counselor; Stephanie Hackett, Tutor Coordinator; Lindsey Cox, Teacher; Elise McCormick, Teacher; Heather Win, Teacher



CITY AND SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support Winooski Youth Baseball/ Softball League

By Jeff Brosseau

Help support Winooski Youth Baseball/Softball by subscribing to our 32nd edition of the Community Birthday Calendar. Calendars are \$8.00 for (5) listings, listings could be a birthday, anniversary, in memory of or military service, each additional listings would be .25 cents. Advertisement spaces are also available, ad blocks are 1 3/4"x 1 ¼" in size for \$75.00. Calendar orders will be place October 15th for arrival around Thanksgiving, makes a wonderful Holiday Gift. For more information contact Jeff Brosseau 233-5530, Jeffrey.brosseau@ greenmountainpower.com

Almost Time for the Festival of Pumpkins!

The **Festival of Pumpkins** will take place in the roundabout on Saturday October 29th and Sunday 30th beginning at dusk, pending city approval. We are looking for candles for the pumpkins (votives or pillars) and if anyone would like to donate candy for the treat bags, we would be grateful. Items can be dropped off at Sally's Flower Shop or we can pick them up.

To volunteer to help carve and decorate pumpkins in advance, please join us at the Senior Center on Barlow Street on Saturday Oct. 22nd from 9:00 to 6:00 or Sunday October 23rd from 9:00 until we're done. Students must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call Sally at 655-3894.



Free Internet Safety Classes

HealthSource education programs and healthy lifestyle classes are offered by Community Health Improvement at The University of Vermont Medical Center. The Internet Safety Courses listed below are free. Pre-registration is required by calling (802) 847-7222 or registering online at UVMHealth.org/MedCenterHealthsource.

Internet Safety Series Part 1:

"Electronic Communications, Your Best Friend or Worst Enemy"

Detective Corporal Rene Young, Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations This presentation for parents will cover a range of topics including cyber bullying, online predators, reputation preservation, and sexting. Detective Corporal Rene Young is assigned to the Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations, and also works as an Outreach Specialist for VT Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. There will be plenty of time for questions. Light refreshments will be served and childcare may be available based on demand.

Thursday, October 27, 6:00 – 7:00 pm | Winooski School District

Internet Safety Series Part 2:

A Compassionate Approach to Discussing Tough Topics with Teens: Navigating the World of Social Media, Sex and High-risk Behaviors

Kathy Batty, LICSW/Middle School Counselor and Angela Arsenault, Editor at Parent.co and author of "Teens, Sex, and Social Media." Growing up in 2016, adolescents experience a large portion of their social life and interpersonal interactions online. This workshop will teach parents how to talk to their kids about the digital footprints that they leave behind. Caregivers will learn how to set boundaries and create respectful expectations while maintaining an open line of communication. Light refreshments will be served and childcare may be available based on demand.

Monday, November 14, 6:00 – 7:30 pm | Winooski School District

Our Famous Calcutta Is Here Again!

Don't Miss This Fabulous Chance to Win \$1,000 Friday, November 4, 2016 at the RVA In Winooski Happy Hour Begins At 5:30 pm — First Ball At 6:30 pm

Each ticket admits (2) two and is the same price as last year \$50

Appetizers served during Happy Hour Don't worry if you can't make the event, You Can Still Play!

<u>For more information</u> –To buy a ticket or to get involved, contact us -Website - <u>www.Winooski.dollarsforscholars.org</u>; on <u>Facebook!</u> Or Email us at <u>winooskidfs@gmail.com</u>

We Look Forward To Helping Our Graduating Students Succeed With Your Support! DFS of Winooski is one of the two chapters in Vermont!

> Winooski Dollars for SCHOLARS[®] A Program of Scholarship America[®]

Winooski Memorial Library in Partnership with Winooski School District

By Suzanne Skaflestad

Are you looking for help with your homework? Do you want to work with a tutor on math, science, English, or history? Do you want help with your college applications. Come to the Winooski Memorial Library from 6 to 9 pm, Monday through Thursday, for Homework Help. There are computers, school supplies, and tutors ready to help you!

Come Out and Support Boys' Varsity Soccer!

By Coach Stephen Feiss

The Winooski High School Boys' Varsity Soccer Team has followed up their trip to the State Semi-Finals last season by starting off this fall undefeated with a 3-0 record.

