

ALSO INCLUDES  
**Community News!**  
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# WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 11

AUGUST 2012

## *Celebrating Our Achievements!*

### Summer Work Crews Build Skills for Winooski High School Students



*By Kimberly Ead, Career Development Coordinator, WHS/ Linking Learning to Life*

While we are certainly lucky to have the Green Mountains in our backyard, many of us have other mountains to climb in the metaphoric sense. This summer, ten students, eight of which are from Winooski School District, are embarking on a challenge not so unlike climbing a mountain.

They are participating in the Summer Work Crew which is a collaboration between the Vermont Department of Labor, Linking Learning to Life, and the Lake Monsters Baseball Team. Each student in this Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funded program is challenged to step outside of his or her comfort zone to work together and build new relationships with one another. As they help the Lake Monsters prepare Centennial Field each week for games, through maintenance work, they will be developing a variety of new hard and soft job skills. Students also are experiencing and exploring the community around them to learn about the different resources available to them.

Another exciting initiative this summer is Teen Harvesters, a program where Winooski students are working to feed their community by harvesting vegetables in Landry

Garden. This collaboration with Linking Learning to Life, The City of Winooski, and Fresh Foods is allowing students to learn about where their food comes from while learning job skills.



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### Superintendent's Message

By Mary Martineau, Superintendent of Schools

The month of July is always a busy month preparing for the upcoming school year.

This summer the unit ventilator project to replace old units in classrooms and the library is well underway. Work on replacing old water pipes is also being completed. We are very excited to see the new main lobby floor with the Spartan Head logo in the final stages of completion! I would like to recognize and thank our maintenance and custodial crew for their great work in painting and cleaning the facility in preparation for the new school year.

The administrators have been busy interviewing candidates for various open positions within the District. We are very excited about the new teachers and staff that will be joining the Winooski School District for the 2012-2013 academic

year. We will have pictures of new staff members in an upcoming issue of the *District News!* Their level of knowledge, energy and excitement will be an asset as we continue to move toward the Common Core standards and preparing our students for an ever-changing world.

Many of the Winooski School District teachers have spent time this summer participating in professional development activities in the area of math, technology, as well as work related to the principles of the Nellie Mae grant. We will continue to focus on math, technology, literacy and the Nellie Mae principles during the 2012-2013 school year. The work being done in these areas, using data and assessment, will help teachers to incorporate best practices into the curriculum to improve student outcomes.

The parent and community

engagement group (PACTS) is looking for new members. Please see the article in this month's *District News!* for detailed information and contact information. We would warmly welcome anyone interested in participating!

Letters regarding changes to the Vermont immunization laws should have been received by parents during July. This information was also included in the July issue of the *District News!* **Please be sure the health office has your child's updated immunization information before the first day of school.** This issue of the *District News!* also includes the information. If you have specific questions, please contact your child's Principal.

Enjoy the last days of summer! We look forward to a positive and successful 2012-2013 school year.

### School Board Message

By Amy Booher, Board of School Trustees

Since being elected to the School Board back in March, I have had the opportunity to meet some wonderful people and had the privilege of attending numerous extraordinary events. After being sworn in, I was appointed to the Nellie Mae Committee. Since then, we have interviewed candidates for the top position of Director of Transformation. While we were unable to find a perfect match for the position, the process moved forward and Lindsay Cox, the project manager, announced "The Partnership for Change is proud to announce Alan Tinkler and Peter McConville as the Interim Co-Coordinator of the Transformation Academy. These positions oversee the Transformation Academy, the creative engine responsible for designing and implementing a new system of student-centered learning in Winooski and Burlington High Schools."

The JFK Elementary School has hosted a number of events that I have attended. The dedication of art teacher Barbara Crandall and her third

grade students made the Empty Bowl Fundraiser a tremendous success and the food was great. I enjoyed mingling with community members and hearing their ideas for the future of JFK. I was also fortunate enough to participate in the book giveaway and reading party that was orchestrated by Afterschool Program Director Barbara Russ. Helping the children to pick out books and watching the second grade students as they listened to the Bank North volunteers read to them was truly one of the highlights of my School Board experience, so far.

Our Middle and High School Music Department has entertained many of us in the community. I have enjoyed watching our children embrace music and seeing their dedication. The band, chorus, and orchestra have provided many wonderful events that have not only been beautiful to listen to, but have afforded them the opportunity to expand their talents beyond the school walls. I was proud to attend the Jazz Fest on Church Street and hear the High

School Jazz Band. While there, I had the chance to talk to many parents about their expectations for their children's education. I also have to commend our marching band for their incredible participation in the All State Parade despite the tremendous downpour.

