

WINOOSKI SCHOOL

DISTRICT NEWS!

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Local Educators Personalizing Learning

Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) are the wave of the future for students, educators, and parents. Four Winooski Middle High School educators attended a three-day professional development conference held at Castleton State College in August to learn more about state requirements and begin the PLP process for the Winooski School District.

"We learned a lot," said Courtney Poquette, who teaches business in the high school. "There are a lot of details around PLPs that are just emerging and it helped to see what other schools have done."

Courtney Poquette, Cathy Mander-Adams, Dana Gore, and Bill Clark worked with Agency of Education (AOE) staff and over 100 other educators from around the state.

Workshops, keynote speakers, interactive sessions, and on-line studies, helped teachers develop a better understanding of learning, and how students benefit from individualized plans. Presentations emphasized student-centered learning; the key role played by Teacher Advisory (TA);

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The Vermont Agency of Education's Personalized Learning Plans Implementation Timeline

2015 November 30th

- PLP for each student in grade 7 and grade 9
- Students in grades 11 and grade 12 do not need a PLP for dual enrollment in academic year 2014-2015 but do need principal or headmaster approval for participation
- Students in grade 12 for enrollment in Fall 2014
 Early College Program need principal or headmaster approval for participation in addition to college admission requirements

2016 November 30th

- PLP for each student in grade 7 and grade 9
- PLP for every student in grade 11 and grade 12 who wishes to enroll in dual enrollment
- PLP for every student in grade 12 who wishes to enroll in an Early College Program
- and shall ensure that the personalized learning plan process continues for enrolled students for whom plans were developed in 2015
- PLPs developed in 2015 need to be reviewed

2017

November 30th and by that date in each subsequent year

- PLP for each student in grade 7
- PLP for every student in grade 11 and grade 12 who wishes to enroll in dual enrollment
- PLP for every student in grade 12 who wishes to enroll in an Early College Program
- and shall ensure that the personalized learning plan process continues for enrolled student for who plans were developed in previous years
- PLPs developed in previous years need to be reviewed

NOTES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

What is Food Insecurity and Why Does It Matter?

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as meaning "consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year." A family is "food insecure" if they do not have enough healthy food, or if they do not know how they are going to get their next meal.

50 million Americans--1 in 4 children-don't know where their next meal is coming from. Specifically, this means that over 16.2 million kids in the US experience hunger each year. How can the wealthiest and most developed country in the world allow over 16 million children to go hungry each year?

What about Vermont? According to hungerfreevt.org:

- 13% of all Vermont households are food insecure
- More than 25,000 children under 18 live in food insecure households (21%)
- More than 84,000 Vermonters of all ages live in food insecure households (14%)
- 32% of Vermonters cannot afford either enough food or enough nutritious food

Sr. Pat McKittrick, RN and FAHC Community Health Coordinator, was kind enough to donate a copy of the film *A Place at the Table* to the Winooski School District. This movie describes the compelling stories of three food insecure Americans who grasp at their dignity as they struggle to eat. Go here to view the trailer and get more info: http://www.magpictures.com/aplaceatthetable/

While watching *A Place at the Table* with my family it conjured both fury and sadness in all of us. American families in poverty who are receiving federal assistance are trying to feed their families with the average food stamp benefit of \$3 per day. This encourages people to purchase high calorie processed foods that result in poor health and ultimately, increase the cost of health care.

As an educator, here is what I know

about the impact of food insecurity:

- Eating consistent and healthy meals helps children grow up strong so they have fewer health issues which allows for higher attendance rates.
- Learning is harder when you are hungry. It is hard to listen to the teacher and your classmates, and attend to your learning, so actual learning time in school is significantly decreased for hungry students.

What is the Winooski School District doing to help?

- We have identified "food insecurity" as one of our primary focal areas and will be vigilant ensure that students are eating each day.
- We have expanded our breakfast and lunch program by enrolling in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Since over 40% of our students are certified to receive free school meals we can now serve ALL students free breakfast and lunch. Also, parents will no longer be required to complete school meal applications.
- We will continue with our Pantry-To-Go with fresh vegetables for all school families sponsored by the VT Foodbank twice per month.
- Fresh Fruits and Vegetables & Weekend Backpack food programs will continue for elementary students.
- Our new Wellness Coordinator, Jaycie Puttlitz will be working with local food shelves to coordinate food availability across the city.

What can you do?

- Talk to your children about eating healthy foods and the benefits for strength, health and learning.
- Ask your children about their school meals: "What did you eat for breakfast?", "What did you eat for lunch?", "What was your favorite part of breakfast/lunch?"
- Participate in the VT Foodbanksponsored "Pantry-To-Go" by asking

- your child to bring home fresh vegetables and cook them together.
- Make sure your children have healthy meals for dinner and on the weekends. Ask for help by contacting a local food shelf or WSD if you are finding it difficult to provide healthy meals for your children.
- Attend the Winooski Farmer's Market in front of the Champlain Mill on Sundays from 10:00am-2:00pm until October 12th.
- Contribute to a local food shelf.

The greatest resource a nation has is its people and our future is reliant upon our children. All of these students growing up in food insecure homes are missing their true learning potential in school and our country could be squandering away tremendous talent. Let's do our part to reverse the tide of food insecurity and brighten the future for all! Thank you for working with WSD to benefit our students!

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

SAVE THE DATE:

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Parent Night in October

By Nancy Keller, M.Ed, CAS, NBCT

Want to experience what your students are learning in their middle and high school STEM classes? Join us for an interactive evening of STEM-filled fun on October 23, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in which the students become the teachers. Play games of chance, explore cool science topics, and participate in the return of the legendary Egg Drop Competition! Refreshments and fun for the whole family! Meet in the cafeteria.