Come watch the boys play at one of our October home games:

- Saturday 10/8, Danville
- (Homecoming) 1:30 pm
- Thursday 10/13, Hazen, 4:00 pm
- Saturday 10/15, Oxbow, 11:00 am
- Friday 10/21, BFA Fairfax, 6:00 pm



Senior Pictures are due to Mrs. Bruce, Yearbook Advisor, by

DECEMBER 1st, 2016 via email: jbruce@wsdschools.org

SAVE THE DATE

STEM Family Fun Night!

Mark your calendars for **Thursday**, **November 3**, 2016 for the third annual STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) Family Fun Night for Winooski Middle and High School!

Bring the whole family to enjoy an evening of active learning; from investigating the microscopic world, to hands-on activities for the Junior Scientists, to watching our legendary Egg-Drop Competition. All activities will be hosted by our middle and high school students; future scientists, engineers and mathematicians. Parents, brothers and sisters will get an inside view of what it means to "do STEM" at our school.

Begins at 6:00 p.m. with dinner and concludes at 8:00 p.m. Join us in the cafeteria for a smorgasbord of great food and fun—all free of charge!

WHS Online Store is Open and Welcomes Donations

By Courtney Poquette

The Winooski Business Department students are starting their own online store to learn about business and to raise money for upcoming field trips.

We welcome donations of new and like new small household items. Books, video games, and DVDs are also great donations. We are also still in search of board games which may be sold or used for our Business of Board Games class.

Donations can be dropped off at the school during business hours. You may also contact Courtney Poquette at 383-6192 or cpoquette@wsdschools.org with questions about what we will accept. Thank you!



You're Invited!

Storytelling and Free Book Giveaway!

When: Wednesday, October 19th @ 6pm Where: O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Avenue, Winooski

 Join CLiF for a FUN and INTERACTIVE storytelling for both children and parents.



- Every child in attendance will get to choose **TWO NEW BOOKS** to take home and keep!
- Parents will be offered a literacy seminar with interpreters on site.



Join the PTO and Help Our School!

The Winooski School District is in need of new members to be a part of the K-12 PTO. If you are interested in being a part of this really fun committee, please e-mail Lisa Goetz at lgoetz@winooski.k12.vt.us.

In addition, the PTO is continuing to collect Box Tops this year. Please have your child bring them to school. Last year we earned \$1,000! Funds raised support end-of-year field trips, teacher grants, and much more. Please join us!



JFK ELEMENTARY NEWS

September News from JFK

By Sara Raabe - JFK Elementary School Principal

JFK has had an amazing start to our school year. The students and staff came back excited to learn and grow together.

September is always a busy month at schools. We had our JFK PBiS kick off, with the district wide expectations of HEART (Honest, Engaged, Appropriate, Responsible, and Timely) being introduced and directly taught in grade Pre-Kindergarten through 12th. Students as JFK are hearing HEARTS left and right as acknowledgments for following our district wide expectations.

At JFK, the only homework that students receive is nightly reading. At the community BBQ in August, we put out tables of free books for students and families to take home to support the expectation of nightly reading. During the week of September 19th, we had our bi-annual Scholastic Book Fair. This event is another opportunity for our families to get high quality, low cost books into their students hands.

I wanted to thank everyone who have been so wonderful with our new entry plan. The plan to have everyone enter through the main lobby was developed with input from local law enforcement and is based on making the school safe for all students. Adults are, as always, welcome to walk their students to their classrooms in the morning. In addition, we highly encourage our families to volunteer in classrooms or to come have lunch with their student(s).

October promises to be another busy and productive month. We have a new group of teachers starting a three year cycle of embedded math professional development. This group of 16 teachers will work together with our math coach, Stefanie Hamble, and a consultant from Teachers Development Group to increase our students mathematical achievement and understanding. This is our second group of teachers going through this intensive 3 year professional development cycle.

Enjoy the beautiful Vermont fall weather!

Learning through Games!

By Kari Osha, Special Educator

Welcome back for another exciting school year at John F. Kennedy Elementary School! As we get started this year I wanted to share with you some great resources for additional literacy and math practice that can be done at home throughout the school year. All the links below are free and do not require a subscription to access the games.

http://www.starfall.com – A wonderful site for early literacy skills starting with letters and moving into short interactive storybooks. Also available as an iPad app for a small fee.

http://www.thekidzpage.com/learninggames/index.htm - A variety of games and puzzles with academic and logic themes. Would be best for upper elementary students.

http://www.funbrain.com/kidscenter.html - Many games for upper elementary age and middle school students. Games are conveniently labeled with subject area on each game tab.

http://www.abcya.com - These gamea are organized by grade level pre-k through 5th grade and then by subject area. This site offers a large variety of educational games and puzzles. This site also is accessible with a tablet.

