

Celebrating Our Achievements



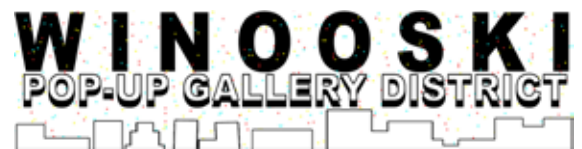
Winooski artist Leslie Fry uses traditional methods, including drawing, modeling and casting with materials that range from paper and plaster to concrete and plastic, to create decidedly nontraditional works.

Pop-Up Gallery District Enlivens Downtown

Kasini House and over forty artists turned five vacant retail spaces in downtown Winooski into an instant gallery district for six weeks in June and July. Gallery spaces were open Thursday-Saturday from noon to 6pm and Sundays from 10-4 pm.

Five Pop-Up Gallery spaces were created:

- Top Gallery
- Welcome Gallery
- Stoplight Gallery
- pop-up pottery
- Falls Gallery



In addition to the Pop-Up Gallery spaces, two permanent gallery spaces were created:

- The Block Gallery
- CCV Winooski Galleries

At the Grand Opening Event on June 24th, in addition to a formal ribbon cutting, the public was invited to tour the galleries, enjoy a glass of wine, taste food from local restaurants, and enjoy live music. On Sundays, galleries held Sidewalk Sales in conjunction with the Winooski Farmer's Market that occurs across the street in front of the Champlain Mill. Artists and organizers hosted film screenings, performances, readings, and artist demonstrations. Free activities for kids included "Open Art Time," "Art Tour," "Make a "ReWreath" Eco-Art Workshop," "Learning about Lines: a Workshop," and "Recycled Arts & Crafts."

The project was underwritten by Opportunities Credit Union with organizational support from Winooski Falls, Winooski Community Partnership, and Art Map Burlington.

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Winooski artist Dan Higgins writes in his bio: "I make photographs (and videos) to connect with and celebrate the underlying social dynamic of communities that interest me. I show photographs as I make them, in the contexts where they were made, inviting collaboration between me, the persons portrayed, and dialogue with the community at large. The images here come from Winooski, where I have lived since 1969."

Greetings from the Dog Days of Summer!

By *Tori Cleiland, Board of School Trustees*

I feel and see the excitement of Winooski, city and school: one, dynamic force offering expansive opportunities to all who reside here. Our downtown looks resplendent in colored flowers, hoppin' restaurants, thoughtful artwork, abundant produce, and happy people. There are great things happening!

The strong and collaborative relationship between city and school is beneficial to all of us. One collaborative project is the school parking lot. City Manager Deac Decarreau and City Engineer Steve Palmer were incredibly thoughtful and diligent in creating a scenario that enabled the school to *finally* (after 7 years) redesign the long-overdue-defunct parking lot in an affordable, efficient manner. We'll all have to learn new habits in our new parking lot to ensure a smooth daily entrance and exit to school so keep an eye out for updates and information. This new learning will be well worth it as we leave an era of near misses, competitive space-finding, and frustrated, grumpiness behind.

The administration team, teachers, and staff worked incredibly hard last school year to implement 30(!) long-range initiatives to "ensure student growth through continuous improvements". It was tireless and impressive work that has set the stage for starting a new school year with improved footing. One I'd like mention is the involvement with PIRC-VT through the framework of NNPS (National Network of Partnership Schools) which is based on the understanding that EVERYONE wants Excellent Schools, Strong Families, and Healthy Communities. A small group of administrators, teachers, parents, and community members began the process of learning the hows and whats to this type of focus. There are four main goals that align with current school work already in place. Each goal has its own committee: School Climate, Emotional and Social Health, Literacy, and Math. Each of these goals will address the six keys to successful school, family and community partnerships: Parenting, Communicating, Volunteering, Learning at Home, Decision Making, and Collaborating with the Community. Now we're ready for YOU to join us! Pick one of the four goals that speaks to you. The time commitment and involvement can be as big or small as you'd like. Many hands make light work. Call or email me and I'll connect you to the committee. We'll also be working with the fabulously, hard-working groups of PTO, Friends, and Boosters. We're all in this together.

We are small, we are dynamic, we are diverse, we are one. And, our city and school are showing our true colors; it feels and looks incredibly good.

Please be in touch! You can reach me at 655-7678 or at tcleiland@winooski.k12.vt.us.

Parents: Immunization Information Needed

By *Mary Martineau, Superintendent of Schools*

Upon review of student health records we have learned that not all students have current immunization records on file. We do not have an up to date immunization record on your child. Vermont Immunization Law, Section 1-18 and the Vermont Statute Chapter 21, Section 4 **require** that all students present a record showing the month and year they received immunizations.

Children without appropriate immunizations will not be allowed to start the next school year on September 1, 2011. We are requesting that you mail a copy of your child's current immunization record, or a provisional acceptance letter from your child's Pediatrician outlining an immunization plan, to the Winooski School District Health Office. Your Pediatrician may also fax a copy to 655-7602.

If your child's pediatrician feels that specified immunizations would be detrimental to your child's health, they must sign a waiver and mail or fax it to the Health Office.

