

VOTE August 26!
 SEE PAGE 15 FOR
 DETAILS ABOUT
 THE PRIMARY

ALSO INCLUDES
Community News!
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WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 11

AUGUST 2014

1-to-1 Computing Update

by Drew Blanchard, Technology Integration Specialist

Looking back over the 2013-14 school year, I'm amazed by the work done by our students and staff. Middle school students shaped our new 1-to-1 iPad initiative - helping create the rules and expectations for how and when these devices would be used. They set high expectations for themselves, and held themselves accountable. Using the iPads in the classrooms was a big learning process for all, and our students took to this with gusto. For many, the freedom to select an app which best fit their way of thinking about a topic was revolutionary. As they became more familiar and comfortable with the iPads and apps, work began to change. Assignments became more interactive and collaborative, with an expectation students would demonstrate a deeper level of understanding the content. Students were expected to frequently reflect on their own work and progress, but had greater flexibility in *how* they chose to show and share these reflections. The initial excitement of the iPad as a new, bright shiny thing began to change into the realization iPads are actually powerful tools which allow students to carry around their own personal learning environment.



One of the most exciting things about our 1-to-1 iPad initiative was seeing students discover that, in many ways, *they* are the experts. Teachers often relied on the students to help demonstrate how to use the different apps and tools available on the iPads or the Internet. Students were encouraged to try new apps and evaluate them, to see if the app better met the needs of the assignment or the needs of a particular learning style. It was fascinating (and exciting) to see students critically evaluating the pros and cons of different apps and tools as they sought ways to demonstrate their learning. Teachers were not expected to be "tech experts." Rather, students explored, shared, and learned together - and the teacher evaluated the quality of the final products as a demonstration of understanding the classroom content and topics.

There was a definite learning curve. We now deeply understand how critical it is to ensure students act as responsible "digital citizens," and help ensure devices are always used appropriately. As Spider Man's Uncle Ben said, "With great power comes great responsibility."

We also learned how frustrating or cumbersome it can be when a student gets locked out of their iPad because they forgot their password, accidentally deleted an app, forgot to save their work, etc.. To help smooth out some of these technical issues, Bryan Thompson is setting up a

different way to manage the iPads. Ideally, passwords and apps can be reset or restored remotely. This will help eliminate down time, and ensure students have increased access to their work and projects.

For high school students, allowing them year-round access to their laptops has always been part of the plan. Over the summer, students often need their computers for Senior Project work, summer school, documenting community service hours, college applications etc.. Students who showed they were responsible digital citizens during the school year, and who kept their laptop safe, were encouraged to write a plan stating how and why they needed their laptop for the summer. Students had to coordinate with a teacher about that plan, and got permission from parents or guardians before they could keep their laptop for the summer. There was a small increase in the number of students ineligible for this summer plan, however - and a corresponding increase in the number of incidents which required repairs (usually, a cracked screen) in 2013 - 14. Two years ago, the students themselves created the rules and expectations (and consequences) for our 1-to-1 laptop program, and the vast majority have been successful in safeguarding their devices. We'll need their help to solve this rise in the number of problems, and help ensure all are eligible to keep their laptop next summer.

For 2014-15, *all* students in grades 5 - 12 will have their own iPad or laptop. Although this will look different at different grade levels (for example, 5th graders may not take their iPads out of school) the expectations are the same. We will work to ensure students are responsible digital citizens - and help them learn from mistakes and missteps. At the same time, we will empower and encourage them as they expand their understand of what's possible.

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How are Winooski students preparing for the future?

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

We all know that the world continues to change at an exponential rate and schools, in partnership with communities, have the formidable task of preparing students for this rapidly 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 these 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 and Problem Solving:** I ask challenging questions, examine complex problems, and identify and propose solutions.
- **Physical, Social, and Emotional Well-Being:** I identify my strengths and weakness and take intentional steps to grow.
- **Effective Oral and Written Communication:** I am skillful at

taking in and expressing ideas in multiple ways.

- **Engagement in Learning:** I am creative, curious, and committed in my learning.
- **Persistence:** I accept the challenge of difficult or long-term problems, and I push myself to reach my goals.
- **Cross-Cultural Understanding and Community Engagement:** I know and appreciate different people, cultures, and perspectives, and participate in the life of my community and the greater world.

Second, 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.

This past June elementary teachers began a multiyear professional development endeavor which combines our GXs with these important content areas. It is called **Project-Based Learning:**

Eight Essentials of Project-Based Learning (PBL)

- Significant Content
- A Need to Know
- A Driving Question
- Student Voice & Choice
- 21st Century Competencies
- In-Depth Inquiry
- Critique and Revision
- Public Audience

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 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 in their relative infancy that have shown great results thus far such as Social Thinking, Mindfulness and Spartans-In-Motion (SIM) and various food security initiatives.

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!

You can reach me at (802) 383-6000 or via email at smcmannon@wdschools.org.

From The School Board

By Tori Cleiland, Board of School Trustees

Happy August!

The start of another school year, with

all the potential, promise and possible cause of stress for students, teachers and families, is cruising toward us. Reflecting back while looking forward to potential and promise, the work of the Graduation Expectation Team (GX Team) stands out. As a parent on the team, I want to share more about the work. The GX Team finished up two years of serving as **“leadership team to coordinate the development and implementation of Proficiency-based Graduation Expectations (PBGRs).”** The charge of the team was to “ensure that the process for designing goals and structures that will be successful and inclusive of all stakeholder groups (teachers, students, parents, community members).”

