Celebrating Our Achievements!

Congratulations Lady Spartans — Division III Champions!

By Coach Tom Prim

The hard work of the Lady Spartans paid off as they won their first State Championship in school history on Saturday, March 16 in the Barre Auditorium. It was a great team effort, and all players at some point in the season contributed. And that held true in the final two games. In the semifinal game, Brianna Robare, Ashley Antoniak, and Fallon Perrault came up big. Then, in the final game, Amanda Nattress and Christina Dang, stepped up in the second half to put the Spartans over the top. I am so proud of all these young ladies. They never gave up — which was one of their strengths. They always believed. Congratulations, team! What an accomplishment!!

Thank You, Knights of Columbus!

By Robin Hood

Brian Senecal, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Council #2284 presents Robin Hood, Special Education Director, with a check for $1,000. This money is a result of the council's tootsie roll sales and is used toward funding summer camp experiences for students with special needs, as well as to meet other special needs students may have. Thank you Brian and KOC!
Student Outcomes Show Improvement!

By Mary K. Lundeen, M.Ed., Superintendent of Schools

As part of the federal No Child Left Behind law, schools in the US are required to participate in standardized state assessments. The goal of this federal law was to have all students performing at grade level by 2014. In Vermont, our students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 take the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) each fall. This assessment measures proficiency to state standards in reading, writing and math. Science is assessed in the spring. The federal legislation requires all students to participate in the assessment. This includes non-English speakers and students with disabilities.

For the past three years (3), the faculty and staff of the Winooski School District have worked earnestly to improve our student outcomes. We have participated as a District in professional development in the area of brain research and learning, writing across the curriculum and (K-12) literacy and math. We have focused on instructional practices learned through brain research to provide students with learning opportunities that are meaningful and developmentally appropriate. Providing professional development to all teachers at the High School, and now in the Middle School, in the area of writing led to conversations and an understanding that all teachers have a responsibility to provide direct, implicit instruction in various genres of writing. Students must be able to read and write to access content and participate in meaningful learning.

During our August District Convocation, I asked the faculty and staff to “imagine the possibilities” – to take some of our challenges and turn them into opportunities for real change! They did that by embracing the professional development we identified as a District, and worked to implement the new instructional practices within their classrooms and curriculum. The release of the fall 2012 NECAP scores is a testament to this work. Our scores indicate that we are seeing improvement in student outcomes. Our scores for students “meeting proficiency” improved significantly in reading and writing at the High School where a big focus of the school improvement grant was on literacy. While this is reason for us to celebrate, we also understand that we still have more work to do. However, the increase in scores validates our work, and gives us the motivation to continue with making change! So again, I ask all of us to “imagine the possibilities”.

Thank you Winooski voters for continuing to support our students and schools. We recognize and appreciate your continued support!

Happy Spring!

By Jen Corrigan, Board of School Trustees

On behalf of the School Board, congratulations to the Lady Spartans for an excellent season — culminating in the setting of a school record for the girl’s basketball team as Division III Champions! We are all so proud of the hard work and dedication they put into their team this season!

We would also like to acknowledge our gratitude to the voting community with a big THANK YOU for passing the school budget on March 5th. We appreciate your continued support. Thanks as well to our administrators and staff for their continued hard work in making Winooski Schools a great place to learn.

There are many ways to be involved in the progress our school is making. Please visit the school’s website at www.wsdschools.org for details about upcoming sports events, Partnership for Change Meetings, Superintendent search information and the many other goings-on taking place here at school.

Thank you for your continued support of Winooski School District.

PROPOSALS SOUGHT: Partnership For Change Connection Grants Available

By Kimberly Ead

Hello students, teachers, or community members. The Community Based Learning Implementation Team is inviting you to submit a proposal that will connect the schools with community partners. Grant applications will be accepted from within the Burlington or Winooski public schools or from outside organizations that will work directly with the schools.

This grant opportunity is intended to offset costs that may have prevented you from exploring, experimenting, and implementing. The goal is to support innovation and learning. As such, sharing what you learned from your experience is part of the grant process.

The review team meets monthly to review applications and will notify applicants of awards within 2 weeks of the meeting. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications as soon as they are complete as grant money is limited.

Most initial requests will be under $1000—but ambitious projects or initiatives that require more funding should submit their full request. All relevant proposals will be received! Think outside the box.

You can get a hard copy of the application in the Winooski High School Main Office (in the yellow folder) or email kead@wsdschools.org for an electronic copy.

Catch Us on RETN

Did you know you can watch Winooski School Board meetings on the internet on your own schedule? Visit www.retn.org and click on “Board Meetings” under the “School Connections” heading. You can find Winooski at the bottom of the list of area schools.
**Linking Learning to Life Changes Name to Navicate**

By Lindsey Lathrop

Linking Learning to Life, an education non-profit, announces the re-branding of its organization to Navicate (www.navicate.org). The name change reflects the evolving role the organization has played in helping Vermont’s young people navigate next steps while also highlighting the roles its had in the transformation of education in the state. Navicate engages students at Winooski High School through its student internship program, TIPS, and career event program, Learn to Earn.

Governor Shumlin’s “K-Through-Job” proposal emphasizes creating flexible pathways to secondary school completion, including increased investment in dual-enrollment, internships, and early college programs. This could mean more pressure put on schools to get students into their communities doing work-based and service learning. “We are working on professionalizing the field for those educators and employers that are creating these experiences for students. It needs to be done in a quality way across the board. In fact, we are excited to launch a work-based learning training for educators this spring,” says Rich Tulikangas, Executive Director.

“Our new name better positions us to share the stories of our alumni that are leading successful careers, in whatever interest they decided to follow,” remarks Tulikangas.

As Navicate board member, program alumni, and owner of TLC Nursing Associations, Mohamed Basha, shared at last year’s 15th anniversary event “I’m 26, running a company in Vermont and employ over 200 people in Vermont and New Hampshire. We make a difference in people’s lives…being an entrepreneur is because of what I learned through LLL [Navicate]. I was able to take college classes and when I got done with high school in 2002, I had almost one year’s worth of college credit. That really gave me a jump start in life.”