Any child whose parents/guardians feels that specified immunizations conflict with free exercise of religious or moral rights, must sign a waiver and mail or fax it to the school.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

First Day of School

The first day of school for the 2011-2012 school year is Thursday, September 1 at 8:00 a.m.. Preschool starts September 6. Please visit the school website or call with any questions you may have regarding registration.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Revitalizing our Buildings and Grounds

By *Rebecca Provost, Finance Manager*

As students and staff rolled out in June for their summer vacation, the custodial staff began "summer cleaning", the maintenance staff began checking their lists of projects, and contractors moved in to get the campus ready for the upcoming school year. Here is what is going on:

- 12 classrooms at JFK have had new unit ventilators installed.
- The roof at the High School/Middle School building will be repaired and resealed
- Windows at the High School/Middle School will be resealed.
- The parking lot will receive a facelift, as we work in conjunction with the City of Winooski. During this project a new drop off lane will be put in place and traffic patterns in the parking lot will change. The front walkway to the building will be replaced and new lighting will be forthcoming in the fall.

Enjoy the rest of the summer as we put the finishing touches on the buildings and grounds for the upcoming school year.

Chinese Students Come to Winooski School District

By Katherine Helm, Assistant Principal, Grades K-8

On July 12, Chinese students and teachers arrived off the bus from Boston. They came to Winooski for an intensive language camp run by Spiral International. The 30 middle and high school students, and two teachers arrived in the States a week before coming to Winooski. They visited the Washington DC, Philadelphia, New York and then Boston, before being picked up by bus to attend the two week language camp held here at the high school.



The 12-day camp includes full days of school on the weekdays. Each day has a different theme, with a morning of preparatory academics for an afternoon excursion into the community. The students have visited Champlain College,

UVM, The State House, Ben & Jerry's, Shelburne Museum and of course the University Mall. They love to shop. Their Capstone project for the visit is a poster and oral presentation of what they have experienced and learned.

The students and teachers are being

hosted in homes throughout Chittenden County. The host families are enjoying the cultural experience and sharing American Culture with their host students. Many of the host families brought their families to the Lake Monsters Game on Saturday, July 15. Fortunately, the Lake Monsters won. They have also been to Pizza Put, the Intervale, fishing, the waterfront, Stowe, camping and a myriad of other activities.

It has been really nice having these students here.

Many of us have thought that it would be great if this became a yearly event, and maybe in the future, we could arrange to send some of our students to China for a similar experience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Athletics Parent Meeting Scheduled

By Dennis Barcomb, Athletic Director

The mandatory parent meeting for all students who will be participating in fall sports will take place on Tuesday August 23rd at 6:00pm in the LMC (School library). William Harris, a motivational speaker will present a message from 6:00 to 6:30-45 and then I will have my parent meeting from 6:30-6:45-7:30. All middle and high school athletes and parents are required to attend both sessions. However parents are only required to attend the parent meetings when their son/daughter enters grade 9 and 11 (twice in their career). For middle school parents they must attend only when their child enters grade 6. (If a student is playing a sport for the first time in grade 7 or grade 10 then their parents need to attend now).

The parent meeting breaks down all of the important information in the athletic handbook and allows parents to ask any questions they may have.

Fall Sports Practice Schedules Starting

If your student is planning to participate in fall sports, they should know that practices will begin before school starts. Here's the schedule:

- High School football starts 8/15
- Middle School / High School boys and girls soccer starts 8/22
- High School cheerleading starts 8/22

Homecoming Needs Trailers for Parade Floats

With homecoming in the near future Sept 22 nd is the Annual parade the Winooski Boosters are looking for trailers to use as floats for the athletes. If you have a trailer and are interested in driving a float with an athletic team on it please call Lori Lambert @ 324-2019 or Dave Bray @ 881-4068.

School District Seeks Job Applicants

John F. Kennedy School is looking for recess supervisors. This job is Monday-Friday from 11:05a.m.-1:20p.m. Compensation is \$11.00/hour. If you are interested in this part-time opportunity, please send a letter of interest and three letters of reference to Mary O'Rourke, 70 Normand Street, Winooski, 05404.

Save Your Box Tops

Don't forget to keep saving your Box Tops all summer. We will begin collecting them in September.

Got JFK Yearbooks?

If parents are interested in buying a JFK yearbook, they can purchase one in the office this summer.

