

ALSO INCLUDES
Community News!
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WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 2013

Celebrating Our Achievements!

20 Years and Still on Track!

By John Malcovsky

The **20th Annual Winooski Scholarship Train Show** is on track to occur on December 7, 2013 at the Winooski Educational Center from 10 AM to 3 PM. Come and see how much fun toy trains are.

The show will feature operating layouts in a variety of gauges, Lego® trains and a great big Lego® display, railroad books and videos, railroadiana, toy train dealers, local railroad groups staffing displays and a food concession.

This annual event raises money for the Winooski Dollars for Scholars program. Adult admission is \$5, ages 6-12 pay \$1.00 while children under 6 are FREE when accompanied by an adult.

The Sophomore class will run the concession and a 50/50 raffle. This event is fun for young and old alike. There really is something for everyone at this show. Join us, contribute to scholarship, and have a great time!



Hometown Heroes Honored

By Deb LaForce

On any given morning, not rain, snow, sleet or even their birthdays could keep our five foster grandparents away from their students at John F. Kennedy Elementary School. The foster grandparent program, funded through the United Way, places men and women over the age of 60 in classrooms around Vermont and other states. These wonderful folks lend their time and expertise to help and support children in academics as well as taking on the role of room grandparent.

Just ask Grandma Sally, Grandma Maggie, Grandma Louise, Grandma Linda or Nana Joanne how they like working at J.F.K. and they'll say, "work, what work?" These five individuals view their time at J.F.K. as a way of staying busy and involved while helping to nurture the nurses, doctors and presidents of the future.

Upon asking the students what they liked most about their grandparent their responses were overwhelmingly in favor of the program that has been at the Winooski School for over 39 years. "Grandma Louise can spell our names, Grandma Linda knows how to tie our shoes. Grandma Curtis and Grandma Rutledge can count over 100 and Nana Joanne shows us things we have to know."

As you can see this program offers an extra set of hands and eyes to the teachers who are lucky enough to have a grandparent in their classroom. John F. Kennedy's biggest wish is to have more, many more grandmas and grandpas. These five extraordinary people are our heroes, hometown heroes, who contribute daily a little dose of mindfulness, a touch of playfulness and a whole lot of love!

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Nov. 14th Emergency Response

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

On Thursday, November 14th there was a home invasion on Weaver Street. The Winooski Police responded to the call and evidence indicated that two assailants had left the home and headed in the direction of our Winooski Educational Center. Police immediately communicated with the school and “Clear the Halls” & “Secure the Building” procedures were quickly initiated. Shortly thereafter, Winooski Police received a 911 call alleging there was a shooter in the school. As we now know, this was not accurate and there was never a threat in the school. However, what transpired next was both frightening and demonstrated an incredible response from law enforcement from around our county.

As our own Winooski Police Sergeant Michael Cram organized and led an incident command center in the parking lot of the Winooski Educational Center, law enforcement from Burlington, South Burlington, Colchester, Essex, VT State Police and others rushed to the scene. At this point there were about 50 students and 20 adults in the building and it was fully secured. Law enforcement, in an impressive showing of inter-departmental collaboration, secured the premises, began searching, and eventually cleared the building. After a few hours, all students and staff were evacuated safely without incident.

I would like to thank all students, staff, law enforcement and parents for their response to the incident. The tremendous response by law enforcement across the county was impressive and strengthened our sense of community. Our Winooski school staff and students followed our emergency procedures and kept everyone safe. In particular I would like to highlight our after school THRIVE staff who cared for our youngest students during the emergency. They were masterful in keeping a sense of calm and quiet with young children for quite a long period of time. Also, we had selfless cooperation from our neighbors Drs. Kelly Rybicki and Marion Fraser at Onion River Chiropractic and Kathi Apgar, Director of the YMCA Early Childhood

Program who hosted students and staff while they waited to be reunited with loved ones.

The day after the event the Winooski School District Leadership Team met at 6:30am to prepare for the day and staff arrived at 7:00am to review the agenda for the day. The goals for the day were:

- Taking care of kids and each other
- Balancing the emotion of a significant event with routine and normalcy

At 7:15am school staff fanned out across all the entrances to the building and greeted students and parents as they arrived to reinforce a sense of safety and support. Counselors from Burlington School District, the Howard Center and First Call worked with our own counselors to support students and staff over the course of the day. Thanks to all of these compassionate caregivers who supported our students and staff as they processed this event and other issues that may have arisen. At the end of the day school staff once again showed a tremendous sense of collective care by being outside to connect with parents and students as they left for the weekend.

While I am immensely proud of how everyone responded to this emergency, we can always learn something to improve our emergency procedures. Here are a few items we have identified for further discussion:

- Practicing emergency drills after school hours
- A method for collaborating agencies such as police and fire to communicate an emergency to the school when there may not be staff in offices to receive a call
- A single centralized intercom system that communicates with all parts of the building

Our Public Safety Committee will continue to review and improve our emergency procedures. Thanks for working with WSD to benefit our students!