What these two things meant to me was that the major undertaking of moving from traditional letter grades

“The privilege of a lifetime is being who you are.”
— JOSEPH CAMPBELL

to proficiencies included student, parent, and community member voice throughout the whole process. This isn't typical of how change usually happens in schools. From a summary report, **"It was incredibly valuable to have a multi-stakeholder team. There are numerous examples of times when the student perspective, teacher perspective, or parent perspective gave us essential information to make the best decisions possible."**

What does it mean to shift from traditional letter grades to proficiencies? Simply, it means our students will be given more clear expectations of the skills they'll be learning in classes, how the skills will be measured, and meaningful, in-the-moment feedback about how they are doing building the skills (not having to wait until the class is over to know if they passed or not). They get to revise, rethink, and reflect along the way until they get it. Why? Because "the potential for greatness lives within each of us," (Wilma Rudolph) and true, deep learning involves making mistakes, being stuck and frustrated until you break through to Ah-ha! Thomas Edison found 1,000 ways how not to make a lightbulb before he figured out how to. What if his "class" was over at his 500th mistake?! Proficiencies also mean that "class" will continue (time is a variable, not a constant) until our students build the skills necessary to be "college and career ready." Some of us need more time in some subjects than in others to build skills. This too is a part of moving away from letter grades to proficiencies.

At our May board meeting, we invited professionals from variety of colleges and higher learning to ask them what they think "college and career ready" means. Basically, they spelled out our GX's as critical components to being successful in college and career. How awesome is that? As a community, what matters to us about what we want for our kids matches what others want too. So, we're continuing to move in the right direction. Transitioning from letter grades to proficiencies takes time. It's a journey, as with most things in life. Time for revising, rethinking, and reflecting is a part of the process. Your voice and feedback along the way adds to the momentum and direction. Enjoy summer while it lasts!

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Special Education Records to be Destroyed

By Robin Hood, Director

Per the Vermont State Board of Education the Special Education Office of the Winooski School District hereby gives notification of the destruction of Special Education records of students who graduated or attended the Winooski Schools during the following school years: 1998 to 2008.

Be advised that select information from these Special Education records may be useful later for non educational purposes such as qualifying for social security benefits.

If you wish to collect these records before they are destroyed, please contact Sandy Castle at 655-9575. The deadline is 30 days from this ad.

Honor Roll – Fourth Quarter: 2013-2014

WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL

Seniors

Honors

Natalie Bailey
Cara Casier
Keana Ferguson
Sarah Haylette
Asha Monger

Juniors

High Honors

Uyen Bui
Randall Knox
Amanda Nattress
Ro Ze Yar

Honors

Khada Acharya
Sumeya Ali
Mina Dhamala
Chanefer Nheb
Doma Pandey
Hunter Robare
Samar Shakir

Sophomores

High Honors

Edmund Do
Kinzang Gurung
Hannah Little

Honors

Ra Mat Bi
Kip Dubie
Taylor Langlais
Susmita Manger
Kamala Rai
Conner White

Freshmen

High Honors

Mariah Metivier
Thong Nguyen

Honors

Lal Duh Merrie
Rui Chen
Riley Corrigan
Jasmine Gendron
Colton Lavalette
Onna Morgan
Hamdi Muya
Justice Palmer
Roshan Pradhan
Chanda Pringle

MIDDLE SCHOOL

High Honors

Hassan Abdi
Xavier Clark
Dhan Maya Dhamal
Sophia Do
Adison Granger
Elisha Limbu
Tiffany Phuong

Honors

Ahmed Abdi
Tiba Al Jarah
Shennelle Bailey
Zachary Chagnon

Vijayata Dahal
Alexander Do
Evan Eaton
Jarod Fountain
Maurice Gaudette
Calvin Hayford
Ines Horozovic
Ajip Khan
Aleisha Kirby
Rebekkah Lambert
Nicole Laplante
Kaitlenn Little
Bailey Miller
Brianna Moore
Caleb Moore
Lydia Nattress
Zeneth Nheb
Maryam Omar
Susmita Rai
Destiny Syharaj
Olivia Treadwell
Rebecca White
Kayle Willard

Honor Roll: Rice Memorial High School

By Christy Warner Bahrenburg

Rev. Msgr. Bernard W. Bourgeois, principal at Rice Memorial High School in South Burlington, proudly announces the following Winooski residents achieved Honor Roll status for the fourth quarter:

Second Honors: Hannah Dusharm, Jenna Flint, Adriana Formel, Pierrette Lumumba, Morgan Sleeman

Honorable Mention: Max Moran

ALUMNI CORNER:

Where Are They Now?

Interview by Heidi McLaughlin, VSAC

This month's alumni featured is WHS Alumni Nicole Lacharite! Here are our questions and her replies.

How many years did you attend Winooski schools?

I attended Winooski schools from kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Were there any adults in the Winooski schools that had a really positive impact on you? (teachers, coaches, etc.)

I am extremely grateful to Miss Townsend, who has since retired from the Winooski Schools. I learned so much from her, both academics and life-skills. She definitely helped me to feel more prepared for college.

What was your favorite learning experience during your time in the Winooski schools?

Looking back, I realize how much I learned from the senior project. Although there were times that I grumbled about completing it, it definitely helped to prepare me for the numerous research projects and presentations that I encountered during my undergraduate coursework at the University of Vermont.

Did you feel prepared for college? work/career?

For the first semester of college I remember feeling very overwhelmed, but once I realized that I did have all the necessary skills, I began to relax and say, "Okay, I can do this." However, I do wish that I had taken some college courses while still enrolled at Winooski High School. Since I enrolled at UVM with zero college credits, I did have to do a few 18-credit semesters in order to graduate in four years, and that made for very busy semesters!