The organization hopes to leverage stories like these to attract new funders and expand their capacity to reach even more students, schools, and employers through programs and trainings. “We’re helping to build a new system…one where hands-on learning is mainstream and accepted. One where young people are treated as individuals. Here’s to our next chapter!” Lathrop excitedly shares.

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**Learning through Design with the Partnership for Change**

By Megan Behrend, Partnership For Change

Building on the energy and successes of the past month, the Partnership for Change is gearing up for an April filled with exciting events and opportunities.

The Partnership is kicking off the month with a focus on design thinking, a framework for problem-solving used by some of the most innovative organizations in the world. Jess Munro, former designer for the global design firm IDEO, is working with local teachers and community leaders on integrating design thinking into our curriculum. On Thursday, April 4, the Partnership is hosting a presentation entitled *Design Thinking in Education* at Burlington’s Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center. Following the presentation, guests are invited to continue the conversation at a cash-bar reception. Space is limited, so please register at dted.eventbrite.com if you plan to attend.

Teams of students, teachers, and parents at both Winooski High School and Burlington High School are continuing the Partnership’s work to identify what our graduates need to succeed. Based on the collaborative thinking of more than 300 students, educators, parents, and community members at a Community Learning Conversation earlier this year, each team is developing a draft of graduate expectations to be shared this month. The teams will then collect feedback from diverse stakeholders across the community as they work toward a final draft.

The Partnership is also sponsoring two site visits this month aimed at exploring some of the nation’s most innovative approaches to K-12 education. On April 7, the Youth Leadership and Engagement Implementation Team is bringing a group of WHS and BHS students to Providence, Rhode Island to visit the MET—a network of six small, public high schools—as well as a number of community organizations devoted to youth engagement. On the same day, a group of Winooski and Burlington teachers will travel to Maine to investigate how other schools are using innovative teaching and learning environments to enrich student learning.

To learn more about the Partnership for Change and the opportunities described in this article, visit www.partnershipvt.org. If you would like to get involved, please contact us at partnershipforchangevt@gmail.com or 802-363-2342.

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**PACTS-Sponsored Potluck Sees Record Attendance**

By Andrea Wheeland

The Winooski District-Wide PACTS team (Parents and Community Together with Schools) hosted the February Community Potluck at the O’Brien Center and were thrilled to have over 130 folks attend. Having the parking lot overflow is just the kind of problem we want to have! One attendee wrote, “Wonderfully done! Our family enjoyed the multi-generational crowd of Winooski residents and the delightful curry meal.”

As a group we strive to “honor the heart and wisdom of our community to inspire student success.” Please contact group members Nicole Mace (802-363-7777), Andrea Wheeland (awheeland@wsdschools.org), or Anera Foco (316-6240 or afoco@wsdschools.org) with questions, concerns or to find out how you can get involved.
Spring Fever Dance-A-Thon April 13

By the Winooski Dollars for Scholars Board

It was still snowing at the end of March, but spring will be here before you know it. And with it, the first ever Spring Fever Dance-a-thon, a family-friendly fundraiser for Winooski Dollars for Scholars. We’ll boogy down on Saturday, April 13, from 2-8 p.m. in the Winooski Welcome Center. Dancers must raise at least $25 to compete. You can fundraise on your own, or recruit up to four friends to join you. We’d love it if you registered in advance, but you can pay at the door if you’d like.

Why should you join us? Because it’ll be fun! Also because we’ll have prizes. And great music. And it’ll be a chance to see your neighbors and meet new friends -- including Winooski’s own A2VT, the local hip-hop group behind the song and video “Winooski My Town.” They’ll be performing from 7-7:30 p.m.

The best part? We’ll be raising money for Winooski’s hard-working high school grads. Winooski Dollars for Scholars is a nonprofit that awards merit-based scholarships to Winooski students. It provides scholarship money to high school grads pursuing higher education, and to middle and high school students pursuing enrichment activities, like going to the Governor’s Institute, or spending a week at an educational camp.

Every year, Winooski Dollars for Scholars gives away $15,000-$18,000 to support students who have demonstrated a drive to succeed. The dance-a-thon is your chance to help them.

So get out your dancing shoes and get ready! You can sign up online, and download pledge sheets at our website, www.winooskidollarsforscholars.org. Say you’re coming on Facebook -- we’ve got a dance-a-thon event page set up, thanks to board member Elizabeth Stillwell. That site is: http://www.facebook.com/WinooskiDollarsForScholars

Feel free to email Cathy Resmer at cathy@sevendaysvt.com; Elizabeth Stillwell at elizabeth.stillwell@icloud.com or Morgan Kelner at mkelner14@gmail.com or seek out Marc McQuinn at the highschool with questions.....or get in touch to pledge money to our dancing teams!

As always, we’re grateful and appreciative for all the support we’ve received from the community over all these years. We are a small, dedicated board with lots of new energy and ideas and would love for you to join us.

SAVE THE DATE

You are invited... To Spring Into the Arts 2013!

A week of art and music highlighting Winooski students’ artistic achievements in the community.

Opening Kick-Off Event: Monday, May 20th, 4pm, Winooski Welcome Center, Downtown Winooski. Enjoy selected Winooski students’ art on display as you listen to a variety of student musical performances. Refreshments will be served.

Middle/High School Spring Concert: Tuesday, May 21st, 6-7pm, Performing Arts Center, Winooski Middle/High School. Come listen to the Spartan band, orchestra, and chorus perform at 6:30pm. Student artwork will be on display in the lobby prior to the performance. Refreshments will be served at 6pm.