Winooski Dollars for Scholars Thanks You

By Morgan Kelner, Chair, Winooski Dollars for Scholars

Winooski Dollars for Scholars had a wonderfully successful Calcutta and Silent Auction on 7/15. Winooski residents and friends once again came together as a generous - minded community and helped us to raise a total of \$7,373.00 for scholarship money to Winooski students (after all expenses were paid). What a wonderful fun night! Thank you so much to everyone on the DFS board who worked so hard on this event (Jane Viens, Mary McCabe, Katherine Helm, Lisa Graves, Marc McQuinn, Doug Isham and Eli Harrington and I did too...) and it paid off! Thank you to all the Winooski businesses who supported us including the new businesses in town such as Cupps, Winooski Falls Market and Deli, Our House, Asian Bistro and Vermont Products as well as all the old reliable ones who year after year give us items or Gift Certificates for our Silent Auction. We also are grateful to our elected officials and school administrators who attended our event and to everyone in the community who bought tickets but who could not attend. Many former teachers continue to attend this fundraiser in order to support a school that continues to be dear to their hearts. Winooski Dollars for Scholars needs new board members or people willing to help us with one project. We have a great role model for this kind of project with Mr. Malcovsky who sponsors the Train Show year after year and gives all of the profits to Winooski Dollars for Scholars. We are very grateful to him. Maybe you have an idea for a fundraiser or would like to do a rubber ducky race or promote flashbags commemorating Winooski school events? Maybe you are a business or family that would like to co-sponsor an existing scholarship with Dollars for Scholars. Maybe you could help out with our bookkeeping or secretarial needs. Whatever your contribution, we would appreciate your time and energy. Here are a few comments that came through the next day. *Justin Brown, WHS Principal:* Great work on the Calcutta! What a nice event Dollars for Scholars put on. I'm very impressed with how well the evening went. Kim and I had a great time. And it seemed like it was very fruitful in the fund raising department. Looking forward to next year and many more! *Eli Harrington, WHS graduate, Dollars for Scholars board member and Master of Ceremonies:* Awesome event, thanks to everyone that came out and congrats to future WHS grads who will be putting this money to good use. I am very proud to be from Winooski tonight.



Youth Football League Registration Underway

Calling all Winooski Youth!! Join us for football action this fall! Registration for the 2011 season is currently underway. Visit our NEW website at WinooskiYouthFootball.net to sign up and find more information.

There are several ways in which you can register:

- Friday July 29 from 5pm to 7pm @ Hawthorne Field (behind Winooski High School)
- Friday August 5th from 5pm to 7pm @ Hawthorne Field (behind Winooski High School)
- Fill out registration form (download from website) and email to Info@WinooskiYouthFootball.net

The Tackle Programs cost \$45 and the Flag Program cost \$35. Please make checks payable to Winooski Youth Football.

Age categories:

- 7th and 8th grade tackle
- 5th and 6th grade tackle
- 2nd thru 4th grade flag

Practice starts on August 15th.

Contact Mark Young at 363-0968 if you have questions.

Summer Workouts for Varsity Football Players

By Josh Safran,

WHS Boy's Varsity Football Coach

Please note the following schedule: on Tuesdays and Thursdays, (beginning June 21) we will meet from 7:00 to 8:00 am for Weightlifting and Conditioning, and from 5:30 to 7:00 pm for practice. We will also meet Sundays at 5:00 pm.

All workouts will be led by members of the coaching staff.

We are continuing to sell flashbags and baseball caps to commemorate the Winooski Boys Basketball Division III Championship game. If you would like to buy items, please contact Katherine Helm, Assistant Principal K-8 and board member at 655-3530 or Morgan Kelner at 655-4184. Thanks again Winooski for your support!

FWHS Golf Tournament Fundraiser A Success

Thank-you Golf Tournament 2011 Supporters! Because of your generosity, Friends of Winooski High School volunteers have raised just over \$6000! We use these funds over the course of the school year to fund teacher grants and improve the school community for all Winooski high school students and staff through program support.

A special thanks to: Appearances Salon, Berlin City-Kia VT, Burlington Bagel Bakery, Champlain Country Club, Chick's Market, City Market, Costco, Country Club of Barre, DJ's Tree Service, Edward Jones Investments, Essex Eye Associates, Frenchy's, Frito Lay, Hannaford Food and Drug, Healthy Living, Keybank, Kids' Town, Killington Resort, Koto Restaurant, Lady Di's Deli, LaVigne Funeral Home, Inc., Links at Lang Farm, Mahoney Appraisal Services, Inc., Mcgregor's Medicine on Time, McKee's Pub & Grill, McKenzie Country Classics, Niquette Brothers Plumbing & Heating, North Country Federal CU, Northfield Savings Company, O'Brien & Kaffenberger, O'Brien's Irish Pub, Opportunities Credit Union, People's United Bank, Price Chopper, Rhino Foods, Rocky Ridge Golf Club, Shearer Chevrolet, Shearer GMC Buick Cadillac, Shelburne Shipyards, Snider's Auto Center, Stantec Consulting Services Inc., TD Bank, UBU Daycare, Williston Golf Club, Winooski Police Employees Association.

Want to be involved? Call or email Anne Elston: 655-0942; annelinton@mac.com

K-8 News

By Mary O'Rourke, JFK Elementary and Middle School Principal

It has been a busy summer for many teachers as they have participated in a variety of professional development activities.

Nine teachers from the elementary school, along with four administrators, attended a three-and-a-half-day conference on "Teaching with Poverty in Mind," which was very informative. I walked away with two pertinent messages: 1.) Students' cognitive abilities are not stagnant, and 2.) Teachers teaching students in poverty cannot afford to be "sloppy." We spent 3 ½ days learning engagement strategies, how to help students stay focused and how to change a student's "state."

A group of middle school teachers attended the Middle Grades Institute, while another group participated in a course called "Instruction and Assessment," which incorporated the work of Dr. Christian Jernstadt and his brain research.