Where do/did you go to college? What did you study? Degree?

I graduated from the University of Vermont with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Elementary Education and a concentration in Human Development and Sociology.

Where do you work? What do you do (job responsibilities)?

I was just hired to teach second grade at Montgomery Elementary School in Montgomery, VT.

What advice would you give Winooski high school students about college and career if you knew then what you know now?

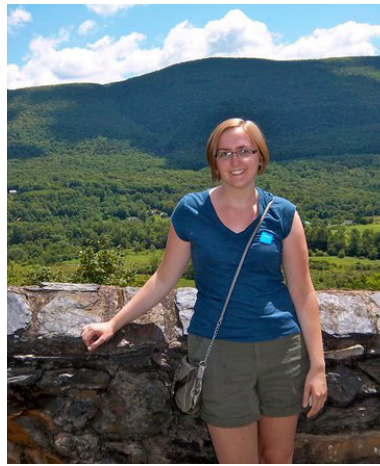
I recommend that all high school students take at least one college course during high school. Not only will this give you a taste of the workload, but it will also give you some credits so you don't have to do 6 classes a semester. Also, this can help to find things that interest you.

What other activities were you involved in during college? Did you try anything new? What did you learn about yourself in college?

I was involved with orchestra (I play the viola). For me, college was a great opportunity to figure out who I was and what was most important to me. You can even reinvent yourself since no one knows anything about you or your background. Coming from Winooski where everyone had known me since kindergarten, this was a really big change!

Did you study abroad, travel or have any other experiences since graduating that you would like to share?

I studied abroad in France for a semester during my junior year. I learned that sometimes I need to slow down and take a step back. From school, work, family, and social commitments, I quickly began to feel the struggle of being pulled in multiple directions. Developing a balance is critical to maintaining overall success in college as well as in life.



Nicole Lacharite

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SAVE THE DATE!

WSD Back-to-School Family BBQ

- **When:** Thursday, August 21st, 5:30-7:00pm
- **Where:** WSD Cafeteria
- **Who:** All WSD families and staff members
- **Why:** To celebrate the beginning of the 2014-15 school year, meet teachers and enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner prepared by the Abbey Group!

We hope you can join us!



Yearbooks Available

Winooski Middle/High School Yearbooks for the 2014 school year are still available in the main office for \$15.

Yearbook supplementals which include photos from Moving Up, Prom, Middle and High School spring sports, plus graduation, are available for all last school year's 8th graders and seniors (class of 2014) for FREE. They are also in the main office.

JFK Yearbooks are now on sale for \$10.00. They can be purchased in the JFK office during the summer or from Mrs. Goetz in room 15 once school starts again in the Fall.

Free Preschool

By Robin E. Hood, Ed.D., Director of Student Support Services

Looking for free preschool for your 3 – 5 year old? Champlain Valley Head Start and the Winooski School District are pleased to announce the planned opening of our new Head Start classroom for the 2014-2015 school year!

We currently have openings available for this new program that will run Monday—Friday, 8am to 12pm and will include free breakfast and lunch for all children. If you live in Winooski and are interested in enrolling your child, please contact Jessica Benoit at 651-4180, x204. For more information about Head Start eligibility and programming, please visit our website at <http://champlainvalleyheadstart.org>.



Auditions Coming Up for WMHS Production

Save the date! Auditions for the upcoming middle/high school production of “Aladdin” will be on Monday, September 8th in the Performing Arts Center from 3:00 - 4:00.

Please see Mrs. Goetz once school starts to get a script.

Save Your Box Tops!

The PTO is continuing to collect Box Tops this year. Please save them over the summer and bring them to school. This year we earned \$1,795!

Please note: We no longer collect Campbell’s Soup Labels. Thank you!



Winooski Dollars for Scholars Funds Summer Enrichment Programs

By Cathy Resmer

In June, Winooski Dollars for Scholars awarded thousands of dollars in scholarship funds to Winooski graduates. But did you know that Dollars for Scholars gives money to current students, too? This summer, one Winooski High School student was able to attend the Governor’s Institutes of Vermont (GIV) free of charge, thanks to grants from our volunteer-run nonprofit.

GIV programs allow high school students to immerse themselves for a week in subjects such as art, engineering, information technology and youth activism. High school students spend a week on a college campus, surrounded by motivated peers who are also passionate about the subject matter. Many GIV alumni say these experiences changed their lives.

Got an enrichment program you’d like us to fund? Contact Principal Leon Wheeler to make a request.

And none of these awards would be possible without support from local businesses and community members like you. Visit our secure website, www.Winooski.DollarsForScholars.org, to make a donation online or to find contact information.

If you’d like to give your time, please join our volunteer board; we have room for at least one more member. We meet once a month for about an hour and a half and we’d love to have you join us. For more information, contact Cathy Resmer, president, at cathy@sevendaysvt.com.

JFK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

August News from JFK Elementary

By Mary O’Rourke, Principal

I hope everyone is enjoying the incredible summer weather. Things remain busy at JFK. On June 16, 17, and 18 all teachers participated in a three-day training on project-based learning. Project-based learning (PBL), which will be a new initiative in the fall, is based on eight essential elements and the four “Cs”: collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking. Project-based learning ties in nicely with graduate expectations. It is rigorous, the experience should be authentic and the teacher becomes more of a facilitator with the students doing the work and the learning. At the conclusion of the three days, each team developed the beginning of a project they seemed excited about trying in their classrooms this year. Project-based learning will prepare kids for personalized learning as we prepare them for the transition from elementary to middle / high school.