Hungry Bowls Event and JFK Elementary Spring Concert: Thursday, May 23rd, 5:30-7pm, Performing Arts Center, Winooski Middle/High School. Enjoy soup in a student-made bowl in an event to end hunger in our community. The JFK Elementary chorus, band, and orchestra will perform at 6:30pm in our culminating event.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Volunteers Needed

By Cheryl Bean Brosnan, Guidance Counselor, Winooski Middle School

Looking for Volunteers for “The Reality Store”, a financial literacy project for Winooski Middle School students. We need adults to staff tables at the O’Brien Center on Wednesday, April 17th, 8:30-3.

Adults will be assisting students in choosing costs of budget items, needs and wants. They have a monthly net income in which they have to look at needs and wants, based on their income.

Each table will have a different purchasing item. Students will need assistance in balancing their budgets to meet their incomes.

A free lunch is included. Please call Cheryl Brosnan, 383-6107 for questions and sign up.

Save The Date for Green Up Day!

By Ali Kenney, Winooski Environmental Board

Green Up Day is quickly approaching — this year it’s Saturday May 4, and it’s one of our favorite days of the year. Last year we set a record for participation and trash collected. Let’s beat it again this year. Mark your calendars and tell all your friends and family to do the same!
Publicly Funded PreKindergarten


What is publicly funded prekindergarten education?

It is six to ten hours per week of developmentally appropriate learning experiences that are based on Vermont’s Early Learning Standards. Children who reside in Winooski and are between the ages of three – five are eligible. Prekindergarten education is limited to the academic year (September 2013 – June 2014).

Is this 6-10 hour/week pre-kindergarten program tuition free?

The prekindergarten program offered in the public school is tuition free. The prekindergarten program offered through a partner (daycare and education program) may charge families the difference between the actual costs of providing the 6-10 hour pre-kindergarten program and what the Winooski School District pays. Your child’s preschool/daycare must deduct these public funds from your annual tuition bill. Families would continue to be charged fully for whatever care and education program the child needs beyond the 10 hours/week during the academic year.

Positive Guidance – That Works!
A Free Parenting Workshop With Scott Noyes

Join us for a free workshop to learn eight guidance techniques that will lead to more harmony in your home!

Who: For parents of young children
When: Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Where: Founders Middle School Cafeteria 33 Founders Road, Essex VT
Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

If you would like to attend, please contact Megan Flanders at 863-3367 or mflanders@childcareresource.org. We hope you will join us!

You Can Help!

The PTO is continuing to collect Box Tops this year. Please save them and bring them to school. Your child’s teacher can send them to the office for collection. Please note: We no longer collect Campbell’s Soup Labels as they have ended that promotion. Thank you!

Come Play With Us!
Caring and Learning for Me is a YMCA early learning readiness program that is FREE and offers a stimulating environment and helpful education and support for caregivers.

We have a setting with multiple play stations, where caregivers will learn more about how children develop and how they can encourage learning and skill building at home. This play group is for moms, dads, grandparents and/or friends to attend with the children they care for on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Y Early Childhood Program next the JFK Elementary School from 9:00am-11:00am. Free activities and snacks are included!

Contact: Jen Severance at jseverance@gbymca.org or 652-8149 or Kristen Hakey at khakey@gbymca.org or 652-8102.

Spark Camp (for grades K-5) Offered During School Vacation Week

The City’s Community Services Department is offering another Spark Camp during the April school vacation. Hosted at the Winooski Schools Complex, Spark Camps are a full-day extension of Thrive After School, the City’s state-licensed childcare program. Breakfast and snacks are provided for all children; families who register early can choose to send their own lunches (saving $15) or have healthy lunches provided each day. Session fees increase after the April 5 early registration deadline, so parents are encouraged to enroll their child(ren) soon!

WHAT: a 4-day recreational camp, including breakfast, snacks, & (optional) lunch
WHEN: Tuesday, April 23 – Friday, April 26, 8:00am – 5:30pm daily
EARLY REGISTRATION: must be received on or before Friday, April 5:
• 4-day, Tuesday-Friday, includes breakfast, snacks, & lunch = $125/child
• 4-day, Tuesday-Friday, includes breakfast & snacks only, = $110/child

REGISTRATION AFTER APRIL 5:
• 4-day, Tuesday-Friday, including breakfast, snacks, & lunch = $140/child
• Daily enrollment, including breakfast, snacks, & lunch = $40/child per day

FORMS & SIGN-UP:
• Forms available at: JFK Front Office, Winooski Schools Library, & O’Brien Community Center
• Half the session cost, or co-pay if subsidy eligible, is required to register
• Registration payment is non-refundable unless canceled before April 19th

*Vermont Childcare Subsidy is accepted to offset session fees for eligible families*

More information about the Spark Camp— including a downloadable registration form—is available on the City’s website (www.winooskivt.org). Questions can be directed to Program Coordinator Ethan Hausman at 655-1392 x21 (email: coordinator@winooskivt.org) or Director Tori Cleiland at 316-1552.
April Report

By Mary O’Rourke, John F. Kennedy Elementary School Principal

On February 22nd our shining stars celebrated another milestone. They reached 200,000 stars for striving for excellence, being thoughtful, accepting, responsible and safe!! The whole school gathered in the cafeteria where they were treated to a “movie” of their teachers and other adults “just having fun.” Many teachers were caught dancing in the hallways, others were playing games in the classroom, but all were showing that even adults can have fun!! The fifth graders then taught the entire group a dance they learned and everyone participated. The celebration was a huge success and a great way to start the winter break.

Monday, March 15th, the annual PTO-teacher-sponsored Fun Fair was held the Educational Center. Teachers were here playing games, painting faces, playing basketball, etc. and socializing with students. It’s a wonderful evening for parents and teachers to interact with children. I personally want to thank the teachers for being there and the PTO for their continued support of the elementary school.

As many of you may know, our superintendent will not be returning next year and we are in the process of looking at candidates for that position. This is a very important decision that we will make as a district and I want to take this opportunity to invite everyone to meet the finalists on Thursday, April 4th. The community is invited to meet from 3:10p.m. to 4:40p.m. We are looking for as much input from the community as possible.

Focus on Elementary Math

By Glenn Willette

Kindergarteners are using a new math tool called the Math Rack. By sliding colored beads which are arranged in two rows of ten, they explore place value and numbers to twenty.