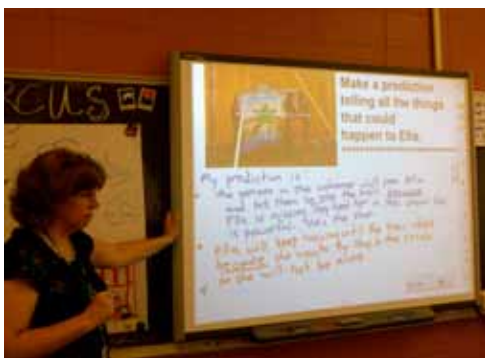
Summer school was very successful. We had about 98 students participate in a two-week session. One week the focus was on mathematics and the second week the focus was on reading. Students attended for three hours and then teachers worked with consultants in the afternoon. Thirteen teachers participated in summer school.

After much thought, Mr. O'Connor, our guidance counselor, has decided to retire. We have hired Sarah Murphy as our new guidance counselor. We welcome Mrs. Murphy and wish Mr. O'Connor well.

Ms. Kennedy, our music teacher, has also decided to move on. We welcome Ms. Danielle Koplinka-Loehr who will be our new music teacher.

Summer School 2011

By Stefanie Hamble, Director of Teaching and Learning, K-12



John F. Kennedy Elementary School just completed two very successful weeks of Summer School 2011! Running from July 5th through July 15th, we had over 100 students enroll, 16

teachers participate and 3 professional developers work with our teachers and students in the areas of Math and Literacy. For the first week the focus for students was on Math and they had the opportunity to do many things including working and learning with tangrams. In the afternoon after students had left for the day, the teachers received professional development from both Beth Hulbert in the area of Math and Rita Macdonald in the area of teaching English Language Learners. At the close of the week,

The first day of school this year for the students is Thursday, September 1st while preschool begins on Tuesday, September 6th. As we begin our new school year, we are making some changes to the beginning of our students' day. In order for our students to start their day on a positive note, we are asking parents to send their child to school no earlier than 7:45 a.m. each morning as there is no supervision available. For parents who must drop off a child early because of work or school commitments, we ask that you send your child to the cafeteria, which opens at 7:30 a.m. As students arrive at 7:45a.m. they will go directly to their classroom where there will be supervision. Students will be allowed to settle in and spend some time getting ready for the day. Our plan is to have a variety of activities that students can choose to do in the classroom.

Teachers will be in their team meetings each morning but at 8:00 a.m. they will return to their classroom. Our school day begins at 8:05 a.m.

By the start of the school year, the parking lot will have a new look. If you are dropping off a student in the morning, you may stop briefly in the front circle, let your child out of the car and continue through the circle. You may not sit in your car or leave it unattended in the front circle at any time. If you would like to accompany your student to the building, there will be a new park and drop lane in the center green, which will accommodate anyone who would like to escort their child in to the building. Additionally, if you are planning to visit school during school hours, please park in the visitors' reserved parking area, which is the first two rows in the parking lot, and not in front of school.

Enjoy your last few weeks of summer. We look forward to seeing all of our students on Thursday, September 1st.

students walked away with strengthened math skills and even their own Math games!

For the second week the focus was on Literacy, during which the students worked with a variety of texts, wrote responses, and became experts in giving, writing, and remembering important details and information from texts. In the afternoon, the teachers received professional development from both Jane Mekkelsen in the area of Literacy and Rita Macdonald in the area of teaching English Language Learners. At the close of our second week, the students walked away with great reading skills and comprehension and free books! Due to the work of Barb Russ and the 21st Century grant, the students had the opportunity to choose from many titles each day, place them in their beautiful bags that were also provided, and at the end of the week take home their books, for free!

Thank you to all students who attended with such positivity and enthusiasm, all of our teachers who put such hard work and time into educating all of the students, Robin Hood whose grant provided the professional development and focus for the two weeks, Barb Russ and the 21st Century grant for the wonderful books and our incredible professional developers, Rita Macdonald, Jane Mekkelsen, and Beth Hulbert who did such a wonderful job with the embedded professional development. We look forward to 2012!

Middle School Students Go to College: Eight Winooski Students Attend the Middle Grades Initiative at UVM

By Bill Clark, WMS ELL Teacher

Eight students from JFK Middle School attended college this summer at the University of Vermont. As guests of the Middle Grades Institute and participants in the Gear Up program, they lived in the dorms, ate in the dining halls, used the athletic facilities (especially the climbing wall), and attended classes. About 130 middle school teachers and university professors sought out the students' expertise, ideas, and perceptions about middle school education during the one-week program held in late June.

"The Gear Up program engages teachers in dialogue and reflection about the role that middle school plays in students' post-secondary learning opportunities," says Dr. Regina Toolin, the UVM Education professor who directs the Gear Up strand with graduate student Dan Sithole Makiwa. "We want to reduce the impediments to college access, and address these issues at the middle school level."



The Gear Up program is funded through the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) to give middle grades students more information about post-secondary education.

"The program creates student-to-student and student-to-teacher partnering relationships that promote understanding about the opportunities that college offers," says Dr. Toolin.

During their coursework, the students from Winooski and Milton heard presentations from adults who had taken a "zigzag course" to successful post-secondary careers, then discussed and reflected on their own ambitions and academic directions. Teachers from Essex Middle School and VSAC, with support from UVM interns, managed the classroom portion of the week, facilitated student discussions, and supervised all activities.