We just completed our three-week summer school. The first week we included incoming Kindergarteners to help orient them to what school feels, looks, and sounds like. That week we averaged 115 students. The next two weeks involved all students in grades 1-5 with an average of 85 students.

During summer school the focus was on PBL. The driving question was “What makes Winooski great?” At the conclusion of summer school, each group of students presented their material in a variety of ways: video, power point, brochures, etc. It was a great learning experience for teachers and helped them define their next steps in PBL.

Before we know it, it will be August 27th and the students will be returning. We look forward to that day.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Summer Reflections

By Kate Grodin, Assistant Principal,
WMHS

I am enjoying this summer for a couple of reasons. First, it is summer! Who does not love longer days, bare feet, and work disrupted by vacations and visits with friends and family? During the break from the push of routines and school schedules, I take more time to observe my family, and especially with my own children, appreciate the growth and changes they exhibit since last summer. My second reason for loving this summer – celebrating one year at Winooski! When we headed into July I danced a jig, excited to have completed a calendar year here. This community is a tremendously exciting, dynamic, and complex place to work.

Although the main office is quiet this time of year, the building continues to be a vibrant place hosting tutoring programs, summer camps, and getting its annual makeover by our dedicated maintenance staff. I cannot help but see the shiny waxed floors and scrubbed lockers as a metaphor for the new school year. August does, however, accelerate and the reflective time of July turns into high gear planning and anticipation of our returning students.

Teacher pre-service begins on the 18th and faculty will focus on personalized learning and furthering our work with the Graduate Expectations (GXs). Additionally, mindfulness will expand to the middle school from JFK, although all M/HS teachers will be provided training in this new practice. Many teachers have taken on new and exciting initiatives this year for their teaching, and we are excited to support them throughout the school year.

I am so glad to have joined the Winooski community. I find the work challenging and deeply rewarding. I am truly looking forward to seeing our students in a few weeks with a renewed, refreshed, and refocused effort towards giving them a world-class education!

Music Matters - to me. My summer adventure!

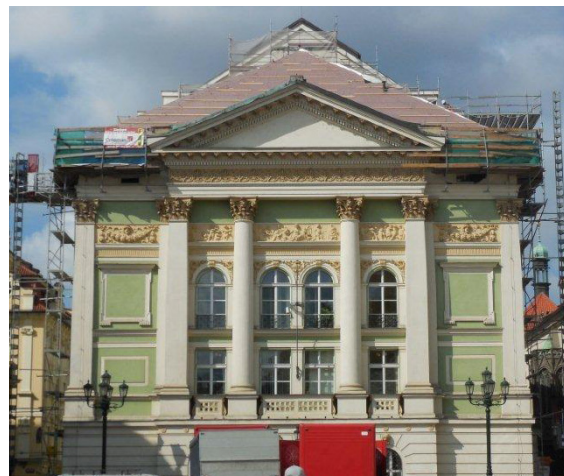
By Cathy Mander-Adams

Shortly after school was out in June, I traveled with Bella Voce Women's Chorus of Vermont (of which I am a member) to Germany and Czech Republic where I had the marvelous opportunity to walk the same streets and visit the same churches where some of the most famous classical composers lived and worked. I was treated to private demonstrations of Baroque instruments (harpsichords and clavichords) in a museum devoted to the genius of the Bach Family, played by a master musician; I attended a concert of the St. Thomas Boys Choir in Leipzig, Germany, and performed in that same church the next day; I sang in Mendelssohn's private guest theater in Leipzig, Germany and the famous Lobkowitz Palace in Prague, Czech Republic.

This was a trip of a lifetime for me. There was so much rich history it was hard to take it all in. While much of this trip was about the classical composers there were several opportunities to see and hear music of all kinds. There were many street performers singing many different styles of music. A fun time was had by all.



Johann Sebastian Bach



Above: The Estate Theater in Prague, Czech Republic. The theater is often referred to as Mozart's theater because this was the location of the opening performance of *Don Giovanni*. Right: The St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, Germany. We were very fortunate to attend a concert of the St. Thomas Boys Choir. Bella Voce performed in that same church the next day.



The plaque with Mozart's name on it was outside of the Estate Theater in Prague, Czech Republic

Newest Winooski Students Begin Classes Early

By Bill Clark, ELL Teacher

The excitement of starting school came a few weeks early for two dozen middle and high school students in Winooski. This year's Summer Transitions Program for English Language Learners (ELL) began on July 7th with students from Africa, Thailand, and Nepal assembled in the Technology Room. This is the fourth summer that allows students to develop English and math skills while preparing to transition into next fall's classes.

This summer's English classes involve reading a series of informational articles and writing essays. This week the students wrote six-word essays that they expanded on during the afternoon work period. They read about



humpback whales and received an assessment of their language abilities.

Students are using games such as cribbage, chess, and Risk to develop math skills and strategy. Teachers Tom Payeur and Karen Greene focus on habits of mind and habits of interaction to help students develop skills in thinking, listening, and talking like mathematicians. Weekly quizzes and presentations help prepare students for their regular classes in the fall.

In the first two weeks of the program, over 30 students received assessments to place them in math and English classes; investigated informational texts and wrote about life in America; engaged in participatory literacy arts exercises; discussed patriotic songs; learned techniques to help deepen mathematical conversations; created slideshows and presented their solutions to math problems; and enjoyed various outdoor activities.

In addition to their math and English classroom work, students participated in several socialization activities to familiarize them with the community.

The Summer Transitions Program uses funds from a Title III grant procured through the efforts of Robin Hood, the Winooski School District ELL Coordinator, and Jim McCobb, Coordinator of the Title III (English Language Acquisition) Program at the Vermont Department of Education, with additional support from Leon Wheeler, the middle and high school principal.