While the end of the school year is a hectic time, it gave me the unique opportunity to witness our schools' many graduations and rites of passage. The senior project awards ceremony and graduation breakfast was a testament to the quality of our students. The kindergarten graduation, as well as the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Moving Up ceremonies made me realize how fast our children grow up and how as parents, educators, administrators and board members, we have an enormous responsibility to educate and guide these young people in their formative years. It is when we all come together and work towards a common goal that we can give our children the successes they need to go out in to the world.

(continued on page 3)

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As the new school year approaches, I hope to continue, with the rest of our board members, to increase the board's presence at school events. I feel this gives parents the opportunity to get to know us and feel comfortable asking questions and voicing their opinions and concerns. I look forward to the opportunity to interact with students, parents and guardians, and meet with new and returning staff. I would also like to welcome our new Middle and High School principal, Leon Wheeler.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and is also eagerly anticipating the chance to continue the wonderful experiences that every new school year provides.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Mandatory Athletic Meeting Planned

There will be a Middle School and High School Mandatory athletic meeting on Sunday August 12th at 6:00 pm in the Performing Arts Center. Any students that plan to play at least one sport during the school year must have a parent or guardian attend.

Here are the practice start dates and contact information for sports and coaches:

**Varsity Football:**

Practice starts: Monday, August 13th.  
Josh Safran: jsafran@wsdschools.org

**Varsity Boys Soccer:**

Practice starts: Thursday, August 16th  
Steve Feiss: stephenfeiss@gmail.com

**Varsity Girls Soccer:**

Practice starts: Thursday, August 16th  
Amy Benson: amybenson20@hotmail.com

**Varsity Cheerleading:**

Practice starts: Thursday, August 16th  
Ashley Correia: coach\_correia@yahoo.com

**Middle School Boys Soccer:**

Practice starts: Wednesday, August 29  
Roger Desautels: roger@htyler.com

**Middle School Girls Soccer:**

Practice starts: Wednesday, August 29  
Coach TBA: please contact Athletic Director Dennis Barcomb: dbarcomb@wsdschools.org

## Remember to Save Your Box Tops!

Last year, we made over \$1,200 by mailing back boxtops you clipped and had your children bring in. It's an easy way for us to earn money for field trips and supplies that are needed throughout the year. So 'em coming... and thank you!



### Parent & Community Partnership Comes Alive in Winooski; Seeks New Members

**Parents and Community Together with Schools, or PACTS**, is the parent and community partnership group in the Winooski School District. We are a group of parents, teachers, administrators, and community members who have set a goal for the Winooski School District: *We will honor the wisdom and heart of our families and community to inspire student success.*

To help us accomplish this goal, we have identified 6 keys to our success:

1. **Parenting:** Assist families in understanding child and adolescent development and school expectations at each grade level. The district will create a plan to assist schools in understanding their families.
2. **Communication:** Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through timely, pro-active school-to-home and home-to-school communications using multiple channels.
3. **Volunteering:** Honor the collective wisdom and culture of the broader community in providing varied and meaningful volunteer opportunities to support students and school programs.
4. **Learning at Home:** Provide the tools, resources and information that parents require to support their child's education at home.
5. **Decision Making:** Ensure diverse representation of families as equal participants on formal and informal school decision-making bodies.
6. **Collaboration with Community:** Build relationships with business, agencies and other groups that represent the diversity, wisdom and heart of the broader community to inspire student success.

For the past year, we have been working to make the schools more friendly and welcoming for all students and families. Last year we began a program called "Community Reads at JFK Elementary School." On two different reading nights, the mayor and city manager both came to read to our students and their parents. Many families attended to share stories and snacks with their children and teachers. We also had an open house with dinner served. Another project includes making our school entrance more welcoming, by installing new tile (featuring the Winooski Spartan head) and painting the entrance lobby.

We are excited to continue this work and select new projects for the coming year. We cannot accomplish this work without your help and valuable feedback. We would love to have you join us. You can support district efforts or volunteer to sit on one of the school teams. We also will have project-specific needs in coming months. This is a great opportunity to meet other families and support our schools.

If you have an interest in learning more about PACTS, want to join the district or school team, or have an interest in being more involved in decision-making, please contact one of the people below:

- Nicole Mace, parent/community member at nicolelmace@yahoo.com or 802-363-7777;
- Peter Garang, community organizer at peter.garang2@gmail.com or 802-363-8613;
- Dawn Moskowicz, community organizer at partner4kids@gmail.com or 802-318-5892.