Making learning fun and enjoyable is the key to getting children engaged in additional practice activities. Hopefully you will find these sites useful in your home!

Happy School Year!

Physical Education Fun in 2016

By Kyle Blindow

The JFK Physical Education (PE) program is run by Kyle Blindow and Dennis Barcomb. This year, we are embedding Responsive Classroom techniques into our teaching. Additionally, we will incorporate interactive modeling and guided discovery strategies to help our students improve cognitively in physical activities and sports. Students will not only have PE twice a week just for physical activity, but we will also try to foster the knowledge of how using teamwork and personal strategies, can benefit them in and out of the physical education setting.

These are just a few of the underlying principles that we will install into our PE curriculum. The first 6 weeks, students will be involved in: introductory ice breakers, responsive classroom behavior practicing, name games, energizers, team building activities, and modified class games. Our units in the curriculum are all varied based on age and level of experience. The autumn will consist of learning the fundamentals of soccer and fitness testing. Kindergarten and 1st will have an added motor skills unit, throwing and catching, and balancing unit. The winter will entail basketball, floor hockey, jump roping, and volleyball. The spring will bring base sports, disc throwing, tennis, and track and field. We are hoping to have a very fun year in PE at JFK!

JFK Afterschool

By Mag Thomas

The first session of JFK Afterschool programs are off and running! We are excited to be able to offer some new programs this year, along with "old" favorites. We are pleased to be able to continue our partnership with the Vermont Youth Orchestra again this year. The programs run from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm, and a healthy meal is also provided. This session will run for seven weeks. Parents and guardians are always welcomed to stop in and check out the wonderful learning that is taking place.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Habits That Will Change Your Future

By Leon Wheeler, Principal, WMHS

Soon parents and guardians of middle/high school students will be receiving the first progress report for the year. As we continue build our proficiency-based learning system there is an important change you will notice in the report. The focus of the progress report for these initial four weeks of school will be on three important learning habits: Attendance; Timeliness; and Work Completion. To honor semester-long learning and provide meaningful information, a formal grade won't be given until the end of the semester.

Attendance: Being in school and in class allows for the student to interact with classmates and the teacher in learning, including giving and receiving feedback that can support deeper learning for the student, classmates, and the teacher. It builds a habit of being responsible.

Timeliness: Being timely is a habit that demonstrates caring, confidence, and commitment. It values the group that is gathered in the room and ready to share an experience together. It also affirms that each student is important for having a strong classroom community.

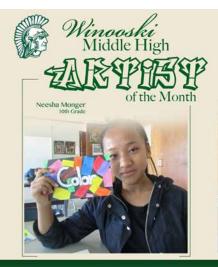
Work Completion: Completing appropriately challenging assignments builds the habit of being engaged. Implied within this habit is that the student is doing one's best, communicating with the teacher when work is either too challenging or not challenging enough, and persisting when the going gets tough.

Three habits. Each is doable. And as they are done consistently over time, they will be empowering.

Take a moment to read again the quotes at the beginning of this article.

In the Winooski Middle High School we are making a declaration to each student: Build these habits...and these habits will build your future! You have a bright future, and can live the life you dream!

Happy October! And Welcome Fall!

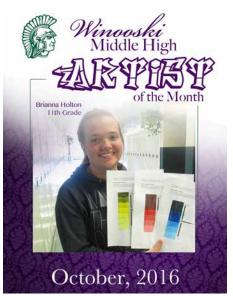


September, 2016

Artists of the Month

By Jessica Bruce, Art Teacher

Congrats to Neesha Monger. She has started the year off well, creating beautiful Elements of Art Cards in Art1. Her commitment to her craft is infectious!



Congrats to Brianna Holton. In Painting Foundations, Brianna already shows promise with her painting skills, creative eye, and application. Keep on rocking it, girl!

WMS/WHS Afterschool Program Schedule for Session I (Sept-Oct 28th)

By Suzanne Skaflestad, 21st CCLC Director

(All programs meet from 3-4 unless indicated otherwise.)

Please contact Suzanne Skaflestad, 21st CCLC Director if you are interested in any on the programs below. Some classes may also be offered in a future session so now is the time to get your name on the list!