The Summer Transitions Program includes teachers Bill Clark (Language Arts) and Tom Payeur (math); administrator and math assistant, Karen Greene; and aides Dalib Bulle, Whitney Dubie, Puspa Luitel, Aftaba Mezetovic, and Tabatha Soliz.



Winooski Middle School Summer Program

By Barbara Russ, Afterschool Program Director

Do you like rock climbing or soccer? How about fashion design, silk screening, or writing? How about sailing, slam poetry, farming, pre-algebra, or volleyball? Or a babysitting course where you are certified at the end of the program?

These are just a few of the exciting summer program offerings our middle school students have been participating in so far this summer thanks to a partnership between the Winooski School District, Sarah Holbrook Community Center, and Burlington Schools.

We have close to 30 Winooski Middle School students participating this summer and they are having a blast! Future programs they will be participating in include: bait fishing, pottery, Lego robotics (taught by Winooski Middle School teacher Steve Forman), youth adventure program, explore Vermont, manga book & drawing (taught by Winooski Middle School teacher Chris Magistrale), film making,



running, yoga & dance, cooking and community, website design, analog and digital photography, and recycled art.

When asked why they signed up to participate, our middle schoolers enthusiastically responded:

- “I like soccer and it’s good for my muscles.”
- “I want to have fun!”
- “I love reading and I’m passionate about it. I also love to write.”
- “I love to cook, but normally my parents don’t let me ‘experiment.’”
- “I want to learn new things, be outside and make new friends.”
- “I really enjoy technology, therefore I want to do website design.”
- “I’m very creative. I think silk screening will be a great opportunity.”
- “I really like volleyball and I need the exercise.”
- “I’ve been interested in slam poetry and now want to be in competitions. I think this would be a good way to start off.”

So, if you’re in the school parking lot in the early morning, mid-day, or late afternoon and see our group of middle schoolers waiting to depart to Burlington for their programs or just returning at the end of the day, feel free to honk and wave or stop by to ask them how their summer programs are going!





Spartans in Motion: A Year of Success!

By Nancy Keller, M.Ed, CAS, NBCT



In the Fall of 2013, Winooski Middle School, with the support of the Bay and Paul Foundations, launched its Spartans in Motion (SIM) Program. Motivated by current and emerging research that confirms the relationship between physical activity and academic performance, Winooski Middle School teachers created a 25-minute

movement period (SIM Time) for all students every day of the school year. When socio-economic factors are controlled, studies show that active children do better at school than those who are sedentary. With today's generation of students 30% less active than the previous generation, school-based movement options have become a necessary part of a student's day. Neuroscientist and author John Medina (Brain Rules, 2008) simply states that exercise and movement is as near a "silver bullet" to improved brain health and cognitive functioning than any other type of intervention.

While many movement options were offered as part of the SIM program this past year, classroom-based circuit training was the foundation. Pairs of students would rotate through 8 in-class stations of high-interest activities that would get their heart pumping and make their muscles stronger. For the last few months of school, in particular, this circuit training had a singular focus—

to prepare for the first annual Spartan Games, a circuit-based competition between the middle school's 10 Teacher Advisory Groups. Students practiced push-ups, wind sprints, planks, jump rope, noodle javelin throws, ring tosses, box jumps, hula-hoops and ball tosses. On June 10, and with a rousing send-off from Superintendent Sean McMannon and SIM Coordinator David Quinlan, 157 middle school students and their teachers took to the track and field to enjoy a full morning of activity, truly becoming "Spartans in Motion!"

This year's winners of the Spartan Games 2014 were Ms. Richard's TA (3rd Place), Mr. Forman's TA (2nd Place) and Ms. Sherrer's TA (1st Place)!

Special thanks to Winooski's PTO for the Spartan Game trophies and to Winooski Middle School's faculty, staff and students for making SIM's initial year a success!

Look for more reports about SIM's second year in future issues of the *District News!*



COMMUNITY NEWS

Update from your City Council

By Brian Sweeney



Well, summer is in full swing and there are all kinds of exciting things happening in our little city. The public safety commission has been formed and the members have been approved by the city council. Next up will be the Public Safety Commission. Please keep an eye out for notifications on how to volunteer. Updates will be posted on Front Porch Forum and at winooskivt.org.

At the July 7th city council meeting, there was a presentation introducing us to a proposed hotel project on the west pad site next to the Champlain Mill. This was just a preliminary presentation with a basic rendering of what the proposed hotel would look like and its location. The developers will now move forward with assessment and come back to the Council for official approval. It is planned to be a boutique hotel with 50-60 rooms with possible retail space on the ground level. The property is owned by Pizzagalli Properties, LLC and they are working with Alpha Inn Management on developing this proposed hotel.

We are pleased to announce Dr. James Ticehurst as the new City Treasurer. His experience and expertise will ensure that we are informed and knowledgeable about the city's financial situation. Jim has an impressive resume including, but not limited to, Champlain College faculty member, Winooski School Board President and Treasurer and CFO at CSWD. He is a valuable addition and we are excited to work with him.

As the summer comes to an end don't forget to enjoy all the wonderful outdoor activities that Winooski has to offer like our many wonderful parks, the Myers Memorial Pool, the Sunday Farmer's Market and our many restaurants and bars with outdoor seating. Have a safe and happy rest of the summer.

As always, if you have any questions about what's going on in the City, feel free to contact any of the city council or call City Hall at 655-6410. And again, thank you for your support!

Do you want to help a student succeed in school? Become a tutor!