September Thoughts from The School Board

By Mike Decarreau, Board of School Trustees President

As we begin another school year, the School Board is looking forward to continuing our conversion/ implementation to a Governance model that focuses our attention on the outcomes from the schools. In the past 6 months we have focused on deepening our understanding of what being "College and Career Ready" really means to us as a community. We held a forum in the Spring on College Readiness with representatives from Champlain College, UVM, Albany Pharmaceuticals, and CCV and asked these folks: "What do you expect to see in your entering Freshmen that will give an indication of their successful completion at your institution?"

The discussion was rich and broad touching on topics such as maturity,

communication (both written and verbal), ability to work in a team environment, etc. The Leadership team is now working on a plan to instill these attributes into our students more firmly and then will be working out a methodology, for our students going on to college, to measure exactly how our students measure up to their peers when measured against these criteria.

In September, we plan to have this same discussion with members of the local business community and ask them: For our students entering the workforce (this can be after completing college as well) what characteristics do you look for that may predict success? The same process will then be pursued by the Leadership team to instill and measure these characteristics in those students that

complete their studies at Winooski.

Follow-on discussions to close out our ENDS statement (What do we want out of our school system?) will revolve around being good Local and Global citizens and maintaining healthy productive lives.

With this focus we feel that we will be sharply aligning the Board views with the Leadership team and staff to have end to end focus on the same objectives.

With the positive we see now in the city and what appears to be an influx of young parents into our community, having a quality school system that is part of the equation to move to Winooski is key. We are heading in a positive direction.

What We Did During Your Summer Vacation

By Rebecca Goulet

Ever wonder what happens over the summer in your school? Of course, as many people know, the Winooski School District runs several student centered programs, but is also the time when our facility staff does "spring cleaning."

Over the summer, the staff works to clean each room in the building top to bottom. Each room is completely emptied, washing down the furniture, walls, windows and lights. The floors are scrub and waxed, ceiling tiles are replaced and the rooms are reset. All the hallways, bathroom and lockers receive the same TLC.

The summer is also a time to work on larger projects and this summer is no different. Most noticeably is the renovation in the old multi-purpose room into a new Pre-K classroom, which will house a new Head Start program this fall.

Here's what else they did:

• The classrooms have been renumbered with new signs in the hallways.



- The library has been updated, with several new bookcases, furniture and some fresh tile and paint, continuing the theme of the i-lab into the space.
- The lobby bathrooms have been renovated, as well as a couple in JFK.
- The gym floor has been polished and the fields lined and ready to go!

Behind the scenes, there have been repairs and replacements of exhaust fans, as well as adjustments made to the heating/cooling system of the school. The list goes on to describe the hard work that our facility team does to open the doors each August.

So, when you see them, please join me in thanking our hardworking staff for the great job they do!



K-12 Teachers Participate in ELL Workshop

By Kirsten Kollgaard

On Wednesday, August 6th, 18 WSD teachers participated in a World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) workshop on differentiating instruction for English Language Learners (ELLs). WIDA is the organization that develops the ELL standards and assessments for the state of Vermont. The trainer, Pam Dorn, came from the WIDA headquarters at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to deepen teachers' understanding of how to help ELLs learn content as they acquire language in their classes.

The teachers who attended were from a variety of content areas and grade levels (PreK-12). Some of the new teachers for the 2014-2015 school year attended as well. During the training the teachers participated in a variety of activities including building a student profile for one of their own ELL students, reviewing assessment data for their ELLs and drafting a list of differentiated activities and assessments that they can use with their ELLs this coming school year. Teachers found the workshop useful and practical as it got them ready to teach all of their students this coming school year.

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!

ALUMNI CORNER:

Where Are They Now?

Interview by Heidi McLaughlin, VSAC

This month's featured WHS Alumni is Alice Corvo! Here are our questions and her replies.

How many years did you attend Winooski schools?

I attended Winooski schools for 10 years, from when I was in 3rd grade until I graduated from Winooski High School.

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

Alice Corvo

There were two teachers that really stood out in my experience during my time in the Winooski school district. My social studies teacher, Kate Toland, was an extremely funny and creative teacher who always made learning interesting. Vanessa Vallon, my English teacher during high school, also led her classes with inventiveness and a sense of humor. Another shout out must go to Maida Townsend for her amazing greatness with French.

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

My favorite learning experience would have to be the trip we took to France during the spring of my junior year. This trip kindled my love for Europe, and it probably part of the reason that I live there now.

Did you feel prepared for college? work/career?

I personally felt prepared for college, but that is partly because I always made an effort to stay very dedicated to my studies. Unfortunately, the Winooski school district can't offer such things as AP classes that can give students an advantage when they enter into university.

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

I went to the University of Vermont, and I graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BA in Theatre, with a double minor in English and Women and Gender Studies.

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

I'm currently in grad school at the moment, on my way to receiving my MFA in Acting from East 15 Acting School, located just outside London, England.

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

The better you do in high school, the cheaper college will be. I graduated UVM with very little debt because of the scholarships I received coming out of Winooski High School. Work hard and you will be rewarded. Also, you don't always need to know what you want to do with your life. You're young, you have time.

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

The only extracurricular activity I really devoted my time to in college was theatre. Looking back, I wish I had explored all of my options, because UVM has so many great opportunities and clubs to try. I tried new things in the theatre arena, such as directing, costuming, lighting, and scenic design. I learned that I can work extremely hard and have success, and that it's easy to make friends as long as you be yourself and have confidence.