First and second graders are exploring and refining strategies to learn their math facts. First they complete math packets which review strategies to learn the facts. Then the children enjoy playing board games and using flash cards to automatically and accurately know their math facts.

Third Graders are using a computer program called FASTT Math to achieve their math fact goals. Fourth and fifth graders partner up to time and encourage each other to also become proficient at their multiplication facts.

Let’s Make a Tea Party!

By Mag Thomas

Let’s Make a Tea Party is a program that is happening this session in afterschool. Kindergarten and first grade students along with their adult/parent mentor are working with Mrs. Crandall. The students and their mentors are creating their very own clay tea sets, which includes cups and a teapot. During this program, hand-building techniques will be learned and used to form cups and a teapot. After the set is created, they will be glazed and ready to use! At the end of the seven weeks, the group will celebrate with a tea party using their newly created tea sets!
ELL Students Enjoy American Culture at the Winooski PTO Fun Fair

by Kirsten Kollgaard

On Friday, March 15th, the JFK ELL team sent twenty of their newcomer ELL students to the PTO sponsored Fun Fair. Every year the ELL team invites the new ELL students who have come to JFK in the last year or are now attending 1st grade to the Fun Fair. That way each ELL student gets the chance to attend at least once during their school years at JFK.

The action packed afternoon began with a movie and snacks. After that the students were picked up by chaperones who showed them around the fun fair and held their tickets for them. The chaperones included MMU high school students and St. Michael’s College students.

The kids had a great time playing games, winning prizes, having their faces painted, eating popcorn and of course, jumping in the bouncy castle. The Fun Fair is a great way for our ELL students to participate in an important part of American culture and build stronger relationships with the school community. It also helps build important background knowledge for these students. Fairs, festivals and carnival games are often part of stories and math test questions that students encounter in class. Students who have never participated in an event like this have trouble understanding the context of these stories and test items. Once they have attended the Fun Fair they are able to make the connection between these stories and a real life event they have participated in, promoting a better understanding of the school environment in general.

The JFK ELL Team would like to extend a big thank you to the PTO for putting together the Fun Fair, along with thanks to all of our volunteers and liaisons who helped the children attend the event. We already have students looking forward to next year!

Alice In Wonderland Wows Crowd

Congratulations to the very talented cast of actors and actresses who performed in “Alice in Wonderland,” on March 8th.

They did a wonderful job of acting, singing, and dancing as Alice traveled through wonderland meeting many strange and interesting characters. Also, many thanks to the teachers, parents, and middle and high schoolers for their help in putting together the show.

We couldn’t have done it without you!!
Wonder Abounds
By Leon Wheeler, Middle/High School Principal

On my drive home through the Champlain Islands to Alburgh last night I was thinking about the tremendous opportunities we have here at the Winooski Middle/High School, as well as some of the things that are challenging to resolve along the way. That tends to be a common experience as I make my to work and then home at the end of the day. Actually I find that I am best able to think through complex issues on these drives.

As I was thinking about the school on this particular day in mid-March, my mind was brought back to an experience I had as director of a summer camp in 1989. In preparing for the camp I purchased the book “Sharing Nature with Children” by Joseph Cornell, and designed much of our learning on his approach. The particular experience that stuck with me through the years happened during a “micro-hike.”

Each camper, adult and child alike, were given a 4 foot long string which we took either into the open field or forest and placed it on the ground. Our “hike,” with magnifying glass in hand, was to slowly, inch-by-inch, work our way along the string looking carefully at the beauty and wonder of nature that is so often hidden under our feet.

I remember looking at the patterns of a decaying leaf, watching an ant crawling along a blade of grass, and a honeybee gathering nectar from a flower. It was interesting and fun to slow down and look more deeply, but nothing earth shattering up until that point.

Then to my amazement I saw hidden in the roots of the grass a red eft, a spotted red salamander also known as an eastern newt.

How true it is that so much of life, so much of learning passes us by unseen. It’s good to be reminded to slow down, especially in this fast-paced world we live in. Smell the roses. Listen to the song of the birds. Learn about the things that spark your child, or your neighbor, about their interests, their hopes, the paths they’ve walked.

At its heart, this is the essence of our school transformation. There is hope for our future as we tap into the interests and dreams of our children, and provide them with the tools to cultivate and fertilize those dreams so they lead to something beautiful, something empowering.

Guidance News
By Emmy Charron, High School Guidance Counselor

April is the start of spring and a very busy schedule! Feel free to call me at 802-383-6099 with questions.

• **April 1st:** For all students who have applied to Center for Technology Essex: **Step-Up Day** gives you an opportunity to go check out the school and the program you have applied to. CTE will be sending you more information.

• **April 4th:** Consider Canada College Fair @ South Burlington High School starting at 7:30pm. If you have been considering (or haven't considered our beautiful country to the North), Canada as a great location to attend college, go see what the rave is about. Meet with Admissions Representatives, gather information and open up your future opportunities!

• **April 5th:** Juniors will have the opportunity to visit Lyndon State College, go on a campus tour, learn about potential college degrees and eat lunch at the dining hall. Sign up with Emmy in the guidance office.

• **April 8th:** There will be a trip to Champlain Valley Union High School’s spring College Fair for Juniors. Over 150 college representatives will be present, provide information about their colleges, help you understand the college application process and open your eyes to some awesome opportunities! Sign up with Emmy in the guidance office.

• **April 9th:** Drivers Ed: The spring session of Drivers Education will start at 6:50 am for those students who are already registered for the course.

• **April 11th & 12th:** Parent/Teacher Conferences! 4/11: 12-5, 6-8pm, 4/12: 8-3pm.