Winooski Youth Programs' tutors support local students by providing homework help in a variety of subjects including biology, geometry, and senior projects. We are looking for volunteers to commit to one 1.5 hour session per week in the evening on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. With this program, students know they have someone to count on outside of school to help them with their homework. We provide training, supplies, and ongoing support to volunteers including shadowing opportunities with experienced tutors.

For more information, contact Dylan Kelley, Community Engagement Coordinator, at vista@winooskivt.org or **fill out an application** here: <http://bit.ly/winvolapp>.

WCSPC Update

By Kate Nugent, Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community

The WCSPC is hosting a follow-up to our dialogue night on **August 14**, from 6 to 7:30 at the O'Brien Community Center. You are invited to participate, whether or not you attended the first event. We want to thank everyone again for your participation and caring at our recent dialogue night at the O'Brien Community Center! As a result of the questions and ideas that arose from that evening of discussion, we will host another "learning conversation" to learn more about the topic of opiate misuse and addiction on August 14 from 6 to 7:30 PM, Thursday, at the O'Brien Community Center. Among other things, we'll be hearing from special guests who will address the questions that we generated at our last meeting. Light refreshments will be served. Please call us if you will need childcare, also. Looking forward to seeing you!

Sign up for our e-newsletter! Call 802.655.4565 | 32 Malletts Bay Ave, Winooski, VT 05404 | wcspc.org

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Michael O'Brien	mayor@winooskivt.org	802-655-4879
Deputy Mayor Sally Tipson	stipson@winooskivt.org	802-655-3894
Councilor Brian Corrigan	bcorrigan@winooskivt.org	802-999-9270
Councilor Seth Leonard	sleonard@winooskivt.org	802-777-3381
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 about City activities:
 **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK** We are "City of Winooski - Government"
 **FOLLOW US ON TWITTER** We are @winooskivt

Missed a Meeting? Watch it Online or on TV

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.

Summer Food Program Continues through Aug. 8

By Ethan Hausman



The 2014 Summer Food Program in Winooski continues through August 8. All children 18 years of age or under will be served FREE meals or snacks at the locations and times listed below, Monday-Friday.

Children do not need to be enrolled in any recreational or childcare program in order to receive free meals. Meals will be provided to all children without charge, and no child will be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.

Please contact Ethan Hausman in the Youth Programs Office (655-1392 x21 or coordinator@winooskivt.org) for more info.

Funded by the USDA, the program is designed to ensure that children who rely on low-cost meals during the school year continue to have access to healthy food throughout the summer.

MEAL SITE LOCATIONS & DATES

Winooski High School

60 Normand Street
Winooski, VT

June 16 - August 8

Breakfast 8:15 - 9:00am (Mon-Fri)
Lunch 11:30am - 12:30pm (Mon-Fri)

O'Brien Community Center

32C Malletts Bay Avenue
Winooski, VT

June 16 - August 15

Breakfast 9:00 - 9:30am (Mon-Fri)
Lunch 12:30 - 1:00pm (Mon-Fri)

SNACK SITE INFORMATION

Winooski Memorial Library

32D Malletts Bay Avenue
Winooski, VT

June 17 - August 15

Afternoon Snacks 3:00 - 4:00PM (Tues-Fri*)
**please note: No snacks available on Mondays.*

ReSOURCE YouthBuild: Building Futures

Spotlight on Winooski Resident Dustin Wildes

YouthBuild student

Dustin Wildes is spending his summer working at ReSOURCE's Household Goods Store and has just



received the Trainee Teamwork Award along with fellow Winooski resident and YouthBuild student, Trevor Guilmette.

Through YouthBuild, Dustin is taking classes at CCV where he will enroll part-time this fall.

Dustin says "YouthBuild is a family oriented place where you get a second chance at being successful in life."

YouthBuild is a high school completion program for 16-24 year olds. Students can earn their diploma while receiving job skills training in construction and weatherization.

Interested students can learn more and apply by contacting Ally at acroteau@resourcevt.org or 802-658-4143 x 27.

Come to the Winooski Farmers Market!

Do you like to see local musicians? Do you find it expensive or the timing is never right? Well, we at the Winooski Farmers Market have a solution. Every week, at our Sunday market, we spotlight a local musician or band. We offer a wide range of musical styles. Most get the folks swaying, dancing or singing while shopping. And the price is right - FREE (you might want to leave a donation with the artist, if you enjoyed the performance). Music usually starts at 11 am & runs until 1 pm. And an added treat is our weekly free raffle at noon. Many Winooski businesses, restaurants & vendors donate gift certificates to the WFM. You could be a winner!! The WFM runs every Sunday, 10 am - 2 pm in front of The Champlain Mill. See you there!!

UNDER THE DOME:

Legislative Report and Wrap-up 2014

By Representative Clem Bissonnette and Representative George Cross

In attempt to promote transparency and provide an easy way for citizens to have access to passed legislation, the Vermont Legislative Counsel Office has created two quick search routines. To search Acts by number simply place the following in your browser line: (All bills passed in 2014 are included here.)

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2014/ActSummariesByNumber.htm>

To search the passed legislation by topic, place the following in your browser line: (Again, all bills passed in 2014 are found here.)

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2014/ActSummariesByTopic.htm>

In either case, check on the Act number and a brief description of the law will pop up. This new system is available for only the laws passed in 2014. If you find it helpful, please let your legislators know.