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

During college, I did a program called Eurotheatre, during which I traveled to England and Italy studying theatre. It was one of the best experiences of my life, and made me want to live in Europe full time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homecoming 2014

By Lori Lambert, Winooski Boosters

Thursday Sept 11th

- Crowning of the King/Queen/Court will take place in the front school parking lot at 5:45
- Parade to begin at 6:00
- Teams will line up on the football field and be announced at 7:30ish once the parade is done. All high school athletes will receive a free hot dog.

Friday Sept 12th

• WHS Spartans Varsity Football team will take on Oxbow at 7:00 pm under the lights. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students (all Winooski students get in for free)

Saturday Sept 13th

- Boys Varsity Soccer team will take on Burke Mountain Academy at 11:30
- Girls Varsity Soccer team will take on Concord at 1:45
- Cost of the homecoming soccer games are free to all.
- Saturday night is the High School Homecoming dance from 8-11. Cost is \$10/couple or \$6/person

Meet the 2014-15 Winooski Middle/High School Partner Teachers

By Lindsey Cox, Partnership for Change

Supporting teacher learning is fundamental to reshaping our educational system. As a result, The Partnership for Change is supporting WMHS to move towards a systemic shift in the way teachers are supported to learn, collaborate, implement, and share the practices that help them meet the needs of all students through the new Partner Teachers program. This



program aims to support and expand on new approaches to teaching and learning that are already emerging at WMHS.

The Winooski Middle/High School Partner Teachers program aims to integrate the project-based, student-driven practices piloted in the Winooski iLab with the teaching and learning that occurs in classrooms throughout the school. To accomplish this, Partner Teachers have formed collaborative partnerships with an iLab teacher. These teams are working to build personalized, project-driven learning into traditional academic classes by collaboratively planning and co-teaching content area classes. In addition, Partner Teachers support the iLab by working with iLab teachers to advise individual learning plans, pilot the iLab's new problem-based learning course, coordinate and supervise internships, or implement a new option of their own creation.

This year, the Partner Teacher program is supporting the high school science team, Shannon Bundy and Steve Crowley partnering with Nancy Keller, as they work towards a new, problem-based, thematic model of science instruction. Nellie Maley and Inge White will be working together to redesign the ELL newcomer program at Winooski to be more community focused and proficiency-based. We will also be supporting Team Journey partnering with Will Andrews, in the Middle School, as they pilot iLab afternoons for their team. These large blocks of time will incorporate more student voice, choice, and connection with their community through project-based learning. Matt Webb and Amy Dickson will provide coordination and support for all of our partner teachers throughout the year.

To learn more or watch a video introducing the Partner Teachers, please visit: http://partnershipvt.org/approach/partner-teachers-wmhs/

SAVE THE DATE:

PACTS Meeting

Our first PACTS committee meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18th from 5:30 - 7:00 in the Learning Media Center. There will be childcare available.

Winooski Youth Baseball/Softball League Calendars For Sale

By Jeff Brosseau

Help support Winooski Youth Baseball/Softball by subscribing to our 30th edition of the Community Birthday Calendar

Calendar's 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 1st for arrival around Thanksgiving, makes a wonderful Holiday Gift. For more information contact Jeff Brosseau 233-5530, Jeffrey.brosseau@greenmountainpower.com

Thank You Lance!

By Tammy Cusson

On behalf of the Winooski PTO, I'd like to take the opportunity to say thank you to Lance McKee of McKee's Pub & Grill. Lance sells pull tickets at his establishment and donates some of the proceeds to the Winooski PTO (other local worthy causes benefit too). Lance has donated generously over the years and we are grateful. This money allows us to support *all* students in Winooski – from kindergarteners to seniors. The Winooski PTO sponsors scholarships for graduating seniors, supports athletic teams so they can purchase extras like team jackets, provides free dances for middle school students, supports school yearbooks, endof-year field trips for students in grades K-8, Junior Prom, plus teacher grants and theatrical productions (put on free of charge to the community) and many, many other causes. So, THANK YOU LANCE, for all you do for the community and the students of Winooski!

Thrive After School Registration Open

By Kirstie Paschall, Children and Family Programs Manager

Thrive After School, a state-licensed childcare program run by the City of Winooski's Community Services Department, resumes on September 2nd, upon return from Labor Day. Open to students in grades K-5, Thrive After School offers engaging activities and supervised care from 3:00-5:30PM on all normal JFK school days. With the goal of, "meeting children where they are" developmentally, Thrive emphasizes learning through play and social development while operating on a schedule that's designed to support working parents.

Children enrolled in the program play outside together (weather permitting) at the conclusion of each school day and then receive a healthy snack before moving into reading time, social activities, learning games and free play. Thrive is hosted on site at JFK School (in the George Stackpole Learning Media Center), so kids can easily and safely transition to the Program at the end of the school day or when they get released from 21st Century after-school programs at 4PM.

Thrive After School costs \$15/day or \$65/week per child; however, Vermont Childcare Subsidy is accepted to cover fees. Families interested in pursuing subsidy should contact Child Care Resource (802-863-3367) or download subsidy application forms at http://dcf. vermont.gov/cdd/child_care_financial_assistance/forms.

Program registration for the 14-15 school year is currently underway. Enrollment forms can be found online at http://www.winooskivt. org/communityservices/thrive, by email, or in person at the Thrive office in the main lobby of the Winooski Schools. For forms, questions, or more information, contact Kirstie Paschall at thrive@ winooskivt.org or by phone at 802-316-1552.