# Winooski School District Child Find Procedures

By Robin Hood, Director of Special Education

The Winooski Public School District is required by Federal Law to locate, identify, and evaluate any child ages 3 and up who may require special education and related services in order to access and benefit from public education.

The federal special education regulations define a child **with a disability** as a child having mental retardation; a hearing impairment including deafness; a speech or language impairment; a visual impairment

including blindness; emotional disturbance; an orthopedic impairment; autism; traumatic brain injury; a health impairment; a specific learning disability; deaf, blindness; or multiple disabilities, and who requires specialized instruction or related services.

If you know of a child who resides in the City of Winooski who might have a disability as described, please contact the principal of your school, or contact Robin Hood, Director of Special Education, at

655-9575. This includes individuals who are homeless, migrants, home schooled, and/or individuals attending private schools.

Evaluations will be conducted in accordance with the procedures described in Section 300.530.300.535 of the Federal Regulations for Special Education and in accordance with the State Regulations for Special Education outlining the procedures for special education evaluations.

## JFK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

### K-8 News

By Mary O'Rourke,  
JFK Elementary Principal

I hope everyone has been enjoying the summer. It sure has been a beautiful one, and is flying by very quickly.

We have just completed week two of summer school, which we called "Brain Camp." We had 90 students participating. Teachers focused on building children's stamina and perseverance during reading, writing and math. Additionally, teachers focused on helping students become flexible thinkers and manage choices.

Summer school is not only for students but it is an opportunity for teachers to receive professional development. It is a time to take some risks and try out new things. The professional development focus this summer was on content related to the common core, instruction in vocabulary, and non-fiction.

We are in the process of planning our in-service. Teachers return to school on August 20<sup>th</sup> for five days of professional development. Three of those days we will focus on literacy and two will be training in social thinking.

We completed a project started last summer and have now replaced all of our unit ventilators at the elementary school. This modernized our heating system and controls and will make our cost of heating more efficient.

I hope everyone enjoys the last few weeks of summer. Take time for yourself, relax and enjoy the summer breezes.

### Brain Camp was a Blast!

By Barbara Russ, 21C  
Program Director

Brain Camp, our JFK Summer School Program for children in grades 1-6 took place over a two week period—the last week of June and the second week in July—with 90 children participating. The overall focus of Brain Camp was setting and reaching daily goals, and learning the importance of perseverance and empathy as we try to reach our goals. Topics that were explored included the Olympics, space exploration, and learning about countries our classmates' are from. Many literacy, math, science and social studies activities were integrated into these topics throughout the two weeks. Healthy snacks were provided each day. A huge thank you to Mrs. Pitfido for her wonderfully healthy fruit and vegetable snack creations every day!

The fifth and sixth grade Brain Campers spent their technology time creating PowerPoint presentations that were based on the countries that they were learning about. The countries included Bosnia, Nepal, Somalia, Thailand and others. While learning the process of creating the slides was



Kellen and Vijan paint their solar system model.

the main goal, the students also happily showcased "their" countries with their peers who expressed great interest in their classmates' cultures. The students were justifiably proud of their fabulous achievements! It was a wonderful two weeks of learning PowerPoint and about each other.

Third and fourth graders learned all about the Olympics and about some of the famous Olympic athletes who had to overcome obstacles in order to do their best. Brain campers learned about the importance of sticking with their goals and pushing themselves to continue when confronted with challenges. The students showed perseverance and empathy during both weeks as they set their goals around writing good paragraphs and learning multiplication facts.

Second and third graders studied the



*Tasha and Madison are having a great time working together on their PowerPoint presentation.*

solar system focusing on some of the extremely interesting objects in space including asteroids, comets, and meteors. Brain Campers read both fiction and non-fiction books about planets and outer space. They also tackled scientific questions such as: Why is Pluto no longer considered a planet? And, what is the difference between a comet and meteor? To further their learning about all the planets, Brain Campers worked in teams to assemble and paint models of the solar system. They also went to "Space School," watched wonderfully vibrant videos and explored the mysteries of space.

First and second graders worked hard each day to earn a gold medal by reaching their daily goals. They learned about what it takes to meet their goals. They read great stories about characters who had

dreams, like Kristi Yamaguchi's *Dream Big*, Little Pig and Michael Jordan's *Dream Big*. Other activities that they focused on included being a Flexible Freddy, learning about perseverance, counting, ordering, writing numbers and making combinations of tens, building Olympic torches, making their own flags that symbolized their dreams, and learning about table manners.