To find legislation passed in other sessions or the complete text of bills for 2014 you will need to go to **www.vermont.gov** and follow these directions:

Click on Government; Click on Legislative Branch; Click on Bill Watch; Select the proper Session; Click on Read the Acts and Resolves

Make a Difference in the Lives of Children

By Phet Keomanyvanh, United Way of Chittenden County, Coordinator of Volunteer Mobilization



Help build literacy skills so children are ready for kindergarten. Remember the joy of reading to your children or being read to as a child? Share your passion for reading with a whole new generation of children by becoming a RSVP Read To Me Volunteer. Read to children in local Head Start classrooms or be part of a new initiative to support early reading at child care centers run by and for New Americans.

Calling for Foster Grandparents to serve in Winooski schools. We have teachers requesting Foster Grandparents to help support children in their classrooms. Many children need another caring adult in their lives. Share your life experience-- be a friend, mentor and an academic champion—be a Foster Grandparent Volunteer!

FGP has many benefits for volunteers. Volunteers receive a non-taxable stipend of \$2.65 per hour, mileage reimbursement, personal and sick time leave.

Want to learn more? Contact Phet Keomanyvanh at 861-7821 or email phet@unitedwaycc.org.

Summer Is Sizzling at the Senior Center!

By Jahnine Spaulding, Director, Winooski Senior Center



The evening Bocce crew - come join us!

When you flip the calendar for July to August do you ask yourself, “where did June and July go?” If so, then join us to get every last bit of summer fun in before August turns to September, and Fall officially begins. We have such a variety of trips and activities in August that you are guaranteed great summer memories:

Aug 4th – BEGINNER TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS class starts today at 10AM – the advanced class is at 11 AM these classes are FREE for anyone 55 or older. CVAA has partnered with us to bring you this great program at the WSC

Aug 8th- SUMMER LUNCH & CRUISE on the Spirit of Ethan Allen \$20 - This is what summer is all about – dining al fresco, and gliding along on the lake, enjoying spectacular views. Cruise from 12-1:30 PM

Aug 12th – Let’s safari at PARC SAFARI in Montreal – \$42 for the bus and park entrance - the rest is on your own – enjoy close encounters with exotic

animals, rides, shows, or even don your bathing suit and float along the lazy river in the water park. Departs from the WSC at 8 AM

Aug 14th- SARATOGA RACE TRACK OR CASINO TRIP – Saratoga in summer is amazing! Enjoy flat track racing, or a cool casino. This is a Swans of New England tour. \$47 for the bus, \$3 general admission to the track, there are Casino incentives as well. Departs from the WSC at 9 AM

Aug 17th – LAKE MONSTER’S BASEBALL! \$16 dollars for a picnic party and seats at the game. This is an evening game. Bus transport may be available from the Winooski Senior Center- departs at 4:30 PM

Aug 26th –SENIOR DAY AT THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FAIR \$5 Benefit Lunch and reduced admission to the fair. Bus transportation will be available from the Winooski Senior Center – Bus departs WSC at 11 AM

Aug 29th- CARD PARTY AND GAME “NIGHT” 3-5 PM

SEPTEMBER 9 - SAVE THE DATE!

This our next General Meeting (11 am). Please RSVP by August 23rd to be included in the chicken barbeque immediately following the meeting.

Bocce and Walking Groups continue all this month and you are invited to drop in for both! Bocce is every Tuesday at 5:30. Walking groups are every Tuesday



The WSC Walking Group travels every Friday to a new location to walk - Variety is the spice of life!

and Friday at 9:30 AM or 6:30 PM.

Community Lunch and Bingo every Thursday starting at 11:30

Stay tuned! Our fall schedule will include a leaf peeping adventure, “Back to School” talks on a variety of subjects, Wii bowling, and much more!



Our Bhutanese seniors learning to play Bocce.

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. Our Thursday Playgroup includes a nutritious lunch prepared by "Fresh Foods". Our playgroups are funded by Building Bright Future and the Children's Trust Foundation.

All parents, caregivers, grandparents with children 0-5 years are welcome. Playgroups are held Mondays from 10-11:30am and on Thursdays from 11am-1pm at the Winooski Family Center in the O'Brien Community Center at 32 Mallets Bay Ave. Please call us at 655-1422 or email karenp@howardcenter.org for more information.

Free Swim Lessons at Myers Pool

Sign up for a 3-day camp with the Y that teaches life saving water safety to children of all abilities, ages 3-18. **Dates:** Aug 4-6, Aug 11-13, Aug. 18-20. Lesson 11am-12pm. Contact Jess at the pool: 557-7961. Registration required.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
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FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Camp Splash 2014

Got Coffee? Tea?

Please join us from 9:00-11:00 am on Fridays! Come have coffee, tea, sometimes juice, and a bite-size pastry, courtesy of Starbucks on Williston Road.

Also, there are free blood pressure screenings by Fletcher Allen on the first Friday of every month!



Community College of Vermont (CCV) Winooski News

By Jody Albright, Coordinator of Academic Services

Register NOW
through Aug. 22nd, 2014!

www.ccv.edu
(802) 654-0505

Winooski High School (WHS) and CCV will offer **Introduction to College Studies (ICS)** in fall 2014 and the **Governor's Career Readiness Certificate (GCRC)** in spring 2015 at the high school for juniors and seniors. WHS ELL teacher Inge White and CCV instructor David Amsden will be co-teaching ICS in the fall and WHS's Guidance Counselor, Emmy Charron and Inge will be co-teaching GCRC in the spring!

Having a high school semester of ICS and one of GCRC will help students practice skills for BOTH college AND work while helping students build English language skills. Successful students will receive HS credit for both classes. Successful students will also receive a Certificate signed by the Governor and CCV President. And, those who choose to take the WorkKeys assessments may earn the National Career Ready Certificate! While neither class offers college credit, students may request a CCV transcript to show successful completion.