"Our students really took off with the idea of acting as consultants to the teachers," said Bret Kernoff, a JFK middle school teacher. "They went into classrooms and informed the teachers what they liked about their education and what could be improved. And the teachers listened!"

The students will return to school and share what they learned at the institute, encouraging their peers at JFK Middle School and at Milton Middle School to think about college. The Winooski students plan to create a web site, organize presentations in teacher advisory (TA) time, and develop greater understanding about the reasons for, and the path to, college education.



In keeping with the Middle Grades Institute's theme of "partnership," the students will supply the creativity and the initiative to encourage their peers to think about college. This student-driven initiative, with faculty assistance provided by middle school teachers Bret Kernoff and Bill Clark, will culminate in a presentation at the UVM Davis Center in January.

"I saw amazing results from the students," said Mr. Clark, an English Language Learner (ELL) teacher. "They were placed in situations well beyond their comfort zones and handled themselves with great maturity. They were delighted that the teachers wanted to hear their opinions."

As the week ended, the students assembled to review their experiences and return to their homes. Because of the students' interest to return to the university, plans are underway to create a field trip for the Milton and Winooski students to visit the UVM campus in the fall and see classes in progress.

The Winooski students who participated included Rainbow, Colton, Eh Man, Ball Wit, Hemkumar, Jarrell, Hau, and Kristin.

In addition to advising the students, Mr. Clark and Mr. Kernoff wrote a proposal describing the work planned by the students. They will present their conclusions to the Middle Grades Institute summary meeting in January 2012 with formative assessments of student learning, attitudes regarding post-secondary success, and student development and participation.

About the Middle Grades Institute

The Middle Grades Institute is a collaboration of college

faculty and middle school teachers who incorporate the research underlying excellent middle level practice. The Institute brings together expertise that translates research into best middle level practice;

The structure of the Institute's activities mirror "the learning environment of an effective and equitable middle school," as noted in the overview for the 18th Annual Middle Grades Institute held in the campus of the University of Vermont June 27-July 1, 2011.



Learning Continues: Summer Session Activities for ELL Middle School Students

By Bill Clark, WMS ELL Teacher

Amid the painting, scrubbing, and general maintenance this summer, teachers at JFK Middle School are offering a six-week instructional program for English Language Learners (ELL) to help them prepare for the fall term.

“These student will be so much more ready for the school year,” says Bill Clark, a regular ELL teacher who is leading



the sessions. “They are learning touch typing, a truly valuable skill in this digital age, reading selections from the children’s book canon—*Mike Mulligan and the Steam Shovel*, *The Cricket in Times Square*, and *The Polar Express* are some of their favorites—and they’re visiting other parts of Vermont on weekly field trips.”

Mr. Clark models his four-hour class on a regular middle school classroom. Team Ring, as the students decided to name themselves, begins each day with a morning meeting and Teacher Advisory. They usually play a word game, such as Coffeepot or Charades, which improves their language skills and provides some low-key interaction with their peers and teachers. The day



continues with instruction in vocabulary, writing, and reading. Recently, the students learned the words to “America the Beautiful” and “The

Star-Spangled Banner” using print and electronic resources.

In cooperation with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC), the students receive instruction from Deb Light, a certified mathematics instructor. Mrs. Light also accompanies the students on field trips and plays an active role in all learning activities.

“Our math lessons relate to real world situations,” says Mrs. Light. “Students use play money to buy things at ‘Mr. Clark’s General Store,’ then add up their totals. We’re also working on math-specific strategies and vocabulary that they can use during



the regular school year.”

Mr. Clark prepares the students for their trips using video clips and class discussions about a variety of topics: The need for a college education, the history of Vermont, best ways to use the library, and the ecology of Lake Champlain. By the end of July, the students visited the Winooski Library, the Shelburne Museum, and took a guided tour of the University of Vermont, with a side trip to the Fletcher Library in Burlington. Plans for August include trips to the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center, Centennial Field for a Lake Monsters baseball game, and a movie at a local theatre.

“We’re really introducing our students to life in the United States and Vermont,” says Mr. Clark. “They’re learning about Vermont’s history as well as so many things that the state has to offer. And summer is such a great time to become more familiar with the area where we live.”

This special ELL class meets every day in Drew Blanchard’s technology lab, which allows the students to take advantage of the computer access. They receive breakfast and lunch provided by a city program supervised by Bob DiMasi. Patricia Wolcott and Mr. Clark offer supplemental help to individual students after lunch. This summer session began on July 5th and will continue until August 12th.



More Summer Writing Suggestions for Students

By Jenni Baldwin, Language Arts Teacher, Golden Hills School, El Dorado Hills, CA

Ms. Baldwin has more prompts for students wanting to keep up their writing skills over the summer. Try a few, and surprise your teachers this fall by showing them your notebook full of essays!