Technology Update
By Drew Blanchard, Technology Integration Specialist

The 1-to-1 laptop initiative at the high school, using MacBook Pros with the 9th and 10th grade classes, has been progressing quite well. As of today (March 15th), only 4 machines have needed repair - two were covered by warranty, and two were covered by insurance. Students, teachers and parents are still adjusting to the day-to-day realities of working with these machines, but the responsibility, ultimately, lies with the students. Remember, students have agreed to the following:

- I will only access my own work and/or collaborative work.
- I will respect school, classroom and home rules regarding the use of technology.
- I will treat others as I would like to be treated online; I will not harass, insult or attack anyone.
- I am responsible for maintaining any technology provided for me by the school. I will not install software or change settings without first verifying that it is safe to do so.
- I will always be aware of my computer/device and make sure it’s safe.
- I will protect my computer/device at all times.
- If I violate any of these guidelines, I will lose access at school (or ability to take the machine home) until I’ve fixed the problem to the satisfaction of all involved.

These guidelines were created by the students, and they hold themselves accountable. It’s been amazing to see how well the students respond when they are empowered to make decisions and have a voice in their work at school.

The middle school staff is very close to clarifying how they want to use technology at school; this will determine which device the school will purchase for the 2013-14 school year - replacing the aging netbooks which have become an increasing source of frustration to all. The April newsletter will contain more information about the work currently being done by the middle school teachers.
High School Core Support Is Available After School

Here is our core support afterschool schedule for session IV (March 4-April 19). All programs meet from 3-4pm. Hope to see high school students there!

**Tuesdays**
- Math Core Support with Mrs. Mellen in Room 210
- Technology Core Support with Ms. Poquette in Room 204
- Science Core Support with Ms. Bundy in Room 218
- Spanish and READ 180 Core Support with Ms. Basille in Room 121

**Thursdays**
- Math Core Support with Ms. Clarke in Room 207
- French and READ 180 Core Support with Ms. Saffo in Rm. 121

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Job Fair at Winooski High School**

On **April 29, 2013** from 2:00pm to 4:00pm Winooski High School’s College and Career class students are hosting a job fair in the school cafeteria. We are having this event because we want to show students options about possible jobs, internships and apprenticeships that will benefit their future. If students bring good questions and resumes to participating employers they will be receiving a ticket for a chance to dunk the principal. This is open to all students 15 or older.

**WHS French Students Share Digital Storybooks with JFK Elementary Third Graders**

*By Veronica Saffo & Cara Casier*

As part of the implementation of 1:1 technology in WHS, French students created digital storybooks. Most students used VoiceThread which is a web based program that allows students to put graphics, text and voice recordings together. This program is one of many free programs students are learning to use in their daily work at WHS. Part of the students’ assignment was to create this storybook to be shared with an audience from JFK. Recently Ms. Goetz’s 3rd grade class visited the World Languages classroom and watched these stories. Some of the stories had English subtitles and some were translated by the students as they played. This collaboration with the elementary classroom provided a genuine and meaningful task for the French students. In another instance, the students also were able to watch a video made last year about WHS’s most recent trip to France to see what some of the benefits can be taking a foreign language in high school.

**Spartan Garden Wrap Featured in our School Cafeteria**

*By Barbara Russ*

On Tuesday, April 16th, our four Jr. Iron Chefs—Nathalie Bray, Alyssa Winegar, Taylor Langlais, and Jason Truong will be helping to prepare Spartan Garden Wraps for lunch in the school cafeteria. They will also be offering free samples to students during lunch. Our chefs created and prepared their garden wrap recipe for the Jr. Iron Chef competition held in early February. We are excited to have them share the recipe in the school cafeteria and would like to thank The Abbey Group for making it happen and for their ongoing support of our chefs!
Got Summer Plans?
By Heidi McLaughlin

The National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI), a FREE two-week residential program for high school students at the University of Vermont.

Local, regional and global transportation systems are vital components to community development, economic vitality and creating a sustainable future. Transportation policies and the use of the system impact the environment, energy choices, culture, mobility between regions and groups, as well as the overall quality of life.

PROGRAM DATES: July 28 - August 10, 2013

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
This hands-on program introduces students to transportation careers and the dynamic field of transportation. Students can explore careers in aviation, highway, maritime and transit through engineering, project management and operations. Staff from the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) will serve in valuable roles as guest speakers, tour guides, and mentors during the program.

Students will live in UVM residence while participating in an interactive and engaging look at future professional options. They will interact with professionals from all sectors of the transportation field.

Through engaging with visiting professionals, hands-on academic classes, field trips and exercises to encourage personal investigation students will develop a clear understanding of how transportation systems impact our lives daily in large and small ways and the learn about the vast opportunities for becoming part of the future profession to build and maintain sustainable transportation options.

PROGRAM FUNDING
The Institute is sponsored by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the University of Vermont, and is funded through a grant from the Federal Highway Administration. As the program is grant sponsored, it is completely free to participants. There is an application process and 25 students will be admitted.

WHO SHOULD APPLY
The Institute is available to students, by application, who are entering 10th, 11th, and 12th grade. Students are provided housing, meals, field trips and all activities. Students live on the University of Vermont campus residence in dormitories supervised 24/7 by UVM trained counselors and staff.

The Vermont National Summer Transportation Institute provides an active experiential opportunity for high school students to explore transportation careers. The program is about making real life connections for students between their interests and their future career paths.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Visit http://www.uvm.edu/~summer/precollege/courses/transportation-institute/

A Dash Of Spring Color
By Jessica Bruce

Painting class with Mrs. Bruce just completed a group project where they re-created a stained glass artwork, using their own style, learned techniques, and acrylic paint to piece each student’s work together to make the whole masterpiece.

We invite you to come into school and see it in the high school hallway case to really appreciate the artistry! Great job, everyone!

Writer’s Corner

Here are two middle school writing samples submitted by teacher Amy Sherrer. Nice work, Holly and Nate!