Remember, you do not need to preregister for HS Core Support programs. Just come in to get the help you need. **MONDAYS**

- Learn Kempo JiuJitsu for grades 6th-9th girls with Ms. Keller in Cafeteria
- HS Academic Support with Ms. Hackett in Room 209
- HS Technology Core Support with Ms. Poquette in Room 211

TUESDAYS

- Learn to Sew with Ms. Maughan in Room 113 (meets until 4:30)
- Middle School Core Support in Reading and Writing with Ms Sherrer in Room 108
- HS Math Core Support with Mrs. Mellen in Room 206
- HS Math Core Support with Ms. Thibodeau in Room 208
- HS Science Core Support with Ms. Bundy in Room 201
- HS Language Arts Core Support with Mr. Steele in Room 209

WEDNESDAYS

- Mindfulness in Coloring and Poetry with Ms. Sherrer in Room 108
- Brass with Ms. Fritze and Mr. Argraves in Room 45
- HS Academic Support with Ms. Hackett in Room 209

THURSDAYS

- Percussion with Mr. Argraves and Nic Cannizzaro in Room 45
- Woodworking with Sawmill Studios for grades 6th-8th in the Cafeteria
- HS Peace Jam with Ms. Mason and Ms. Mezetovic Room 208
- HS Technology Core Support with Ms. Poquette in Room 211

FRIDAYS

• JiuJitsu for grades 6th-12th with Mrs. Keller and Sensei Quinlan in the Cafeteria

COMMUNITY NEWS

City Council Update

By Brian Corrigan

Hello community members, my hope is that this time finds us healing, and progressing forward from the last month of unfortunate occurrences. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the hard working Vermont State

Police. Their cooperation and professionalism has been beyond reproach. Thanks also go out to Chief Hebert and his crew for their support and handling of the events of late. And as always thanks to city staff that were already stretched thin. The grace and dignity that all these folks showed and worked with is bright spot in a dark moment, thank you.

As the weather turns the corner, and our outside activities become fewer and fewer. Take this opportunity to find, follow, and be involved in some community meetings. I found that at every meeting I've been to, members are open to all that have an opinion on the topics being discussed. Who knows — there may be an opportunity to develop new passions you didn't know you had!

Let's also not forget to support your local Spartans in their quest for championships in whatever sport they are involved with. There is no better motivator for athletes then to have their community come out and fill the stadium in support of their efforts. In that vein I would like to give thanks to our school board and superintendant who are really working hard day in and day out for the good of our students regardless of their circumstances. Our school district is something we should truly be proud of, GO SPARTANS!!!!!

In closing, in case you hadn't heard or read, the city has just authorized the funds for a second sidewalk plow! Our hopes are that this will allow us to make our streets more functional, faster, for our walking community. Please be patient as we work on the best routes, at the best time to support our walking public.

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone		
Mayor Seth Leonard	sleonard@winooskivt.org	802-777-3381		
Councilor Brian Corrigan	bcorrigan@winooskivt.org	802-999-9270		
Councilor Nicole Mace	nmace@winooskivt.org	802-363-7777		
Councilor Robert Millar	rmillar@winooskivt.org	802-238-0089		
Councilor Brian Sweeney	bsweeney@winooskivt.org	802-734-6902		
City Manager Deac Decarreau	deac@winooskivt.org	802-655-6410		
Visit the city website at winooskivt.org or call 802-655-6410.				

Keep up to date with announcements and news:



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK We are "City of Winooski - Government" FOLLOW US ON TWITTER We are @winooskivt

Miss a City meeting? Watch online!

Channel 17/Town Meeting TV regularly covers and airs **Winooski City Council** and **Development Review Board meetings**. Tune in to Channel 17 on Thursday nights at 8 for regular Winooski community content or visit www.cctv.org/watch-tv/ municipalities/winooski. Do you want to learn to make your own video programs about life in Winooski? Contact morourke@cctv.org to find out about group or one-on-one trainings.



Free Weekly Playgroups offered at Winooski Family Center!

Playgroups are an opportunity for children to build social and literacy and skills and engaging in fun activities that will help build a foundation for future learning and Kindergarten readiness.

It is also a place where parents can gain support, learn about and access resources and meet other parents from their community.

All parents, caregivers, grandparents with children 0-5 years are welcome.

Playgroups are held **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** from 9:30-11:30am at the Winooski Family Center in the O'Brien Community Center at 32 Mallets Bay Ave.

Please call us at 655-1422 or email mkerkering@howardcenter.org for more information.