Writing to Explain or Inform: Expository Prompts

1. Suppose a new teacher has come to your school. In a multi-paragraph letter, explain to this teacher what is important to know about teaching students at your school.
2. Imagine that you had the chance to meet anyone in the world. Write a multiple-paragraph paper to your teacher explaining the reasons why you would like to meet this person.
3. Write a multi-paragraph letter to a person from 100 years ago explaining what it is like to be someone your age in 2011.
4. Compose a letter to a friend explaining why you enjoyed a book you have read OR a movie OR a live performance you have seen.
5. What makes a good teacher? Write an essay that will inform adults what makes a good teacher and why.
6. Write a letter to a new student that explains what he or she needs to know to be successful socially/academically in the seventh grade.
7. Think of an adult from your current school or another school you have attended that you will remember for a long time. In an

essay, explain to your teacher what will make this person hard to forget and why.

8. Today you can change places with anyone you would like to be. This person can be real or imaginary, from the past or present. Write a letter to a teacher that explains why you would like to change places with this person.
9. Over the years, humans have benefited from inventions (as simple as a zipper and as complex as a computer or space ship). Write an essay for your teacher in which you name an invention that has had an important impact on how people live, work, or play. Explain why it is an important invention.
10. What makes a person truly successful? Write an essay that will explain to other students what you think success in life really means.
11. Think of a place that is special to you. Write a letter to a friend to explain why that place is special to you.
12. You are interested in learning about life in other countries, so you exchange ideas with two friends in other countries. Because you want to find out about education in their countries, write a letter to these friends (you pen pals or e-pals) to explain to them what school is like in the United States.
13. Write an essay to your parents to explain what your favorite music is and why it is your favorite.
14. What sport is enjoyable to you? Write an essay explaining what you like about this sport to encourage other students to get active so that they have healthier lifestyles.

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Summer is a time for reflection

By Justin Brown, Principal

In August of 2010, the staff agreed that it was our mission to *Continually Challenge Students to Develop as Responsible Citizens*. We began the year with a hefty charge of needing to transform a failing school and made some significant headway toward that goal. Now we are recharging and regrouping in preparation for continuing our work.

During the 2010-11 School year, WHS staff was trained in neuroeducational research and Writing across the curriculum. From this, we created a common analytic writing rubric. We assessed all of our 9th and 10th graders once (to calibrate the tool) and again in May to compare results. The results were presented in the last newsletter (and showed promising growth in scores).

We also implemented Reads-180 (a research-based reading intervention) and showed promising initial progress with some of our struggling readers. To look at college readiness, we also assessed all of our 9th and 10th graders (in a partnership with CCV and VSAC) on the Accuplacer. We also fully mapped our curriculum in preparation for building a comprehensive set of 21st Century Learning Expectations.

This summer, our maintenance staff are busily cleaning and readying rooms, painting, waxing and moving supplies in preparation for students to come back. We are also preparing to welcome several new staff to our community who will bring a wealth of experience and energy to our ongoing work. Staff have been actively participating in graduate classes on co-teaching, research based teaching; workshops on effective collaboration and instruction; and myriad other learning opportunities.

In the coming year, we will be continuing our work on writing across the curriculum, reading interventions and writing assessments. We are also preparing to build on our existing work by: instituting a sustained silent reading period for all students; identifying our 21st Century Learning Expectations and assessments; creating more local assessments that can tell our students and us accurately what they are learning; instituting cross-disciplinary teams to collaborate around student performance; and developing a "scholar's lab" where we will be coordinating college student mentors to support and challenge our students to develop as responsible citizens.

As always, if you have any questions, I look forward to hearing from you. Enjoy summer! jbrown@winooski.k12.vt.us

Ready to Get Back to Business

By Courtney Poquette

Did you know that an estimated one in eight drivers on the road are not insured? Were you aware that one-third of graduating high school seniors surveyed stated they are unprepared to manage their own finances? Did you know that there are engaging ways to teach these materials to students? This is a little bit of what I have been working on this summer and I am very excited to bring this new knowledge back to the classroom in the fall. At this time in our nation's history, business education is critical and Winooski High School's students are fortunate to have access to these offerings.

I started my summer by co-teaching a week long graduate course at Champlain College called REAL, which stands for Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning. Teachers from across northern Vermont took this course, which empowers students to start their own businesses or be better employees through hands on lessons and activities. The course was featured on WCAX and I was thrilled to see former Winooski Graduate (class of 2010) and owner of L.M. Landscaping, Nevin Leary, present awards to the winners of this year's business plan competition, alongside business executives from Comcast and professors at Champlain College.

After the REAL course was completed, I switched into the role of a student and was fortunate enough to be selected to attend a very intensive two week course on Risk Management



Ms. Poquette on a field trip with her Insurance class to the New York Stock Exchange.

and Insurance in New York City's Financial District. This course was generously sponsored by the Griffith Insurance Foundation and provided me with an opportunity to represent Vermont and work with 35 other business teachers from the United States and Canada. Together we received lessons from two highly regarded professors in the business and insurance industries and had to pass grueling exams. At the end, I was able to collaborate with teachers from across the country to create insurance lesson plans, which I am excited to introduce to my Personal Finance class in the fall.

As if summer wasn't busy enough, I was very excited to receive a full scholarship from Merchants Bank to attend a week long conference on Personal Finance at Champlain College. Personal Finance is a passion of mine and Champlain College has been doing a lot of work to increase Financial Literacy across the state. They have gathered teachers from every county to participate in this conference in August. I am very excited to gather even more information that I can share with students at Winooski High School so they can be savvy consumers when they graduate.