Our Summer Olympics themed recess was created and expertly organized by Mr. Lewis. Each student participated with their fellow country members in a different Olympic event each day while focusing on their personal best and their team best. At the end of the two weeks of Brain Camp, there was a culminating Olympic awards and closing ceremony



*Markel lends a hand to Hailey as they create their personal flags.*

on the high school track, which included a parade of countries, Olympic music, and each child received a medal for their participation.

Overall, it was a busy, exciting, and incredibly fun two weeks at Brain Camp. Thank you to all the parents/guardians who sent their children each day, to the 20 Brain Camp teachers who did an extraordinary job of planning enriching learning activities every day, and to all of our Brain Campers for their enthusiasm for learning, their love of healthy snacks, and their excitement and interest in participating in our JFK Summer Olympics. We're so proud of all the hard work, cooperation, and determination that all of our students exhibited over these two weeks. Brain Camp was a blast!



*Some of the wonderfully delicious snacks Mrs. Pitfido prepared for us during Brain Camp.*



*These JFK Olympians, representing the country of Morocco (with their coaches Mrs. Knapp and Ms. Bryan), take their final walk around the track during the closing ceremony celebrating the end of Brain Camp.*

## MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

### Inspiration and Empowerment

By Leon Wheeler, Middle/High School Principal

*“This land is your land, this land is my land, from California to the New York Island, from the Redwoods Forest to the Gulf Stream waters. This land is made for you and me.”* (Woody Guthrie, who wrote and sang these formative words, was born 100 years ago on July 14)

I don't want to sound silly, but I honestly believe that “This school is your school...” and now my school, and must faithfully and effectively educate every child and young person who becomes a member of the Winooski community. Like Woody Guthrie's song above, which arises from a vision of hope and belonging, our school must become a place of inspiration and empowerment, not just for some, but for one and all!

These first weeks of my tenure as principal have been filled with encouraging conversations and hopeful signs. There's a lot happening here at both the elementary, middle and high school as I write this: There are over a dozen Chinese middle school students here for a two week camp. About two dozen New American students are extending their learning in language, literacy, and math skills. A summer program for younger (elementary) students is providing extended activities and learning. A third week of basketball camps is taking place. So, the school facility continues to hop with activity, which includes complete cleaning of the rooms and hallways and other repair and maintenance work needed to keep the school safe, clean, and functioning well.

At the same time, often outside our school setting there are individual and groups of staff members, parents, and community members engaging in a number of activities related to improving/enhancing our learning structures and programs. If you haven't heard much about some of these efforts, do keep your ears and eyes open. Many of our efforts are fairly new...or in some cases “renewed,” so they are only now beginning to get started. We want and need your involvement, your voice, your perspective in order to make a difference for you. Please join in the work of making Winooski Middle/High School an excellent learning community for every member of our growing family.

### Students Continue Taking Care of Business

By Courtney Poquette

Congratulations to Brianna Robare, who won third place in the state's 4th Annual Business Plan Competition! Brianna wrote an extensive 34-page business plan on her dream business, Cinnamon's Candy Delights based out of Jacksonville, Florida. This was a semester-long assignment, in which students had the opportunity to think like an entrepreneur, while designing their own business. These plans analyzed all aspects of the business from choosing a location, creating marketing strategies, addressing staffing concerns, and much more. Students were even tasked with developing projected financial statements for one year.

Eight students from Winooski successfully completed these rigorous plans, which were submitted to judges from the Small Business Development Center. Sixty plans were submitted this year as part of an ever-growing competition. Nine plans moved on to the awards ceremony. These students were awarded certificates along with cash prizes, sponsored by Opportunities Credit Union and New England Federal Credit Union. As the third place winner, Brianna not only received recognition, but a \$300 cash prize.

All students who completed these plans should be very proud of their hard work and dedication. The ideas this year were very creative and ranged from service and retail businesses to even some based on innovative products designed by the students. It's nice to see that entrepreneurship is alive and well in Winooski. Brianna joins the ranks of other past business plan winners: Lauren Graves, Jasmin Halkic, Nevin Leary and Rachel Aureli. This means that Winooski has become the winningest school at this competition earning five of the top twelve spots. I am looking forward to seeing students in Introduction to Business continue this tradition in the years to come.