We look forward to seeing you this fall!

Free K-12 Afterschool Programs

By Barbara Russ, 21C Program Director

Welcome back to afterschool! We are very excited about our afterschool offerings for Session I for students in grades K-12. Session I is a 7-week session beginning the week of September 8th and ending the week of October 20th.

Our afterschool program is a partnership between the Winooski School District, City of Winooski, and our 21C grant. Most programs are taught by licensed teachers and provide enrichment opportunities for students in the areas of literacy, math, science, social studies, technology, wellness, and the arts. Afterschool programs at JFK Elementary School will begin on Tuesday, September 9th. All programs are free and will be offered Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3-4pm. A healthy snack or supper will be provided.

Our middle and high school afterschool programs are taught by licensed teachers and provide academic support and enrichment opportunities for students in grades 6-12 in the areas of literacy, math, science, social studies, technology, wellness, and the arts. The middle and high school afterschool programs will begin on Tuesday, September 9th. All programs are free and will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons at 3pm. A healthy snack will be provided to all participating students.

K-12 students will receive their afterschool fliers by Friday, August 29th. If you would like your child at JFK Elementary or Winooski Middle School enrolled in afterschool programs during the first session, please remember to return the registration form on Tuesday, September 2nd. Confirmations will go out to students by Friday, September 5th (sooner if possible!). A complete list of Session I afterschool offerings, as well as future afterschool session offerings, will be available on the school district website throughout the school year.

We are always looking for parents and community members interested in volunteering in our afterschool program. If that is something you would like to do, please give Barb a call at 383-6041 or email her at bruss@wsdschools.org.

We are looking forward to another terrific year of engaging and high interest afterschool programs. Thank you for your ongoing support of our afterschool program!

Free Preschool - Openings Still Available!

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.

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.

Auditions Coming Up for WMHS Production

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 in room 15 to get a script.

JFK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

September News from JFK Elementary

By Mary O'Rourke, Principal

Welcome back! We are off to a great start! It was so exciting to see our students return on the first day! The first day of school is always one filled with excitement, enthusiasm, and anticipation! In just a few short days, the routine they all know so well will be in place and the real learning will begin.

Our welcome back BBQ was very successful. It is always so nice to see the smiling faces of students coming up the sidewalk with their families. It is a good community gathering and nice way to begin our year!

During our week of pre-service, grade level teams continued to refine their projects, which will be implemented later this year. Our new initiative this year is Project Based Learning (PBL). This shifts the way that students learn and teachers teach. Teachers become the facilitator of the unit and the students do the learning and the work. PBL focuses on creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking. All skills needed to be college and career ready. Believe it or not, the learning of these skills begins in kindergarten.

During the first few months of school, teachers will be working with their classes on collaboration. Students must learn to work in groups successfully. This requires developing norms and following protocols so that all members of the group are contributing to the project. This is a skill many of us take for granted, but needs to be taught to students if we really want them to be successful collaborators.

We look forward to an amazing year of new learning and growth for both staff and students.



Students think about the Environment at JFK English Language Learner (ELL) Summer School

By Kristin Van Fossen

After reading *Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney, students at JFK ELL summer school explored ways to make the world a better place. In the book, Miss Rumphius is given one important piece of advice by her grandfather; "*You must do something to make the world more beautiful*," he tells her. Miss Rumphius does this by planting lupines wherever she goes, thus making the world around her more beautiful. During summer school, students did this be learning how they could both protect and improve their environment in different ways.

In addition to reading and reflecting on the famous book *Miss Rumphius*, students also visited several locations within the community and focused on the environment. First, the students did a survey of the pollution found in our community. They conducted experiments to gage how much pollution is in the air around our school. They also visited the Cassavant Natural Area and collected samples of water from different parts of the river in order to examine them, and look for pollution. They watched wildlife and people enjoying the river environment. Their ultimate conclusion was that we do have pollution in our community, and we need to work in order make our environment a better place. However, there are also many positive and beautiful things in our environment that we can enjoy and protect.

Students visited Shelburne Farms, which gave them an opportunity to see how farm staff has created a clean environment for visitors and the animals that live there. Students were able to participate in farm activities and talk to farmers about the work they do.

Next, students took a ferry ride across Lake Champlain. During the boat ride they enjoyed the environment around the lake and observed the ways in which humans have affected that environment both negatively and positively.

We also visited Sugarbush Resort, where humans have taken advantage of the beautiful mountain environment and enhanced it by adding ski lifts, a trampoline, a zipline and other activities. Students were impressed by both the natural wonders of and the human improvements to this environment.

Finally, students visited the Vermont Wildflower Farm, where they could see the results of someone taking care of a part and nature and helping it to thrive. Much like the Lupine Lady in *Miss Rumphious*, the owners of the Vermont Wildflower Farm have made the world more beautiful by planting flowers for everyone to enjoy. After visiting the farm, students were able to take part in the spreading of beauty, by planting wildflower seeds along the edge of the forest at school.

Overall, ELL summer school at JFK was a great time. Students and teachers alike enjoyed many different environments around our school and were inspired to do an even better job of taking care of them. We also learned a lot of English along the way!

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Empowering Tomorrow's Explorers

By Leon Wheeler, Principal, WMHS

I recently began taking walks along the west shore of Isle LaMotte, which is a five minute drive from my home in Alburgh. There's something both affirming and peaceful about being next to a large body of water, especially in a sparsely populated location. I need the fresh air and exercise as well, as I learn to take better care of myself. What I've found is that these experiences help me clear my mind

"...Making education more meaningful to learners, making learning more motivational for learners, and preparing young learners for their future rather than our past is the critical educational and moral... imperative of the day."