Amazing

It was amazing
Laughing about all of life
The fun memories

(Holly Turner 2013: Haiku)

i am a man
i am a man
i wonder how my life will turn out
i hear my questions
i see myself
i want to be successful

i am a man
i pretend i'm still a kid
i feel scared inside
i touch my goals
i worry i'm not trying hard enough
i cry on the inside

i am a man
i understand what is asked of me
i say i just need to stop and breathe
i dream i’m in a better place
i try to work hard
i hope i will make it

i am a man

(Nate Whitney 2013)

Painters Starr Martin, Olivia Lavalette, Hom Pradhan, Ambika Mahat, Hasan Ko, and Halima Mohamed. Missing: Jillian Learned and Niha Jackson
Winooski High School
Well-Represented
at Afterschool and
Summer Learning Day

By Sarah Campbell and Todd Lavigne

Four Winooski High School students and two AmeriCorps State Members from the Winooski Teen Center headed to Montpelier on Wednesday, February 27th, to participate in the Vermont Afterschool and Summer Learning Day as youth ambassadors. Senior Maryan Hassan, junior Naima Mohamed, and sophomores Ali Omar and Idris Sheik-Bile got to take a tour of the Statehouse and discuss their experiences in afterschool programs, both at Winooski High School and the Winooski Teen Center, with Vermont legislators. The students were able to interact with local legislators, including Kesha Ram, as they ate lunch and discussed everything from global affairs to local education. The students got to learn about Vermont’s state legislature as well as sharing highlights about Winooski’s afterschool programs. Our students did a great job representing Winooski and had a fun field trip as well!

Fun, Hard Work, and JiuJitsu

By Nancy Keller

Perseverance is defined as “steady and continued action despite difficulties or setbacks,” and that is what Bishal Bista likes best about Winooski’s CCLC Afterschool JiuJitsu program with Sensei David Quinlan. “I like how people don’t give up when they are competing, they stay with it,” replied Bishal when asked what he liked best about this program. He went on to explain that even when he couldn’t fully participate in JiuJitsu last year because of an injury, he “still kept coming to every class” and did what he could. He didn’t give up. This year he is healthy and enjoying the opportunity to “learn new moves and techniques” and looks forward to competing again.

Sensei Quinlan of Martial Way Self Defense Center has been offering Brazilian JiuJitsu, a grappling martial art, for Winooski Middle and High School students for the past eight years through the CCLC Afterschool Programs. Students in grades 6 through 12 train with Mr. Quinlan one, sometimes two, times a week, and this training culminates in tournament participation at the Vermont Open Grappling Championship, a major JiuJitsu competition held at our school. This year’s tournament will be held on Saturday, April 13, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Som Khatiwada is looking forward to the competition, too, but when asked what he likes best about JiuJitsu he said, “I like the steps and the different kinds of moves.” With twenty students signed up for this session of JiuJitsu, he is not the only student who thinks so. Visit the school’s cafeteria after school on a Thursday afternoon and you will see for yourself an exuberant and excited group of students all practicing this martial art.
City Council Update

By Sarah Robinson

Usually, this is the spot for us to tell you about all that we have done on the City Council. The past three months have been extremely busy – and the Council spent many hours and many meetings preparing a budget and City Charter to send to you for your vote on Town Meeting Day. We have reviewed our annual audit, and discussed many topics with citizens including the F-35 basing proposal and rewriting zoning ordinance. In this article, however, I want to take a brief moment to share some thoughts on the importance of neighbors, and ask for your help.

We were out of town visiting family over the holidays, when the first major winter storm arrived in Winooski. Our house is set back from the street, and we have a set of stairs and many feet of sidewalk to clear after a snow. A neighbor who knew we were away came over to check on our house and shovel our stair and walk. While he was shoveling, another neighbor, seeing an unfamiliar person around our house, came outside to ask who he was. Imagine our delight and gratitude when we finally arrived home, late one night with an infant and a car full of luggage to see the path to our door cleared. We didn’t ask or pay our neighbors to watch over our house, but their neighborly deeds were some of the best holiday presents we could have received.

This simple story illustrates just one way that neighbors look out for one another in Winooski. Neighbors can help keep us safe, reduce isolation for elders or people with disabilities, and make our city feel a little bit smaller and more familiar.

How can we do a better job as citizens and as your elected officials recognizing and thanking each other for being good neighbors? How can we help neighbors meet each other? How can the City Council help? If you have an idea, I’d like to hear from you. Please email me at srobinson@winooskivt.org.

As always, please feel free to contact any of us to share an idea, voice a concern or ask a question. There is no item too big or too small. You can find our contact information at www.winooskivt.org.

Mayor O’Brien joins Mayor Weinberger for his week at Burlington High School

By Lindsey Cox

On March 20, Winooski’s Mayor Michael O’Brien joined Mayor Miro Weinberger, as he spent a week in Burlington High School. Mayor Weinberger and Mayor O’Brien joined the Partnership for Change, BHS students, and the Burlington school leadership for a lunch meeting to discuss the work of the Partnership. The fellows shared some of the Partnership’s progress thus far, including the Year-End Studies (YES) program at BHS planned for this June and the emphasis on teacher teaming and one-to-one technology at Winooski Middle/High School.

The group also discussed how both cities could strengthen their partnerships with the schools. Community-Based Learning fellow Dov Stucker described his own course for the YES program, which asks students to envision Burlington in 2025 and problem solve ways to move in that direction. Mayor O’Brien was enthusiastic about Dov’s course and expressed interest in creating additional opportunities for students to work on some real problems that our cities face.

Later that afternoon, Mayor O’Brien and Mayor Weinberger, along with BHS students and educators, were joined by local business leaders from MyWebGrocer, Dealer.com, TwinCraft Soaps, IBM, Digilicious, August First Bakery and community partners for a round table discussion about community-school connections. Noting that “there is an essential connection between a strong education system and a strong economy,” Mayor Weinberger facilitated a discussion about how local businesses and organizations might work with schools to ensure that every student is prepared for success in today’s rapidly changing world. Mayor O’Brien recognized the potential to enrich learning opportunities by strengthening the schools’ connections with the community.

“We’re really one community and we have a lot of things that are in common. I look forward to partnerships not only between the two schools, but also between the business and the communities as a whole,” he said.