### Guidance News

By Emmy Charron

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer break. There are a few dates people should be aware of in August. **And remember, school starts on Wednesday, August 29th!**

- **August 17th:** Last day for seniors to register for the September 8th ACT's. If you need a waiver — please contact Emmy via email at [echarron@wsdschools.org](mailto:echarron@wsdschools.org) to see if you're eligible (do this well before August 17th please!)
- **August 27th & 28th:** Parents and students will have the opportunity to meet with Emmy to discuss/change a students schedule before school starts on the 29th. Please call the main office to set up an appointment.
- **August 29th - September 7th:** Add/Drop period for schedules. Students can make appointments in the main office.
- **Burlington Technical Center (BTC) and Center for Technology Essex (CTE) Tech Students:** Your first day at tech will be August 29th. CTE students, please make sure you are here and ready for the bus by 7:35 AM. BTC morning students, you should be ready for the bus just before 9:00 until the exact pick up time has been determined. BTC afternoon students, you should be ready for the bus at 11:20. All students should meet in the high school lobby.

# Winooski Language and Culture Summer Camp 2012

By Katherine Jennifer Helm



Winooski and surrounding Chittenden County communities have seen an influx of Chinese middle and high school students attending summer camp this year. They leave China to visit New York, Washington and California with a 2-week summer camp experience in-between. Winooski received students from the city of Chongqing, one of the largest cities in the world with

an estimated population of 32 million, so visiting Vermont was a real cultural experience for them. 12 of our middle and high school students participated in the camp and learned about the Chinese and the differences between their school and social lives and ours. Students stayed in host families and participated in American family life. It was a wonderful experience for all who participated and we are looking forward to adding to that experience when we can possibly send our students to China.



# District's Technology Lab Enjoys a Full House for ELL Summer Session!

By Bill Clark, ELL Teacher

All the activity around the Technology Lab this summer comes from twenty-one English Language Learners participating in the ELL Summer Session. The students spend the day reading, working on math and English skills, and learning about history. They enjoy a snack in the cafeteria to start the day, then return to the classroom for a morning meeting followed by their classes. After lunch, they develop their typing skills, work on projects, or watch a movie.

The Summer Session supports students' transitions from middle to high school, and also offers instructional assistance to current high school students. This summer work ensures that students arrive for the fall term with improved skills in math and English. Students meet their teachers and know what to expect when school begins. The Summer Session students have already met the new middle/high school principal, Mr. Leon Wheeler, who visited the class several times and even brought a cake!

## Class Structure

In the technology classroom, Ms. Deb Light, a VSAC instructor, teaches math with help from new high school math teacher Tom Payeur and instructional assistant Aftaba Mezetovic. At the same time, ELL teacher Bill Clark teaches Language Arts in the technology lab, with assistance from instructional assistants Dalib Bulle, Puspa Luitel, and Tabatha Soliz.

- The math program concentrates on numeracy, including introductory geometry, measurement, and algebra. The presence of two teachers allows differentiated instruction across the various student ability levels and provides maximum student support.
- The Language Arts program introduces students to reading and writing strategies, with emphasis on grammar and informational texts. Students deconstruct text to understand the meaning of words, practice notetaking, and write reactions to text.
- The Social Studies class continues the reading and writing emphasis as students learn about key historical events (content) and work with the language of historical texts.

In their final projects, students will bring their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills together and create digital stories about themselves and their feelings about Winooski.

## Community Focus

The six-week curriculum includes field trips that increase student awareness of the community. On Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, students visited the Winooski City Hall where City Manager Katherine Decarreau ("Deac") talked about government and showed students the records room. Students enjoyed finding Deac's birth record, Ms. Light's marriage record, and information about the properties where they live. Town Clerk Carol Barrett helped them sort through the



thick record books and showed them maps of the town and their apartments.

The students next visited the police station, where the familiar face of Winooski Student Resource Officer Chris Machavern greeted them. They marveled at live video feeds in the



dispatcher's room and solemnly sat in a holding cell. They were amazed at the police cars and the equipment used by the police, including the bicycles ridden by some officers on their patrols.



Assistant Chiefs Erica Bailey and John Audy welcomed the students to the fire station and immediately gave them a quiz: "What do you do if you catch fire?" Soon, the building reverberated with adolescent shouts of "Stop! Drop! Roll!" Erica and John proudly displayed the engines and ladder trucks, explaining the masks and other safety equipment. John emphasized that firefighters had to "dress for success" on every call, which meant wearing 65 pounds of gear, including boots, face masks, special pants, and jackets.

The morning concluded with a visit to the Winooski Library, where students read books, played games, and talked with librarian Amanda Webster.

Around noon, the students and adults adjourned to the plaza for a light lunch and time to look at the river. Students were amazed to see a turtle swimming in the current and a duck fishing upstream.