— Charles Schwahn and Beatrice McGarvey, "Inevitable"

of clutter and open me up to new, creative thinking. The thoughts that follow came during one of my walks.

As a school and a district, we are taking steps to make learning engaging and relevant for students. Graduation expectations (GX) that represent important life skills have been established. The school board has established an Ends Policy that states what it expects of the school system. The district is aligning it's work PreK-12 to ensure that we are engaging students at all levels to demonstrate growth toward meeting our GX and the Ends Policy. That's all true, but what is it that we're really doing with and for our students?

Often it helps to understand a concept, like the above focus on GX and Ends, by finding an image to illustrate it. Let's think of the children and youth of Winooski as explorers. The role of the community, including the education system, is to ensure that these budding explorers develop the skills that will help them set a course for discovery, understanding and safe navigation through the experiences and encounters along their way, and make an impact for good as well. Our children have at their fingertips volumes of information — so information isn't what they need. In order to be safe as they step out on the journey that will be uniquely their own, they do need skills: observation, communication, critical thinking and problemsolving, understanding others, collaboration, self-care, and persistence.

So we're preparing our students for the future...a future that they will explore, navigate, and build. It's interesting that as I was thinking about this I was walking where Samuel de Champlain landed on *his* exploration of the New World in 1609. I wonder what skills *he* needed as he began his exploration, how these skills were different from those needed by our youth...and how they're the same?

We're excited about the journey ahead!

Winooski Seniors Already Attending College

By Bill Clark

Two members of the Class of 2015 spent their summer at college programs in Vermont.

Durga and Mina Dhamala—rising seniors and sisters—attended



Left to right: Durga, Yastrika (middle school), and Mina.

programs at the College of St. Joseph and the University of Vermont respectively. Both want to enter the medical field and expect these courses to prepare them for their senior year.

"I learned massive amounts about writing that I never knew before," said Mina. "I realized how hard college-level English is. A writing piece in which I would have gotten A+ at high school became "B" in college. But I learned to process step by step. Not stressing too much on a first draft, but dumping your head full of free ideas. The final draft comes later after doing many different drafts."

Mina chose to attend the Upward Bound program and take a course entitled Written Expressions at UVM. Durga attended College Quest, sponsored by the Vermont Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and held at the College of St. Joseph in Rutland.

"Where can I begin? My suite mates were great and this program showed me what college will be like," said Durga. "I want to become a pediatric nurse, so this program let me talk with other nurses and find out what I had to do in high school to prepare myself. It helped a lot that VSAC talked to us about the best ways to apply for college."

Mina wrote about her experiences as a Bhutanese refugee, her family's move to Nepal and, four years ago, their arrival in Vermont. She wrote a magazine-style article about career paths for Nepali students going to college and on to medical careers.

Durga lived on campus at the College of St. Joseph with 23 classmates from Vermont high schools. She worked in a medical laboratory and observed at the Rutland Regional Medical Center and Fletcher Allen Hospital. Durga visited Castleton, shadowed nurses, worked in a lab, and joined classmates on several projects around medical themes. She presented a summary of her work as part of the graduation ceremonies.

Durga and Mina live with their mother Yani and two younger sisters: Dhan Maya, an entering freshman, and Yastrika, a seventh grader. They will attend the medical technology program at Essex Tech in the fall.

(PERSONALIZED LEARNING PLANS

continued from cover)

the four R's of rigor, relevance, relationships, and responsibility; the changing paradigm of demands placed on educators; helping students

set and understand personal, academic, and career goals, while regularly reflecting on their academic careers.





enters 7th grade in 2014 will be the first cohort to follow Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements (PBGR). High schools will build their capacity around PLPs for seventh to ninth graders entering in 2015. The seventh graders of the 2015 cohort will be the first group to have PLPs through their middle and high school years.

The legislature designed the *Flexible Pathways Initiative* to "encourage and support the creativity of school districts as they develop and expand high-quality educational experiences that are an integral part of secondary education in the evolving 21st Century classroom."

This legislation promotes "postsecondary readiness through high-quality educational experiences that acknowledge individual goals, learning styles, and abilities" for Vermont students, which illustrates the importance of Personalized Learning Plans.

For additional information, see the Agency of Education's website at http://education.vermont.gov/flexible-pathways.

An Amazing Summer Learning Experience at the NYSE

By Courtney Poquette @msbusinesscp

There are many misconceptions about how Wall Street operates based on what we see in movies and in the news. This year I was thrilled to receive a fellowship from the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) which allowed me to spend five days at the exchange learning from brokers, market movers, public relations and human relations professionals and even the CEO of the stock exchange. They shared a wide range of information from day to day operations, to federal regulations, and how students can succeed in job interviews.

During this time I was able to visit the floor of the stock exchange and witness how one of the oldest organizations in our country has had to change and evolve. I had the opportunity to meet educators from across the country and to expand on the lessons that will be offered in my Personal Finance class. While there, I also learned how the NYSE uses social media to share information and saw this as a great opportunity to remain in touch with professionals in the financial world. I am looking forward to sharing what I learned with students this year.

ELL Summer Transitions Program Graduates 20 Students

By Bill Clark, ELL Teacher

After a summer of learning math through chess and cribbage, English through daily writing prompts, pickup soccer games, and field trips to Lake Champlain, Centennial Field, the library, and afternoon cultural events, twenty Winooski students graduated on Friday from the Summer Transitions program.



"Three years ago, I could not write two sentences," said rising junior Oo Mai Be. "Today, I can write pages and pages because of this program."