Join Us — Friends of the Winooski Library Annual Meeting

Our meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25th at 7 pm at the O'Brien Community Center:

- Updates on Our Activities
- Election of Officers
- Refreshments

Questions? Email us at WinooskiFOL@gmail.com or come to our meeting.

Free Coffee and Socializing!

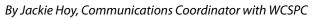
By Sister Pat McKittrick

The WCSPC UVM Medical Center and Starbucks sponsor:

- Free coffee hour at the O'Brien Community Center every Friday from 9 AM-11 AM
- Blood pressure screening on the 1st Friday of the month from 9 AM -11 AM.

It's a great opportunity to meet and greet your neighbors, and we hope you'll join us!

News from the Winooski Coalition for a Safe & Peaceful Community



WCSFC

Winooski Coalition for a

Safe and Peaceful Community

The Winooski Coalition hopes students and teachers had a wonderful return to the school year! We're looking forward to a great year, and we're excited to continue to

work to ensure a safe and engaging environment in which kids can grow and learn in Winooski. As we continue to face challenges, we invite students, parents, and members of the community to get involved in keeping our town safe and healthy.

Get Involved: Last school year, the Winooski Above the Influence (ATI) groups made amazing strides in raising awareness about the dangers of tobacco's influence on the community. This year, ATI intends to keep up the good work. ATI will be working to call attention to the dangers of substance abuse and misuse, and to educate the community on issues related to marijuana and alcohol.

Information for Parents: Now is the time to talk to your kids about the choices they'll be making this school year, and about the social pressures they may face. Studies show that children whose parents talk to them about the risks of drug use are significantly less likely to use drugs and alcohol (Partnership for Drug Free Kids' 2012 Partnership Attitude Tracking Study). Get the conversation started, spend time listening to you kids' concerns. For tips on how to open up to your kids about the pressures of substance abuse, visit the ParentUp for Vermont website at parentupyt.org.

Upcoming Events: National Drug Take Back Day is coming up on October 22nd! Drug Take Back Day is a great opportunity to educate the public about the dangers of prescription drug misuse, and also to safely dispose of unused medications. Thanks to the Winooski Police Department, the Vermont Department of Health, Chittenden Prevention Network, and volunteers for your support and hard work!

The next community dinner will be held on Wednesday, October 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the O'Brien Community Center. CLiF will be providing interactive storytelling, along with a free book for every child who attends! For more information please contact Kate Nugent at (802)655-4565 or katenugent@wcspc.org. We hope to see you there!

Weekend Islamic School

By Amina Basha

It has been an exciting and fun summer for the students at the Weekend Islamic School (WIS). Like most of you, we are glad the cooler weather is coming, and the students are getting ready for a great year of changes and growth in their education and character.

WIS is now back in session, with classes held each Sunday morning. We currently have 90 students enrolled with on-going registration for a few classes with some availability. The school groups students together by age and grade level as they study Arabic reading, writing, and Quran memorization. The students also learn Islamic knowledge, study skills, and character values that will benefit them throughout their educational journeys.

This year, WIS has a new community service volunteer, Kiran Waqar. She has made a huge difference in the lives of the children already, and the year has just started! Each week, Kiran and the community service team plan an activity for different classes that focuses on giving back to the community. These activities include coloring cards to give to the elderly in local assisted living facilities, planning a food/clothing drive, making goodie bags for children at the hospital, and so much more.

WIS also plans to hold a 5-week swim class on Saturdays at the YMCA for the young girls in the community. We have learned that so many girls have never been given the opportunity to learn how to swim. WIS, in partnership with the YMCA, hopes to make this dream a reality for these young women.

As always you can reach the Weekend Islamic School at board@vtweekendschool.org with any questions about registration or school activities.

Police Department Outreach – October

By Scott D. McGivern, Lieutenant, Winooski Police Department

Hopefully the kids have settled into a routine by now. Overall there appears to be awareness and compliance by motorists of the school buses and crossing guards. When available, officers are trying to be visible in the areas where the school crossing guards are working. If you do see a vehicle not respond to a school bus flashing red lights or to a crossing guard, please try to obtain the license plate of the vehicle involved and contact the police department. (802) 655- 0227.

I find that clothing for fall and winter is typically dark colored. As winter approaches, the amount of daylight decreases. Please remind your children they may not be readily visible to motorists because of these environmental factors. Remind them to only cross the streets where there are cross walks and preferably crossing guards.

I would like to remind everyone the police department does have a Facebook page and an Internet site. If you were not aware of these, take sometime to view them. We try to keep use these resources as another way to keep the community informed. Also the police department has a school resource officer on the school grounds during school hours. His name is Officer David Solomon.