This visit supplemented the instruction that Summer Session students received, and put faces to the names they had studied in class. They were fascinated to see Mayor Michael O'Brien's photograph in the lobby of City Hall and to hear from Deac that the voters were *her* boss.

Exhausted from the sun and the long walk, the students returned for a water break, completed a writing assignment, and used the computers for typing and reading programs.

The teachers, staff, and students appreciate that the ELL

Summer Session is supported by a grant from the Department of Education Title III (English Language Acquisition) Program, and that the city food program provides meals. These students can enjoy an improved educational experience as a result of the city and state investment in their future.



## HEALTH CORNER

### Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Health Office Coordinator

#### Effective July 1, 2012 there will be new changes to the Vermont Immunization Laws.

Every student **must have on file before the first day of school** one of the following:

1. Updated immunization record
2. Provisional admittance-a letter from the physician stating that the student is in the process of receiving the vaccinations and when the next appointment is scheduled.
3. Exemption form

According to the new laws, students will not be allowed to start until the school obtains one of these mandatory requirements.

Another change includes exemptions. As of right now, parents/guardians have only had to sign exemption forms for their children upon entering kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Starting July 1, parents/guardians will be required to fill these exemptions annually. Letters and exemption forms are being sent out this summer to parents/guardians of those known exempted students. These forms are to be signed and returned to the main offices **before the first day of school.**

Lastly, schools are going to be allowed to give provisionally admitted students only 6 months to complete their vaccinations or they will be excluded from school until they are completed.

**There cannot be any exceptions to these rules.** On behalf of the Health Office, I would like to say thank you for your patience and understanding as the procedures change to reflect the new state laws.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### City Councillor's Message

By Sally Tipson

Summer greetings from City Hall.

I hope everyone is taking advantage of the activities in Winooski that our mayor mentioned in the previous issue of the *District News*: the Pop-Up Art Gallery, the Sunday Farmers' Market, the riverwalk or just "sunning and funning."

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Ray Coffey as the new Director of Community Services at the O'Brien Community Center. Ray is from Winooski and brings with him a varied and well qualified background. His experience is only surpassed by his enthusiasm for his new job. He will be on the job full time in August and we look forward to having you meet him.

The Revenue Enhancement Committee presented their study results and some possibilities for additional revenue. We are not looking to spend more but are trying to find ways of raising money other than by property taxes.

The Mayor, City Manager and Council continue to obtain answers to the questions about the F-35s and the impact they may have on our city.

The Mayor and City Manager did go to Washington where they met with our Congressional delegation. They were able to discuss some of the issues affecting Winooski. More details will come in the next edition.

Happy August! Be safe and as always, you are welcome to come to the council meetings. We appreciate your comments and questions. We invite you to visit the city website at [winooskivt.org](http://winooskivt.org) or call 802-655-6410.



### August Teen Center Update

The Teen Center is still providing free dinners for anyone 18 and under at 5:30pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. These end on August 17<sup>th</sup> but start up again with the new school year.

Summertime is still going strong at the Teen Center! This summer we have sponsored jobs for 12 teens with roles such as cooking our summer meals, harvesting in our community gardens, and assisting in FRESH Food's kitchens (FRESH Food is an enterprise of Vermont Works for Women that provides meals for Winooski's Summer Food Program). Additionally, two of our teens have been employed in our Berry Project program, in which they harvest berries and then use them to make, market, and sell smoothies within the local community. People interested in trying a Berry Project smoothie can find the BP crew at the Winooski Farmer's Market on Sundays or other locations. All those involved in the Teen Center's employment programs have been working hard and performing well!

Finally, the Teen Center has begun to form a new Teen Advisory Board, and we are looking for more youth who would like to participate. The Teen Advisory Board meets after dinner on Tuesday evenings in the O'Brien Community Center. Although the Teen Center will be closed for normal drop-in hours from August 19-29, we hope to plan some kind of special trip for the end of the summer.

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Michael O'Brien	<a href="mailto:mayor@winooskivt.org">mayor@winooskivt.org</a>	802-655-4879
Deputy Mayor Sally Tipson	<a href="mailto:sallysflower@comcast.net">sallysflower@comcast.net</a>	802-655-3894
Councilor John Little	<a href="mailto:jlittle@winooskivt.org">jlittle@winooskivt.org</a>	802-655-0106
Councilor Megan Moir	<a href="mailto:mmoir@winooskivt.org">mmoir@winooskivt.org</a>	802-598-7922
Councilor Sarah Robinson	<a href="mailto:sarah.kunz.robinson@gmail.com">sarah.kunz.robinson@gmail.com</a>	802-734-6422
City Manager Deac Decarreau	<a href="mailto:deac@winooskivt.org">deac@winooskivt.org</a>	802-655-6410

Visit the city website at [winooskivt.org](http://winooskivt.org) or call 802-655-6410.