Oo Mai Be moved to the United States from Thailand and Burma. Others in the program came from Nepal, Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia. Most of the students were rising freshman, anxious to learn more about high school work. Others were high school veterans, some going into their senior year. One student from JFK Elementary attended as well, and performed at a high level.

The four-year-old Summer Transitions Program has served over one hundred students since its inception. A Title III grant provides funding, with support from school administrators. The curriculum model mixes middle and high school patterns in order to develop students' socialization skills and academic capabilities for the regular classes to come in September.

"In a few weeks, we touch on many parts of the regular math curriculum," said Tom Payeur, a high school math teacher. "We provide them with the language and grouping structures they'll encounter in our classrooms, ensuring that nobody works in isolation. We also follow their interests. By the end of our third week, half the class was controlling the value of their self-made currency in an economics game, while the other half was building bridges with power drills and popsicle sticks! Each activity forced students to engage in the math process at a different, student-centered level."

The summer day's curriculum began with a morning meeting

(Continued on next page)



(**SUMMER TRANSITION PROGRAM** continued from page 9)

featuring a word or cognitive exercise, talking about themselves, or an interactive game. After a breakfast snack, students went into their math and English classes until lunchtime. The afternoon included homework and reading, recess, and a movie.

"We want to provide academic skills as well as social awareness," said Bill Clark, an ELL teacher who leads the summer program. "Writing every day for five weeks gives students a better awareness of their abilities and minimizes some of the fear



that they associate with putting their thoughts on paper. They write about their field trips, their families, their readings, what happened in their lives. They begin to 'think out of the box' with a prompt about their little toe or an exercise to write their own obituary. It all expands their thinking."



This year, students used four-way thinking—summarize, interpret, analyze, and evaluate—to create their writing. During the final week of the program, they created a portfolio of their writing and chose the

best piece they wrote over the summer. The portfolios will allow their classroom teachers to see their progress and monitor their achievement when classes begin in the fall.

"The summer program gives me a chance to learn more about our students," said Karen Greene, the administrator who handles discipline issues during the year and organizes the summer field trips. "I help with the math classes and I also have a chance to socialize more with the students. I learn so much about their lives and what makes them tick. This summer program is a way to step back and remind ourselves why we work with children."

This summer, Tom Payeur and Karen Greene organized



a chess and cribbage tournament. Students had to play each other and moved up through the ranks to play the Grand Master (Mr. Payeur) or Ms. Greene. In addition to the involvement in the competition, students learned spatial awareness, long-range thinking, and basic math skills.



"Knowing that you have to be able to add points in order to win," said Ms. Greene, "gives students a huge incentive to use math. It becomes a practical skill."

Students also had the opportunity to observe themselves and the adults around them. Tabatha Soliz, one of the teachers, is visually impaired and brought Braille playing cards and her adaptive chess set.

"I played chess and cribbage with many of the students," said Ms. Tabatha. "They were very aware that I might play a little differently but they all realized that I understood the game just as well as they did. I even won a few of the matches. These kids really wanted to win."

The awareness of others makes up a key ingredient in the Summer Transitions Program. Students need to reach out and work together in groups or in pairs in order to learn the material. Many friendships form as a result and the bonds with the adults become stronger. Pickup soccer games during recess bring everyone together in a fierce but friendly competition.

This summer, students wrote thank you notes in English, many of them to teachers.

"Thank you so much ..." wrote one student. "You make my day when you called me sweetheart. ... I don't care what people think about you I still love you. I think you have a kind and strong heart. There [are] a lot of people who love you. You are really nice and funny. You help keep everyone doing the right thing. Thank you for helping me this summer"

The final days of the Summer Transitions Program saw a flurry of activity as students prepared their portfolios, participated in chess and cribbage competitions, and prepared a potluck luncheon for some special guests. General Michael Dubie, the deputy director of Northern Command spent one day of his vacation visiting the class with his wife Amy and fatherin-law. General Dubie addressed the class about the value of education and spoke about his own path through college, his work in business and the military, and his present defense work. He responded to the students' explanation of their summer economics work by describing his background as a UVM economics major and stockbroker.

"Some of you will have ten, twelve, or fourteen jobs during your working life," said General Dubie. "High tech firms like Google are looking for women right now who have lots of skills. And, where do you learn those skills? Right here in high school. It makes sense to work hard so you can move into college and your careers. And we're looking for bright, well-rounded individuals in the military.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Update from your City Council

By Brian Corrigan

Sergeant Richard Hebert will be asked to serve as Interim Police Chief effective September 1 until the summer of 2015 when a formal hiring process can take place. The hiring team was comprised of the City Manager, Deputy Mayor Sally Tipson, Teen Center Director (and Winooski resident) Ethan Hausman, Cpl. Mike Wood (of the PD), and Public Safety Commissioner Pam Favreau. We are pleased to welcome Rick (also known as Bert) to the Chief's position. The committee was impressed by all of the applicants (only internal applicants were considered for the Interim position). We are grateful for the time and effort of those applicants and of the committee.

The community can expect a hiring process for the Chief to occur starting in the summer. We will hold at least one open session per final candidate, so please watch for those announcements and join in the process.

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!