When asked whether Winooski city leadership would be interested in spending a week at WMHS, Mayor O’Brien was enthusiastic and applauded Mayor Weinberger for “taking the first step and showing that it could work.”

Reflecting on Mayor Weinberger’s week at school, BHS junior Annika Freudenberger wrote, “The mayor’s week was just the start of a permanent partnership, one in which all members of our community are involved and one in which the learning opportunities are endless.”
Winooski Summer Youth Enrichment Program Dates Announced

The Summer Youth Enrichment Program, operated by the City of Winooski's Community Services Department, will be hosted at Winooski High School again in 2013. The day camp-style program is planned for seven weeks, June 24 – Aug 9, with registration open to students entering first through sixth grades in the fall. Breakfasts and lunches are provided each day through the Summer Food Program. Parents and guardians can choose to enroll their child(ren) in any or all of the week-long sessions.

The state-licensed program runs from 8am – 3pm for full-day sessions, but working parents can have their children stay to safely play under staff supervision until 5:30pm, at no additional cost. The School District will be operating Brain Camp in the mornings during the weeks of July 8-12 & 15-19; the City will offer afternoons-only Summer Program sessions those two weeks to complement Brain Camp. Parents who register their child(ren) for the Program can have them remain on site at the School, engaged in social activities, creative projects, and active games, until 5:30.

This year, the first week in July will be a special short session: The Summer Program is completely FREE for Winooski children to attend Monday, July 1 – Wednesday, July 3. Parents only need to fill out a registration form to have a child participate that week.

All Summer Program sessions are listed below:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 24-28</td>
<td>M-F, full days</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1-3</td>
<td>M-W, full-days (FREE)</td>
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<td>July 8-12</td>
<td>M-F, (noon-5:30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15-19</td>
<td>M-F, (noon-5:30)</td>
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<td>July 22-26</td>
<td>M-F, full days</td>
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<td>July 29-Aug. 2</td>
<td>M-F, full days</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 5-9</td>
<td>Mon-Fri, full days</td>
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Vermont childcare subsidy is accepted to offset the cost of the program, and Winooski families who apply for subsidy will be charged on a sliding scale (based on subsidy eligibility, free/reduced lunch status, and the number of children from the same family attending). Parents are strongly encouraged to apply for subsidy now to ensure that children are eligible at the start of the program. Subsidy applications can be requested directly from Child Care Resource (863-3367) or picked up in the Youth Programs Office at the O’Brien Community Center.

More details, including session costs, will be available soon on the City’s website. Please contact Ethan Hausman, Programs Coordinator, (655-1392 x21 or "coordinator@winooskivt.org") for more information about the Summer Youth Enrichment Program or subsidy application process.

Y Healthy Kids Day
YMCA in Burlington

Saturday, April 13 from 9-2PM

Get a head start on summer at the 13th annual Healthy Kids Day, a free community event packed with activities, entertainment and education for active young families. Some highlights include: Open Swim and Gym times, Bounce House, Make your own smoothies and healthy snacks, Vermont Community Garden Network, Japan America Society of Vermont Camp and Community booths, and giveaways!

Calling all Kids! Try YMCA Camp Greylock

By Cal Workman

Looking for a great summer camp experience? The Y runs Camp Greylock, a day camp along the shores of Lake Champlain at Kingsland Bay State Park in Ferrisburgh. Kids ages 6-15 do it all at camp including: sports, drama, canoeing, swimming and crafts. Free lunch provided daily and free transportation from the Winooski Y (8:05 a.m./5:00 p.m.). Financial assistance is available.

Winooski Farmers’ Market - Summer 2013

The Winooski Farmers’ Market is preparing for a bustling, vibrant market again this 2013 summer season and we invite you to be a part of it!

Want to be a season vendor, day vendor, do a demo, host a kid’s activity, or play music? Send an email to: winookismarket@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

WCSPC April Update

By Kate Nugent

April’s community dinner will take place on the 17th, from 5:30 PM to 7. This dinner is sponsored by the Lead Program (based in Burlington) that is available to all of Winooski (with certain requirements). Come learn about the program, who can apply, and how easy it is (it essentially amounts to free home improvements, often including new windows). Landlords and tenants and homeowners, all should find out more. It may sound too good to be true, but it’s not! Check out our website www.WCSPC.org to keep up-to-date about the dinner details, as well as the Lead Program’s website for more information http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/LeadPaint/. Can’t wait to see you there at our first community dinner of spring!

Call for Volunteers

By Alaina Wermers, AmeriCorps VISTA

Do you enjoy working with youth and want to make a difference in your community? If so, come volunteer at the Winooski Teen Center’s Drop-In hours on Friday nights!

The Teen Center is a safe, supportive, and substance-free environment in which adolescents and young adults can play games, use computers, watch a movie, or simply socialize with their peers.

Volunteers will provide general supervision of teens and the facility while they engage our teens in basketball, games, and other activities. Volunteers assist the Teen Center Directors in supervision of the Teen Center space. They are responsible for enforcing Teen Center Rules and assisting the Directors on an as-needed basis. If you are interested in this opportunity, visit our website at winooskivt.org.
How much does CCV cost? Another word for cost is "tuition" which depends upon the number of credits that you take. The full-time tuition at CCV is $2,834/semester or about $700/course, the lowest tuition of any college in Vermont! If you go to CCV full-time you will take at least 12 credits, usually 4 courses/semester. CCV has 3 semesters: fall, spring & summer. Other CCV costs include books, materials & fees - about $400/semester for full-time students. If you go to CCV part-time, you will pay less.

What is financial aid? Financial aid is money that will help you pay for the cost of college. Nearly 70% of CCV students receive some form of financial aid. Financial aid includes:
- A federal or state grant - money that is given to you by the government. You do not need to pay it back.
- A scholarship - money that is given to you by a college, business or organization. You do not need to pay it back.
- A student loan - money that you borrow from the federal government or a bank. You do need to pay it back.

In fact, you not only have to pay back the loan but also some additional money (called "interest") which you’re charged for borrowing the money to pay tuition and related expenses.