## Full-day Spark Camp Offered August 6-10 and August 13-17

The City of Winooski is offering two sessions of Spark Camp to augment childcare options for families during the first half of August. Spark Camp provides full-day supervision and activities for elementary-age children during some school vacation periods as an extension of the state-licensed Thrive After School Program. With the final session of Winooski's Summer Youth Enrichment Program ending on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, Spark Camp offers parents the flexibility to have their child(ren) in a safe and structured environment from 8am until 5:30pm, Monday through Friday, for two additional weeks.

Spark Camp is based at the O'Brien Community Center, and both breakfast and lunch are provided daily through Winooski's Summer Food Program. Any child who is entering grades 1 through 6 in the fall can be enrolled for one or both of the one-week sessions of Spark Camp, with priority given to Winooski residents. The cost of a (one-week) session is \$125, but the Vermont childcare subsidy is accepted to cover fees for eligible families. Registrations on a per-day basis will be accepted (at a cost of \$30/day) only if there are unfilled slots available. A \$10 registration fee is also required for any children who did not attend the Summer Youth Enrichment Program.

To enroll a child or for more information about Spark Camp, program activities, session fees, or childcare subsidy, please contact Ethan Hausman in the City's Youth Programs Office (655-1392 x21 or [coordinator@winooski.vt.org](mailto:coordinator@winooski.vt.org)).

## August Hours for Myers Pool

Open Swim hours at Myers Pool are from 12-6pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and from 12-7pm on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

## YMCA Winooski Youth Soccer for Grades K-6

Enjoy this great outdoor physical activity that will help develop endurance, speed, and coordination while having fun! All participants will receive a game ball and jersey. We'll have a free barbeque cookout at the end of the season.

**When:** Saturday, September 8th, 10am -1pm (times vary based on age group)

**Where:** Landry Park in Winooski

**Cost:** Members: \$25, Non-Members: \$40

**Register:** Contact the Winooski Y at 655-9622

**Info:** Kevin Hatin, Branch Director  
[khatin@gbymca.org](mailto:khatin@gbymca.org) or 655-9021

**Volunteer:** If you are willing to help coach please let us know.



## Community College of Vermont (CCV) Winooski News

[www.ccv.edu](http://www.ccv.edu)  
**(802) 654-0505**

*Register NOW through August 24th, 2012  
Classes begin Tuesday, September 4th, 2012*

**Introduction to College Studies (or ICS) is a class 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 (something like a ticket) to take a college course tuition free.** Weekly classes for Fall, 2012 begin in September. Class sections will be offered on:

- Tuesdays, 4 pm-6 pm or 6pm-8 pm
- Wednesday, 4 pm-6 pm
- Thursdays, 4 pm-6 pm
- Saturdays, 10 am-12:30 pm

Winooski Middle and High School students tasted the excitement of going to college in their own back yards in June during a visit to CCV Winooski! Students, did you know that your classmates are already taking advantage of Introduction to College Studies (ICS)? **In the spring 2012 semester, 15 WHS students took ICS and this summer 20 WHS students are enrolled in ICS!** Please let us know how you like the class and if you do, please tell your friends! **Let's try to enroll at least 30 Winooski High School students in fall 2012!**

**The Governor's Career Ready Certificate (GCRC)** is a class that helps people:

- Improve their skills to get a job
- Improve their skills to enhance your career plans
- Compare their skills to those needed in different jobs
- Earn a recognized credential
- **Free to participants**, the Governor's CRC is state funded and will be offered at CCV Winooski on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:45 am – 2:45 pm, September 12<sup>th</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>.

For more information or to register please read our website <http://www.ccv.edu/careerreadyvt> and complete the online application or call Amy E. Stuart at 654-0542.

**Senior Citizens!** Any senior (aged 65 years or older) has the opportunity to **take CCV classes tuition free.** Create art in the **Introduction to Studio Art**, or explore the past in **Vermont History** or study film as an art form and a method of communication in **Introduction to Film Study!** **There are many more courses to choose from.** Just complete CCV's online application or come into our center to complete a paper application; then, register for classes!



## Local Program Serves Young Men and Women in Winooski

ReSOURCE YouthBuild serves 16-24 year old men and women in Chittenden and Washington counties who have dropped out of high school and need comprehensive development and job training. Youth are trained in construction skills while building

affordable housing, learning weatherization skills, and working alongside ReBUILD's Deconstruction Service. YouthBuild participants have the opportunity to graduate with their high school diplomas or GED, earn certificates in OSHA 10, PACT, and First Aid & CPR Training.