Halloween comes at the end of the month. Have an adult or responsible person escort your children while they go out and Trick or Treat. Have your child Trick or Treat with friends and not go out alone. Reflective tape or clothing applied to costumes will help make your child more visible. Always inspect the candy when they come home to be sure it is safe and not tampered with. When any packaging appears to be opened throw out the candy. If you suspect candy has been tampered with contact the police department.

Girl Scouts Update — Please Join Us!

By Amy Lothrop

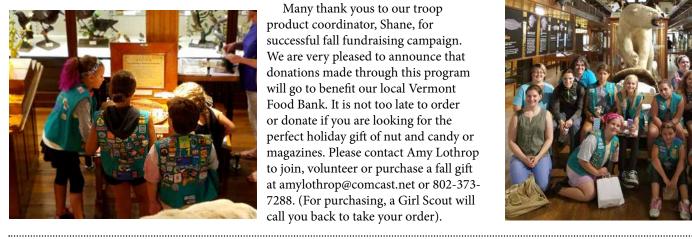
Troop 30187 is excited to be back to school. We had a great summer even though the weather rained out our camping trip. Girl Scouts are prepared and flexible so we went instead to the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium in Saint Johnsbury, Vermont. We learned about the summer night sky and Perseid meteor showers.

We have a busy year planned with community service projects: Walk to End Alzheimer's, Winooski's food shelf, Dollars for Scholars, Malala fund, Green Up day and Our Ladies of Providence.

We will earn badges and go on adventures to Fort Ticonderoga, hiking and camping trips. Our Color Guard has been invited to local events where we also perform the Vermont State Song. Stayed tuned for monthly updates on our progress in Take Action projects like the Bronze Award and our Get Out the Vote campaign.

Our new year starts on October 1st, so it is never too late to join us. Every girl from Kindergarten to 12th grade can participate. We'd like to welcome back our veteran Girl Scouts -- Aaliyah, Alexis, Amira, Amoni, Ashley, Bianca, Brianna, Ciara, Fama, Gabriella, Gloria, Hailey, Halima, Isabella, Khadija, Natayah, Olivia, Taraji, Tayshia, Thera and Zoe.

Troop 30187 is proud to welcome new girls -- Annalise, Carmen, Grace, Hailie, Kianalee, Marissa, Netalya, Ocean, Peyton, Saige, Sonyeh and Tasneem. We are also very lucky to have 6 dedicated leaders -- Amy, Annaliese, Bethany, Emily, Jennifer and Michelle -- whose commitment makes all of this possible. We would be remiss if we didn't show our appreciation to the parents who bring snack, help out at meetings and so much more -- Alice, Josh, Kim, Mark, Rebecca, Stacey, Susan, Tabatha, Tonya and Trena.



Many thank yous to our troop product coordinator, Shane, for successful fall fundraising campaign. We are very pleased to announce that donations made through this program will go to benefit our local Vermont Food Bank. It is not too late to order or donate if you are looking for the perfect holiday gift of nut and candy or magazines. Please contact Amy Lothrop to join, volunteer or purchase a fall gift at amylothrop@comcast.net or 802-373-7288. (For purchasing, a Girl Scout will call you back to take your order).

Mindfulness Continues, **Available Online, Too!**

- What: Guided Mindfulness Practice and Discussion
- Where: Winooski Senior Center
- When: Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

The Winooski community continues to practice mindfulness together each Thursday evening at 6:30pm, led by volunteer Andrea O'Connor. Since January of 2016, these sessions have been recorded and uploaded to the school website. Now you can listen to them by visiting this link: www.wsdschools.org/ mindfulness-in-winooski/

Winooski Library Update

By Amanda Perry

Did you know that with your library card, you can now access OneClickDigital Ebooks and Downloadable Audiobooks? There are over 2600 adult books and 900 children's books. You may check out up to 15 audio books at one time for up to 21 days. Visit winooskilibrary.wordpress.com to get started!





Stay in Touch: Join **Front Porch Forum!**

Front Porch Forum's mission is to help neighbors connect and foster community within the neighborhood.

Go to www.frontporchforum. **com** to sign up for this free community resource. You'll get a daily email with news and announcements from neighbors and city officials. It's a great way to stay connected with everything that is going on in our city. And it's FREE!