Keep up to date with announcements and news about City activities:



LIKE US ON FACEBOOKWe are "City of Winooski - Government"



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

We are @winooskivt

A Fond Farewell

By Alaina Wermers

Dear Winooski, my AmeriCorps service with the City of Winooski as the Community Engagement Coordinator came to a close on August 18th. I just wanted to say how much I am going to miss this community and thank you. From coordinating the Community Garden Program to leading service projects with Winooski students, I have been wearing many hats in my time here! Because of this, I have met many, many amazing people that I will always remember. I also want to thank the City



of Winooski for letting me grow both personally and professionally by letting me pursue my interests (such as the new City website – check it out!). The city staff are a wonderful group of people that I encourage you all to get to know. Thank you all for making my AmeriCorps service truly special!

PS: If you would like to get in touch with me, please contact Ray Coffey at rscoffey@winooskivt.org.

SAVE THE DATE:

St Francis Xavier Parish Tour

By Rita Martel, Winooski Historical Society

On September 14, 2014 the Winooski Historical Society along with co-sponsor Catholic Financial Life will present a one hour video on the History of the St. Francis Xavier Parish. Al Blondin Archivist and local Historian at the Winooski Historical society will give this video presentation at the Winooski Senior Center (located behind St. Stephen Church) beginning at 1 PM. Refreshment will be served by the members of the Catholic Financial life. Copies of the video will be on sale after the presentation.

Also on display for this presentation will be the scale model of the St. Francis Xavier Church. If you didn't see this model the first time around do not miss your chance to view this scale model of the Church.

Channel 17 Offers Programming and More

By Meghan O'Rourke < morourke@cctv.org >

Channel 17/Town Meeting TV records Winooski municipal meetings for airing on cable channel 17 as well as online. For a complete archive of all Winooski programming visit: http://www.cctv.org/watch-tv/town/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.

| 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. | | | |

Preschool Openings at the Winooski Family Center

The Winooski Family Center currently has preschool openings for the 2014-2015 school year. Please call Karen at 655-1422 for more details.

September at the Senior Center

By Jahnine Spaulding, Director, Winooski Senior Center

Summer was an active and adventurous time at the Winooski Senior Center. Our summer walking groups logged over 300 hours of activity over 13 weeks. enjoyed beautiful vistas on the Burlington and Winooski waterfronts, the gardens and glens of St. Michael's College and Fort Ethan Allen, and made the Island Line Causeway their own! We celebrated this accomplishment with a meal and awards on the 29th. Congratulations to everyone! Many thanks to Ken Lauritzen, Trang Lee, Greg Hamilton, and Ida Nurwahida for leading the charge as walking hosts – we couldn't have done it without them!

Closer to home, our Bocce Ball group became experts at the game (at least WE think so!) and enjoyed a lot of laughs and some health competition through the summer evenings. Our visit to the Montreal Botanical Gardens was a perfect day away, with plenty to see and admire throughout the park. Our lunch cruises on Lake Champlain are always a hit – many thanks to Celebrating Seniors and CVAA for putting together a variety of cruising options. Baseball games, trips to Lake George and Saratoga rounded out the summer. Boy, what fun we had!

As summer lingers, the Winooski Senior Club will kick off Fall's activities with one of our favorite gatherings – the Annual Chicken Barbeque and Senior Meeting takes place at 11am on Tuesday, September 9th. The menu includes our mouth watering grilled chicken, fresh corn, potato salad, garden fresh veggies and salads, watermelon, ice cream and tea or lemonade. This feast will cost just \$6! **Seating is limited, so please be sure and secure your place at the barbeque with a paid RSVP by August 26th.**

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 Malletts Bay Ave. Please call us at 655-1422 or email karenp@howardcenter.org for more information.

Preschool Openings at the Winooski Family Center

The Winooski Family Center currently has preschool openings for the 2014-2015 school year. Please call Karen at 655-1422 for more details.

On September 20th we will be traveling north to the St. Alban's Raid Re-enactment - the northern most skirmish of the Civil War. Colorful re-enactments, a tour of the battle ground, a quilt show, and many other activities will help all of us rediscover Vermont's Civil War Past. A mid-day trip on September 23rdrd to the Fleming Museum at UVM will give us a tour of their special Civil War exhibitions.

Finally, two activities are back after a hiatus! Our wonderful exercise group, lead by the wonderful



Norma Audette, Theresa Kellogg, Theresa Companion, Gillian Wyatt and Sally McGrath at the Montreal Botanical Gardens

Barbara Jordan, kicks back into action on September 2nd. They meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 10am. Another group that has been dormant is also back in action! The Winooski Community Chorus is calling all adult singers to join them on Thursday, September 11th, at 6:30pm to get the singing started again in Winooski! If interested, e-mail Maria at marialv2sing@comcast.net or call 802-858-9333.

As always, our events and programs are open to anyone 55 or older. Most of our events are low or no cost. For more information, or to get on our email list for monthly calendars, give us a call at 655-6425.

Workout Where You Live

By Cal Workman, Greater Burlington YMCA

The Y is offering Winooski residents a free trial week-long membership at the Winooski and Pomerleau Family Y. Try out the cardio and weights equipment, and take as many land or water fitness classes as you like at either location for one full week – Free.

Present the School District Newsletter or proof of residence to the front desk staff and it will be exchanged for the week long pass. This

YMCA

special offer is open to individuals and families, but only those who are not already Y members. Deadline October 30th 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 Starbuck's on Williston Road.

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

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Health Office Coordinator

Welcome back! We had a wonderful summer and are excited to be back serving the health needs of the Winooski students.

General Info: The health office is open Monday-Friday from 8am-3pm. There are two full time Registered Nurses on site -Holly and Liz. We service the entire district(preschool through 12th grade).

Medications: The health office is able to administer daily prescription medications if time specific and/ or ordered for more than 3 times a day. We do require a physician order and parent signature to administer any prescription medications. Our office does supply over the counter medications for the students but will require parent permission before administration (please complete the medical assessment form that was sent home in the first day packets).