Our collaboration came about due to a Partnership for Change meeting last year during which CCV, BHS and WHS representatives discussed bridging the gap to college and work

for high school English Language Learners (ELL's). Out of that large group, a smaller group formed to brainstorm ways to help ELL's better prepare for work and college by creating some kind of a 'bridge' year. Jody, Inge and Emmy agreed that offering both ICS and GCRC at the high school during the school day would free students to incorporate the classes into their high school schedules without interfering with afterschool, work and home obligations. As many of you know, ICS will give students a peak into expectations, strategies and goals for success in college. GCRC will help students gain practical job related skills.

If you have questions regarding the ICS/GCRC two semester offering at Winooski High School, please contact Emmy Charron echarron@wsdschools.org.

Additional tuition-free ICS and GCRC classes are offered at CCV Winooski and are available to the public. For more information about these classes please go to the CCV website www.ccv.edu or contact Jody Albright at jody.albright@ccv.edu (ICS) or Amy Stuart at amy.stuart@ccv.edu (GCRC).

Meet The Four Candidates for State Representative (and Vote August 26!)

There are four candidates running for State Representative in the Primary this fall. Here is information submitted by the candidates to help you get to know them a little better.

Please do your part and become informed, and **vote in the primary on August 26, 2014 at the Senior Center on Barlow St. between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.**

NOTE: If you are on vacation you can early vote at the City Clerk's office beginning on July 11. Just stop in during business hours and ask for a ballot and vote right there! You can also call Carol and Janet, in our City Clerk's office, and ask for a ballot to be sent to you. The phone number is 655-6419.



ELECTION CALENDAR

July 11, 2014 - Absentee /Early Vote begins | **August 20, 2014** - Last Day to Register to Vote in Primary |

August 26, 2014 - VERMONT PRIMARY DAY | **September 20, 2014** - Absentee/Early Vote Begins for General Election |

October 29, 2014 - Last Day to Register to Vote in General Election | **November 4, 2014** - Vermont General Election Day

NAME: KEN ATKINS

Running for: State Representative Chittenden 6-7

Political Party: Democrat

Contact: KWA138@aol.com or 655-1280

Work: Retired, 34 years of teaching, most at JFK in Winooski

Community Service: 14 years as Winooski's State

Representative; Active in our schools, church and community

Reason for Running: I'm running to ensure that we can:

- Provide a great and affordable education for our children
- Keep our utility costs low
- Provide a health care solution that we all deserve
- Work with Senator Leahy to get our corner mail boxes returned
- Your vote will enable me to use my commitment to Winooski and my legislative experience to work diligently for you in Montpelier. I welcome your questions and comments. Thank you.

NAME: CLEM BISSONNETTE

Running for: State Representative Chittenden 6-7

Political Party: Democrat

Contact: Clembi@comcast.net

Phone: 655-9527

Community Service: former Mayor of Winooski.

Reason for Running

- Want to continue representing Winooski. I believe we need to require background checks to purchase firearms, including at gun shows.
- I also want to participate in the single payer insurance discussion to make sure it fits the needs of Winooski & Burlington citizens.

Watch Election Primaries on CCTV!

Channel 17/Town Meeting TV election primaries start on 8/12. Of special interest to Winooski is the contested house race primary for Chittenden District 6-7. Three Democrats running for two seats. **Meet your candidates on Tuesday, 8/19 at 5:25.** Watch on cable channel 17 or online at http://www.cctv.org/live_events.

Channel 17 will bring you full election coverage for the general elections in November starting in October.

NAME: DIANA GONZALEZ

Running for: State Representative Chittenden 6-7

Political Party: Democrat/Progressive

Contact: diana@dianagonzalez.org or 802-661-4053

Work: *Present* -- Educational Consultant and Doctoral student in Educational Leadership and Policy studies at UVM. *Past*

-- Health educator at UVM, High school teacher, elementary school teacher, middle school peer mediation coordinator

Community Service: Leader in union organizing at UVM, Outright Vermont volunteer, Burlington & Brattleboro Community Justice Center volunteer

Reason for Running: While I am profoundly proud of the place we live, I also see many challenges that we must face with collaboration and thoughtfulness. Winooski has unique needs that are frequently omitted from conversations on the State level. I commit to:

- Bring the diverse voice of Winooski to the State House.
- Continue to develop education to meet the needs of *all* our children.
- Address the epidemic of drug use and the intertwined poverty and crime.

NAME: ROBERT MILLAR

Running for: State Representative for Chittenden 6-7

Political Party: Progressive

Contact: Robert@robertmillar.org or 802-238-0089

Work: Self-Employed

Community Service: School Board Trustee (2010-2012); Justice of the Peace (2010-present); Board of Civil Authority Member (2010-present); Development Review Board Member (2013-present); Winooski Representative to CCTA Board of Commissioners (2014-present)

Reason for Running: My focus in my career has been a dedication to local government, community development, and empowering people. I am passionate about fighting for economic, social, and racial justice, working to end poverty, and helping people take charge of their government and future. I'm running for Representative to continue to fight for these goals and to be a fresh voice for Winooski in Montpelier. For more, visit my website: www.robertmillar.org or find me on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RobertMillarVT

Newsletter of the Winooski School District

Winooski School District
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Winooski, VT 05404

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WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wdschools.org

Superintendent of Schools

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smcmannon@wdschools.org

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Principal: **Mary O'Rourke**
802-655-0411, 802-655-3530
morourke@wdschools.org

Winooski Middle and High School

Principal: **Leon Wheeler**
802-655-3530
lwheeler@wdschools.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 405 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 155 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 227 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@wdschools.org