Senior Center News

By Barb Pitfido, Winooski Senior Programs Manager

Every Autumn we busy ourselves with activities that are full of friends, family and food! The Senior Center is no different. We have many opportunities for seniors to come in and share a meal, tell a story (or two) and engage with the community. Our focus is on providing folks a friendly place to come to spend time and an affordable alternative to dining out. We value nutrition and understand that seniors might need help to decrease feelings of isolation. We offer \$4.00 (by donation) CVAA meals with an enhanced "Fixin's Bar" that is sure to give seniors a great meal at a great price... and with great company! If you know a senior that could benefit from any of our programs OR if you would like to volunteer your time, please call us! We always have room at our table!

COMING UP

- Oct 11 Senior Lunch & Meeting
- Oct 12 AARP Smart Driver Class
- Oct 22/23 Pumpkin Carving
- Oct 25 Senior B'day Lunch
- Oct 27 Halloween BINGO!
- Center Closed Nov 7-11 for cleaning
- Nov 15 Senior Lunch & Meeting
- Nov 16 Thanksgiving Lunch RSVP

EVERY MONTH

- Senior Lunch & Meeting (2nd Tuesday 11:30a lunch, 12:30p meeting) Prices and menu vary. RSVP
- **Do Drop In** (Mon 9-11a) FREE! Join us for coffee, treats and great conversation!FREE!
- **Tai Chi** Mondays 10-11am advanced class, 11-12pm for arthritis, 5:30-6:30pm for wellness FREE!
- **Open Art Studio** (Wed 9a-12p) Try a new skill and be creative with fellow art & craft lovers. Snacks provided. FREE!
- **Community Lunch** (Thurs 11:30a) Join us for a great lunch and great company! \$4 over 60yr, \$5 under 60yr RSVP
- **BINGO!** (Thurs 12:30p) Always a blast! Free Popcorn! \$10.00
- Senior Birthday Lunch (Last Tuesday 11:30a) Lunch and Birthday celebration \$4.00. RSVP

Learn character from trees, values from roots and change from leaves. — Tasneem Hameed

• **Van rides** to The Winooski Food Shelf, Shaws, Hannaford's & the Mall and the Winooski Memorial Library. Call for times. FREE!

The Winooski Senior Center.... the most exciting place in Winooski! We are located at 123 Barlow Street. Office hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm, Thursdays until 2:30pm. You can reach us by phone at 802-655-6425 or by email at seniorcenter@winooskivt.org







Bernie Smith doesn't mind getting into character with Barb on theme Bingo days!



Above: Alyce Piche always dresses up for our theme parties!

Left: Nan entertains us with some dancing during our luau.

Below left: Maddie Audy had a great time volunteering this summer with us.

Below right: Carole Sabourin loves volunteering to make every meal special!



Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for October

By Linda Howe

Saturday, October 8th	9:30 am to 11:30 am	Fresh fruit and veggies, bread, pastry and deli items
Wednesday, October 12th	2 pm to 4:30 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
Saturday, October 22th	9:30 am to 11:30 am	Fresh fruit and veggies, bread, pastry and deli items
Wednesday, October 26th	2 pm to 4:30 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs

Food Shelf policy: Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. Folks can come both Saturdays to stock up on bread, pastry and some fresh fruit and veggies. Hannaford's provides Saturday's food. New clients should bring proof of Winooski residency such as a utility bill.

Any Winooski resident in need is welcome. You might have just lost a job, become ill or injured and can't work, had a new baby or have large medical bills. We all have experienced sudden life changes. The Food Shelf is here to help support you. For questions call <u>318-0460</u>.

Where to find us: The Winooski Food Shelf is located in the United Methodist Church at the corner of West Allen and Follett Streets. There is a bus stop on that corner. We do not provide rides so please bring a wheeled cart or suitcase and some reusable bags to lug your food home.

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Health Office Coordinator

We are off to a busy start this year in the health office! Katharine and I are seeing about 70-100 kids daily right now! With that said, here is some food for thought:

If you have not already done so, please fill out the emergency health information sheet and return it to the school ASAP.

If you have a student K-2 we highly recommend that you place an extra set of clothes in their backpack in case of an accident. We have limited items in the health office.

We will begin hearing and vision screenings in the health office this month. You will be notified if your child's results are outside of the normal limits.

It's never too early to start thinking about flu shots! Call your doctor to make your appointment today!

It is extremely important to make sure that our office has the most up to date phone number on file in case of an emergency. If your phone number changes throughout the school year please make sure to update the main office and health office.