Can I get financial aid? Usually yes! And, you have to apply for it.
- Qualifying for federal grants may depend on your parents’ income, family size, savings and the number of people in your family who are going to college.
- Scholarships often target students with a particular characteristic, focus, experience or goal. For example, are you a lefty? You could get a scholarship! Perhaps you want to be an engineer or a nurse. There’s a scholarship for you!

Are you the first to go to college in your family? There's a scholarship for you! Are you in need of a financial aid package? This is the time to apply. For scholarship information visit VSAC at www.vsac.org or read about them at www.vsacroadmaps.org. You may be eligible to receive a grant from the State of Vermont.

How do I apply for financial aid? You apply for financial aid each spring. Please take these steps:
1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA for short). The website is www.fafsa.ed.gov. On the form you’ll provide some information about you and your parents.
2. Specifically, you will need:
   - Your and your parents’ 2012 tax returns
   - Your and your parents’ most recent bank & investment statements
   - Apply for a Personal Identification Number or PIN which allows you and your parents to sign the application electronically and also check on the status of your application.
3. Complete the Vermont Grant application at www.vsac.org. VSAC stands for Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. You may be eligible to receive a grant from the State of Vermont.
4. Complete the CCV Financial Aid Application, which you can print off of our website at www.ccv.edu.
5. Once you’ve taken these steps or if you have any questions, please call VSAC at 800-642-3177 or visit their website dedicated to high school students www.vsacroadmaps.org.

Is there a deadline to apply for financial aid? Yes! The financial aid deadline for our Summer 2013 semester is Friday, May 10. For the Fall 2013 semester, it is Friday, August 23.

I have lots of time. Why should I start now? The earlier you start the financial aid application, the earlier you will find out what you will receive for financial aid.

How do I apply for scholarships? You typically apply for scholarships a few months up to a year before you start your fall semester. CCV’s fall semester begins in early September. Some scholarships are available on shorter notice and may be awarded during the spring semester. CCV’s spring semester begins in late January. Applications may be on paper or web-based. Some scholarship applications may be long requiring you to answer many questions and write some essays; others may be short asking you to answer some general questions about you. Again, for scholarship information visit VSAC or read about them at www.vsac.org.
April Activities at the Senior Center
Meagan Gilmore, Senior Center Director

- 11:30 am Tuesday, April 2nd we’ll have our monthly meeting. There will be a potluck lunch at 11:30 am. Dr. Marion Frazier will be here to discuss foot problems and orthotics around 12:15 pm. We will then finish up with our monthly business meeting. If you’d like to join us please call us at 655-6425.
- We still are hosting the AARP Tax Preparation. Appointments can be scheduled on Mon/Wed/Fri mornings until Friday, April 12th. Call 655-6425 to schedule your appointment.
- Mondays from 11:00-12:00 we’ll have drop-in computer training. We have a volunteer to help you with basic computer questions
- Mondays at 1:00 pm we have Easy Does It Line Dancing! Come dance with us!
- Every Thursday we have lunch and bingo! Lunch is at 11:30 am and reservations are required and bingo starts around 12:30 pm. Come join the fun!
- Fridays at 10:30 am we have a card group. We have cribbage, skip-bo and Phase 10. Come join us on Friday.
- Wednesday, April 17th at 10:00 am Jeannie from BAYADA will be here to help people fill out the 5 wishes form. Please call us at 655-6425 to reserve your spot Five Wishes lets your family and doctors know:
  - Who you want to make health care decisions for you when you can’t make them.
  - The kind of medical treatment you want or don’t want.
  - How comfortable you want to be.
  - How you want people to treat you.
  - What you want your loved ones to know.
- Wednesday, April 24th from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm we’ll be hosting an AARP Drivers Safety Program. Please call us at 655-6425 to get more information or to sign up for the class.

Happy Spring and we hope to see you at the Senior Center!

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News
By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Health Office Coordinator

The Vermont Dental Hygienists’ Association is sponsoring a free dental restorative day at Vermont Technical College in Williston on April 6, 2013. This event is for patients unable to access oral health care in a traditional setting.

Are you going without dental care due to fixed income, unemployment, or for some other reason?

Then this day is for you.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU — APRIL

DAILY BREAKFAST OPTIONS: (Cereal, Bagels, Muffins, Fruit, Milk and Juice offered daily)
Mon: Sausage/Cheese on English Muffin - Tues: Hearty Fruit-filled Muffin - Wed: Ham & Cheese on Bagel - Thurs: Whole Grain Breakfast Bar - Fri: Breakfast Burrito with Egg/Cheddar

Choice of milk served with all complete meals:
Low-fat White & Low-fat Chocolate

AVAILABLE DAILY
- Hoagieville Deli Sandwich
- Garden Fresh Salad Bar
- Cabot Yogurt Parfait & String Cheese
- Vegetable Options
- Farm Fresh Milk
- Assorted Juice & Fresh Fruit

Important Dates:

WINOOSKI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Coordinated by Diane Polson, RDH

To register, call 802 288 8903 or email vtcommunitydentalevent@gmail.com

Tooth Tutor Update
By Diane Polson, RDH

Now that Winter Sports are finished, REMEMBER to ALWAYS wear your Mouth Guard during ALL Sports. If a tooth gets knocked out, seek immediate treatment with your Dentist within 30 minutes. FLOSS, Brush and see your Favorite Dentist regularly!

Any dental concerns, please contact me at 383-6094.

Please Note:

Pay for meals on-line

http://www.abbeygroup.net/

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Winooski School District is to awaken in its diverse student body, a thirst for knowledge, a passion for learning, and a desire to become responsible members of the world community.

We offer a safe, supportive, educational environment. Our team of professionals recognizes individual strengths and needs and fosters academic excellence and personal growth.

Working together in partnership with families, and the community, we strive to instill shared core values – respect, responsibility, empathy – and a commitment to help every student reach his or her potential.

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 398 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 156 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 250 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@winooski.k12 vt.us.