Please encourage your son or daughter to sign up for business classes. In the 2011-12 school year the following courses will be offered: Personal Finance and Intro to Business, Accounting I, Information Processing and Business Topics. If you have questions about my course offerings, please do not hesitate to contact me at cpoquette@winooski.k12.vt.us.



Community College of Vermont (CCV) Winooski News

By Amy E. Stuart, LICSW, Coordinator of Academic Services, CCV;
Advisor, Johnson State College External Degree Program

Register now through
Friday, August 26th

www.ccv.edu
(802) 654-0505

Winooski students visit CCV Thank you Brent Litterer, Marc McQuinn, Debra Gonter, Courtney Poquette, Cheryl Brosnan and the many Winooski students who visited CCV during the spring. Middle school students learned some useful college vocabulary and toured the building. High school students took assessments that will help them focus on skill development so they may begin college classes once they graduate or even while they're still in high school! Some Winooski graduates enrolled as first time college students for fall! We're so very glad you're here :).

Introduction to College Studies or ICS is a course offered free to high school students interested in learning the skills necessary to be successful college students. Students who pass the course receive a voucher to take a college class tuition free. Weekly classes for fall, 2011 begin in September on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. We also have a Saturday morning section scheduled from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm.

The Governor's Career Ready Certificate is offered at CCV Winooski in collaboration with the Department of Labor on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:45 am – 2:35 pm

from September 14th through November 18th. It helps people improve work skills and raise confidence in meeting career goals. *For more information please attend one of the following open houses held at the Burlington Department of Labor. Or, call 802 828-4000 with questions:*

- Tuesday, 8/9, 10:00 to 11:30am
- Thursday, 8/11, 1:00 to 2:30pm
- Wednesday, 8/17, 3:00 to 4:30pm

Senior citizens only! Any senior (aged 65 years or older) has the opportunity to take CCV classes tuition free. Complete CCV's online application or come into our center to complete a paper application, take skills assessments if needed and then register for classes! Try Drawing I, learn useful Intercultural Communications skills or take a history course.

SAVE THE DATE! The 2nd Annual Empty Bowls Dinner will take place on Tuesday, November 8th from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. For a suggested minimum donation of \$5, you will choose a ceramic bowl made by CCV Ceramics students and faculty, enjoy some homemade soup by CCV Nutrition students and consider the blessings we have to share. Proceeds will benefit the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf.

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN,
Health Office Coordinator

Hope everyone is having a great summer. Please remember to submit an up to date copy of your student's immunizations records to the Health Office before the start of school!

Remember to wear sunscreen, stay hydrated and most of all have fun!!! See you in September!

Visit The Library!

We are a great resource for kids and parents alike, and would love to see you this summer. We are open:

Tuesdays 10:00am to 7:00pm
Wednesdays 3:00pm to 7:00pm
Thursdays 10:00am to 6:00pm
Fridays 10:00am to 6:00pm
Saturdays 10:00am to 1:00pm

We are located in the Champlain Mill.

Email: winooski_memorial@yahoo.com
Phone: (802) 655-6424.

YMCA Fall Soccer League

The Y will have fall Soccer for grades K-3, 4-6, 7-8 starting September 10th. Games will be on Saturdays at Landry Park for K-3 grades. All others will play in the South Burlington League representing Winooski. Contact Kevin Hatin at 655.9622 or khatin@gbymca.org for registration info.

Money Management Courses To Be Offered

The Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community will be supporting a special program offered by Libby Wentworth from CVOEO's "Growing Money" program to be held at the O'Brien Community Center this fall.

Spend Smart, a two-part series will include: Goal setting and Budgeting.

Dates to be announced....For more information, please contact Libby Wentworth at lwentworth@cvoeo.org or (802) 860-1417 x104 or Sister Pat at pat.mckittrick@vtmednet.org, or (802) 847-6534.

COMMUNITY NEWS

City Councilor's Report

By Megan Moir

"I live in Winooski..."

One of the things I have really enjoyed about this summer's Winooski walking (first the Heart Walk, and now each week with the Winooski Marathon) is getting the chance to see parts of Winooski and notice the beautiful houses and gardens. There are some real gems in our little city. As Betsy Nolan says in her "We live in Winooski," a song that she wrote and has sung at various Winooski events, including last week's "Winooski Then and Now" event held at the Welcome Gallery, "...Tiny and kinda pretty, 1.4 square of diversity!"

Have you been to the Farmer's Market yet? The number of vendors seems to keep growing, and there are now several veggie vendors to go along with the amazing ethnic prepared foods. Remember, it is every Sunday from 10-2. I think it is one of the most beautiful farmers market sites — nestled in the history of Winooski old and new, next to the Champlain Mill, which has been there for so long, and the river which has been there for even longer.



Living in a place is not just about your address. It is about getting out and BEING in that place. Whether that means supporting local businesses, attending city events like the Farmer's Market or the PopUp Gallery, or standing up and sharing your thoughts this fall for the upcoming strategic planning listening sessions, take the time to celebrate and enjoy where you live! I live in Winooski! How about you? Hope to see you around the city this summer and beyond!