Our dental transportation to VT Dental begins on September 20th. If you would like your child to be a part of this amazing service, please contact our Tooth Tutor, Diane Polson, at dpolson@ wsdschools.org or contact the health office at 383-6094.

Tooth Tutor Update

By Diane Polson, RDH

Welcome Back Students! If you are in need of dental care or have not been seen by a dentist in the past year, I am here to help. I work under the State's Tooth Tutor Program. The goal of this program is to make sure all students have access to dental care and are seen at least once every year for preventive care. Please make sure you have sent in your Health Information Card complete with dental information (name of dentist or dental practice and date of last visit - within the last school year).

I will be in the Health Office alternating Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please stop by or call me if you have any dental concerns or questions, 802.383.6094. Also, remember to visit www.wsdschools.org for information on our school based dental program with Vermont Dental Care. Make it a Great School Year!

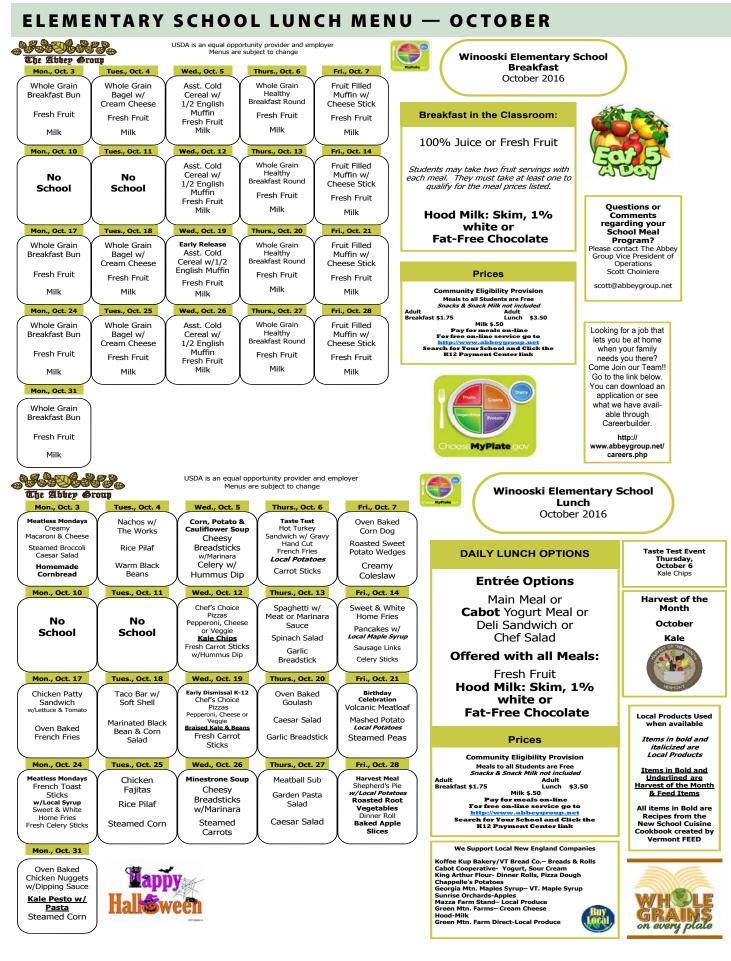
TAKE ACTION TO IMPROVE HEART HEALTH

Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring. Work with a Healthy Heart Ambassador to learn how to manage high blood pressure.

Greater Burlington YMCA, Winooski Branch 32 Malletts Bay Ave, Winooski, VT 05404

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT : Denise Schomody, dschomody@gbymca.org or (802) 652–8195 OR Kristin Magnant, kmagnant@gbymca.org or (802) 652–8196





Newsletter of the Winooski School District

Winooski School District 60 Normand Street Winooski, VT 05404 NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID BURLINGTON, VT PERMIT #361

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Winooski Middle and High School Principal: Leon Wheeler 802-655-3530 Iwheeler@wsdschools.org

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WSD ENDS STATEMENT

All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community.

ABOUT OUR DISTRICT

The Winooski School District is a PreK through 12 system that is housed in one educational center. At press time, there were 410 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 161 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 234 attending Winooski High School (grades 9-12).

One of the most diverse school districts in the state of Vermont, Winooski's teachers and staff are highly involved in professional development programs that help increase student achievement, address the needs of a diverse student population, and allow students to thrive in an engaging environment with high expectations.

"District News!" is published by the Winooski School District, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404. Anne Linton Elston, Editor. Phone: 802-655-0942. Email: aelston@wsdschools.org

www.wsdschools.org