Going home sick: We send home for fevers 100 degrees or higher. Also, we send home for active

Screenings: We will begin hearing and vision screenings (as required by the state) most likely the by the end of September and will continue screenings until all required grades are complete (usually by mid-November). If we detect an issue with your child's hearing and/or vision we will contact you.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Holly or myself at 802.383 6094. We hope you have a wonderful school year!

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, please stop by and see me. I will be in the Health Office on Thursdays; or call 383-6094 if you have any dental questions or concerns.



Kindergarten Parents

Free Lunch With Your Student

Please redeem this coupon at the school

Cafeteria to enjoy a free lunch with your student

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU — AUG/SEPT

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

Spinach Salad

Italian Bean Salad Garlic Breadstick

Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Chef Salad

Fresh Fruit

September 16

Macaroni &

Roasted Zucchini

Steamed Peas

Dinner Roll

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

September 23

Rotini w/Meat Sauce or Marinara Sauce

Spinach Salad

Italian

Bean Salad Garlic Breadstick

Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Chef Salad

Fresh Fruit

September 30

Steamed Broccoli Carrot Sticks Dinner Roll

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

eptember 9

DAILY BREAKFAST OPTIONS: NEW: Abbey Breakfast Sandwich: Sausage & Cheese on English Muffin – offered daily!!

MONDAY: Whole Grain French Toast Sticks • TUESDAY: Whole Grain Cinnamon Bun w/Cheese Stick • WEDNESDAY: Scrambled Egg & Cheese Wrap • THURSDAY: Healthy Breakfast Round • FRIDAY: Ham & Cheese Bagel OR Cereals w/English Muffin

| ** Fresh Fruit & Milk With all Meals** | | | | |
|--|--------------|---|--|--|
| Choice of milk | September 1 | September 2 | | |
| served with all complete | | Corn Dog | | |
| meals: | | Homemade | | |
| Low-fat White & | No School | French Fries Baked Beans | | |
| Low-fat Chocolate | 25001 | Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich | | |

September 8

Rice Pilaf

Fresh Fruit

Fresh Milk

September 15

Oven Roasted

Fresh Fruit

September 22

Pancakes Warm Syrup

Sausage Links Sweet & White

Home Fries Celery Sticks

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets w/Dipping Sauce

Roasted Potato Wedges reen Pepper Stick Banana Bread

nana Bre Square

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

September 29

Sloppy Joes

1. The Abbey Groups Main Menu Entree 2. Hoagieville Made to Order Deli Bar 3. Garden Fresh Salad Bar 4. Yogurt Parfait & Cheese Bun [substitute vour main entréel 6. Little Italy Pizzeria and Abbey Express Daily Specials

AVAILABLE DAILY

PRICES: **Breakfast**

Regular \$1.25 Reduced \$FREE Adult \$1.75

Lunch

Regular JFK \$2.00 Regular WMHS \$2.25 Reduced \$FREE Adult \$3.25

Beverages

Milk \$0.50 Juice \$0.50

Pay for your student's meals with our easy online bill pay system. Go to: www.abbeygroup. net/lunch/prepay

August 27 Chicken Patty Sandwich Lettuce, Tomato & Cheese Garden Steamed Corn

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

September 3

Homemade Pepperoni, Cheese or Veggie Pizza

Roasted Broccoli

Fresh Cucumber Sticks

Or Yogurt
Or Sunbutter and Jelly
Or Deli Sandwich
Or Chaf Salad

Fresh Fruit

September 10

Early Dismissal Grades 6-12 Dress Your Own

Burger ttuce, Tomato & Chee

Oven Roasted Sweet Potatoes

Fresh Fruit

Fresh Milk

September 17

yed Start Grade: Homemade

Pepperoni, Chees or Veggie Pizza

Caesar Salad esh Carrot Stic Hummus Dip

September 24

Homemade Pepperoni, Chee or Veggie Pizza

Chopped Green Salad

Taco Bar w/ The Works

August 28

Or Yogurt
Or Sunbutter and Jelly
Or Deli Sandwich
Or Chef Salad

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk September 4 September 5

French Toast Sticks w/

Warm Syrup

Scrambled Eggs Sweet & White

Home Fries Celery Sticks

Nachos Supreme Chicken Noodle Rice Pilaf Warm Black Beans Steamed Corn Soup Carrot Sticks

Fresh Fruit Fresh Fruit September 11 September 12

Marinara Sauce Hearty Chili Side Caesar Salad Marinated Black Bean Salad

Or Yogurt
Or Sunbutter and Jelly
Or Deli Sandwich
Or Chef Salad Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Chef Salad Taste Test: Apple Cole Slaw

Fresh Fruit Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

September 18 September 19

Roasted Potato

Wedges
Apple Cole Slaw

Fresh Fruit

September 25 Meatball Sub Chicken Fajitas

Oven Roasted Sweet Potatoes Fresh Cucumber Sticks Rice Pilaf Warm Black Bean Steamed Corn

Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Chef Salad

Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk

Looking for a job that lets you be at home Come Join our Team! Got to the link below. You can download an application or see what

we have available through Careerbuilder.

PLEASE NOTE: Middle and High school menu information is available at www.abbeygroup.net/ schoolmenus. You can also learn about options for managing your child's account at the website.

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

POSTAL PATRON

****ECRWSS**

WINOOSKI, VT 05404

WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wsdschools.org

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Winooski Middle and High School

Principal: **Leon Wheeler** 802-655-3530 lwheeler@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 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@wsdschools.org