2011 Winooski Culture Hop September 16, Friday, from 12-8

September 16 is the date of the 3rd Annual Culture Hop, to take place at the O'Brien Community Center at 32 Malletts Bay Avenue, sponsored by the Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community. This event is a celebration of all the diverse cultures represented in Winooski. Experience delicious food samples from all over the world right in Winooski, Vermont. Get inspired by experiencing the richness of this city, whether your passion is music, fashion, art, or meeting your neighbors. More details available soon. To get involved (help is always much-appreciated!) email winooskicoalition@gmail.com or call 802-655-4565.

Please join our monthly networking meetings on the second Wednesday of every month, 3:30-4:30, at the O'Brien Community Center. Check us out on Facebook and Twitter, @WCSPC!



Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Michael O'Brien	moknok@sover.net	802-655-4879
Deputy Mayor Sally Tipson	sallyflower@comcast.net	802-655-3894
Councilor John Little	jlittle@winooskivt.org	802-655-0106
Councilor Megan Moir	winooskigirl@gmail.com	802-598-7922
Councilor Sarah Robinson	sarah.kunz.robinson@gmail.com	802-734-6422
City Manager Deac Decarreau	deac@onioncity.com	802-655-6410

Visit the city website at www.onioncity.com or call 802-655-6410.

Free Summer Meal Service Schedule In Winooski

The City of Winooski will continue to provide free meals to children through the Vermont Department of Education's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Funded by the USDA, the program is designed to ensure that children who rely on low-cost meals during the school year continue to have access to nutritious food throughout the summer. Meals will be provided to all children without charge, and no child will be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.

Children do not need to be enrolled in any recreational or childcare program in order to receive free meals. All children 18 years of age or younger will be served meals at the locations listed below, Monday-Friday, unless otherwise noted. Please contact Ethan Hausman in the City's Youth Programs Office (655-1392 x21) for more information.



August Happenings at the Winooski Senior Center

Summer heats up at the Senior Center. Join us for **free Zumba Gold** on Wednesdays 12:00-12:30 through Aug. 24th. The Latin dance-fitness program is especially designed for older adults or those with limited mobility. Ditch the workout and join the party!

Don't forget **Movie Monday!** Next one Aug. 15 at 10:00. Free!

Huge garage sale, bake sale and bottle drop fundraiser coming Aug. 27. Want to help or donate items? Contact Lori at 655-6425 or seniorcenter@winooski.vt.org

Aug. 30 brings a chicken BBQ and all the trimmings, for seniors at the center. Sign up required. \$7.00.

We are located at 123 Barlow Street.

Winooski School District 60 Normand Street Winooski, VT 05404	JUNE 20 - AUGUST 5 Breakfast 8:30am-9:30am Lunch 11:30pm-12:30pm
Winooski Family Center 87 Elm Street Winooski, VT 05404	JUNE 20 - AUGUST 12 Breakfast 9:00am-9:30am Lunch 12:00pm-12:30pm
O'Brien Community Center 32 Malletts Bay Avenue Winooski, VT 05404	JUNE 20 - AUGUST 12 Lunch 12:30pm-1:30pm Dinner (Served all summer through the Underground Teen Center on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) 5:30pm-6:30pm

August Community Calendar

By Mary Beth Boe, Administrative Assistant

These Meetings will be held at City Hall in the Claire Burke Council Chamber unless noted otherwise.



Date	Time	Event
1	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting
2	5:45 pm	Winooski Environmental Board Meeting – McKee's Pub
9	3:30 pm	WCSPC monthly meeting in the community room at the O'Brien Community Center. This meeting is open to the public.
15	6:00 pm	City Council Meeting
15		1st Quarter Property Tax installment Due and 3rd Quarter Water/Sewer bills due.
16	5:00 pm	Reparative Board Meeting until 7:00 pm– 655-0221
16		City offices closed to observe Battle of Bennington Day
23	5:00 pm	Reparative Board Meeting until 7:00 pm– 655-0221

Myers Memorial Pool – Open until September!

Once again this summer, we're happy to offer our Members the opportunity to enjoy the Myers Pool in Winooski all summer long for FREE! This outdoor, 6-lane deep well pool is located at 40 Pine Street in Winooski across from Landry Park. Call 802-655-2100 or email jlukas@gbymca.org for more information.

Open Swim Hours (June 19 - September 5): Mon./Wed./Fri.: noon-6pm; Tues./Thurs./Sat./Sun.: noon-7pm.

We are happy to host lots of camps this summer too. See www.gbymca.org for more information. Programs offered include **Camp Splash, Dynamo Summer Swim Camp, Water World Camp** and **Back Yard Swim**.

Superintendent of Schools

Mary Martineau: 655-0485
mmartineau@winooski.k12.vt.us

**John F. Kennedy Elementary
and Middle School**

Principal: Mary O'Rourke
802-655-0411, 802-655-3530
morourke@winooski.k12.vt.us

Winooski High School

Principal: Justin Brown
802-655-3530
jbrown@winooski.k12.vt.us

Board of School Trustees

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mdecarreau@winooski.k12.vt.us

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 399 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 143 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 267 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 students 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.

Newsletter of the Winooski School District

Winooski School District
60 Normand Street
Winooski, VT 05404

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