YouthBuild participants are enrolled as AmeriCorps members and engage in community service projects twice each month. Upon graduating YouthBuild, students earn a generous education award to further their education and training. While successfully enrolled in YouthBuild, participants receive a weekly financial stipend. Graduates have access to resources and support to assist them as they advance their careers, go to college, build assets, and become role models.

YouthBuild will be starting a new group of students on **September 4<sup>th</sup>**. More information will be published in the September *District News!* In the meantime, for more information and a link to our application, check out our website at [www.retrainvt.org/youthbuild](http://www.retrainvt.org/youthbuild). Please feel free to call Elana with any questions at 802-658-4143 x27.

## Winooski On Foot

The Greater Burlington Y, City of Winooski, and the Winooski Community Partnership proudly sponsored the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Winooski On Foot – A Marathon in Steps" summer walking/running program. More than fifty-three participants signed up in June to spend part of their Wednesday evening walking the neighborhoods of Winooski. The group follows a series of routes mapped out by the Y to ensure the walkers are taking enough steps to add up to a marathon by the end of the program. Along the way, the group enjoys a summer evening getting to know one another and the city better while keeping their bodies active and fit. Before they know it, the steps add up to miles, and miles add up to a marathon!



## Summer Food Program Continues Through August 17

While August 3<sup>rd</sup> is the last day of summer meals at the Landry Park and Winooski High School sites, breakfasts and lunches will continue to be served daily at the O'Brien Community Center for two more weeks in August. Breakfast is served from 9:30–10am and lunch is served from 12:30–1pm, Monday through Friday. Dinners will also be offered through the Winooski Teen Center, at 5:30pm on three evenings each week (Tuesday, Thursday & Friday), until the end of the Summer Food Program on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

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 without charge, and no child will be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Please contact Ethan Hausman in the City's Youth Programs Office (655-1392 x21 *or* [coordinator@winooskivt.org](mailto:coordinator@winooskivt.org)) for more information.

## Join the Wrestling Program at the YMCA

The Winooski YMCA invites you to join the Vermont Wrestling Academy. This program takes place at the Y twice a week on Tuesday/Thursday nights. This program will continue to run through the fall. The program is led by Coach Gunner Olson, who is the head wrestling coach at Champlain Valley Union High School. Contact Kevin Hatin, Branch Director at [khatin@gbymca.org](mailto:khatin@gbymca.org) or 655-9021.

## Dive into a Movie at Myers Pool

Enjoy an evening at the pool with the whole family. There will be open swim time followed a movie outside on a projection screen. Food and refreshments will be available for purchase at the event. Movie starts at 8:30 sharp. Don't forget your beach chair or picnic blanket and pillow! Call 655-2100 for more info.

**Date:** Saturday, August 18, 7-10pm

**Cost:** \$3 member, \$5 per non member



## WCSPC News

The next WCSPC meeting will take place August 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 to 7 pm (meetings are the first Wednesday of every month) at the O'Brien Community Center. We would love to have you join us!

August's community dinner will be sponsored by a grant from Fletcher Allen as part of the Winooski Healthy Family Initiative. Food provided will be healthy, and recipes for home will be given away, as well. Food is served at 5:30 PM. The day is August 15, Wednesday (always the third Wednesday of the month). Family-friendly and free! Adults, please accompany your children who are under 16 to this event.

Check out our website for more information about our programs and ways we serve the Winooski community, [www.WCSPC.org](http://www.WCSPC.org). Have a wonderful summer, and congratulations to all the graduates!

Winooski School District  
60 Normand Street  
Winooski, VT 05404

## Newsletter of the Winooski School District

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WINOOSKI, VT 05404

### WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

[www.wdschools.org](http://www.wdschools.org)

#### Superintendent of Schools

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

#### John F. Kennedy Elementary School

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

#### Winooski Middle and High School

Principal: Leon Wheeler  
802-655-3530  
lwheeler@winooski.k12.vt.us

#### Board of School Trustees

Mike Decarreau, President: 310-4032  
mdecarreau@winooski.k12.vt.us  
Jay Lambert, Secretary: 655-2942  
jay.bird.2@gmail.com  
Amy Booher, 343-9790  
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Tori Cleiland, 655-7678  
tcleiland@winooski.k12.vt.us  
Jen Corrigan, 233-7642  
jcorrigan@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 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.*