A School Made for Everyone?

By Julian Portilla, Board of School Trustees

I recently attended a community meeting sponsored by the Partnership for Change. One of the themes for the day was, “ban the average.” The idea was to move away from a one-size-fits-all education designed for a mythical average student and move toward an education that meets our children where they are, both in terms of their abilities and their interests. It was an inspirational day of conversation, but I will admit to a gnawing sense of unease throughout the event: How could a school of this size possibly accommodate individualized education without breaking the bank? Then I had the good fortune to come across an elementary student and her mother. As we chatted, a picture emerged of what was possible. They told me about the very unique path that allowed this student to do more of the things that reflected her abilities and interests. She’s highly musical so she plays in ensembles above her grade level. She loves the outdoors so one day a week she goes off-site for a wilderness education program. She’s highly curious about history so she and a group of friends at school work a few hours a week outside of class (but during school hours) with a community volunteer to work on special research projects. The rest of the week she’s in “normal” class.

When I heard this story, I realized that small adjustments could allow each student to pursue their interests AND remain engaged with the “normal” parts of school. You like to build things? Maybe you spend part of a day with an engineer or a builder. Like computers? Maybe you spend a few hours a week with a programmer and some time in the iLab. You want to learn Arabic? Maybe you earn language credit through the WSD’s online language program and practice conversation with a local native speaker. You like art or music or dance? Maybe you spend a day at the Integrated Arts Academy or at the Flynn and the rest of

(Continued on next page)

(PORTILLA continued from page 2)

the week at WSD. Who knows? What I learned is that we don't have to start from scratch. But we probably have to let go of certain conventions that we're used to: like 8:00-3:00 in the traditional classroom every day; like everyone moves at the

same speed in a similar set of classes; and like the notion that the community's role in education happens exclusively during after-school hours, maybe there are teachers everywhere!

I don't know what our school will look

like in ten years. I do know that we need to build something that reflects our world today: fast-paced, engaging, dynamic and tailored to the individual. After my conversation from the other day, I see how it's already happening in Winooski.

Honor Roll – First Quarter: 2013-2014

HIGH SCHOOL

Freshmen

High Honors

Rui Chen
Mariah Metivier

Honors

Marie Ly
Onna Morgan
Hamdi Muya
Justice Palmer
Kim Soukone

Sophomores

High Honors

Edmund Do
Hannah Little

Honors

Sumitra Acharya
Ra Mat Bi
Kip Dubie
Kinzang Gurung
Taylor Langlais
Jordan Ritchie
Ledania Taylor
Conner White

Juniors

High Honors

Khada Acharya
Mina Dhamala
Amanda Nattress
Nhung Nguyen
Hunter Robare

Honors

Uyen Bui
Jake Corrigan
Conner Drown
Avah Eaton
Chanefer Nheb
Ro Ze Yar

Seniors

High Honors

Cara Casier
Sarah Haylette
Serina Phuong
Ku Say Wah

Honors

Natalie Bailey
Kyle Bigelow
Kylie Bryant
Andrew Decarreau
Austin Mayo
Kevin Pham
Steven Truong

MIDDLE SCHOOL

High Honors

Shennelle Bailey
Dante DuBose
Jarod Fountain
Adison Granger
Shamir Gurung
Ines Horozovic
Rebekkah Lambert
Nicole Laplante
Elisha Limbu
Caleb Moore
Lydia Nattress

Tiffany Phuong
Sarita Pradhan
Noah Rouille
Destiny Syharaj

Honors

Bhadri Bhattarai
Bishal Bista
Cassandra Brosseau
Jaret Chagnon
Xavier Clark
Heaven Clogston
Charles Cusson-Ducharme
Vijayata Dahal
Kusa Daud
Dhan Maya Dhamala
Sophia Do
Tatum Duba
Cheyenne Pearce Eaton
Evan Eaton
Faith Evans
Vilas Gentes
Calvin Hayford
Avery Jones
Parker Kane
Kaitlenn Little
Sumitra Mangar
Miya McMahon
Bailey Miller
Haley Morits
Maryam Omar
Kyle Sweeney
Fiona Taylor
Olivia Treadwell
Rebecca White
Kayle Willard
Madison Wright

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winooski Penguin Plunge Team



5th-12th grade students and staff attended an assembly on Friday, November 15th to get psyched up

to support Special Olympics by joining the Winooski Penguin Plunge team. Superintendent Sean McMannon, who plunged last year and Liza Reed, Special Olympics Vermont Special Events manager emceed the event with inspiring videos of last year's plunge and Winooski student Scott Johnston's enthusiastic appeal to jump into the icy waters of Lake Champlain on **February 8, 2014**. Also, there was a visit from the penguin himself who threw stickers and hats to the crowd. We have already raised over \$2500 and 64 people have registered to plunge!

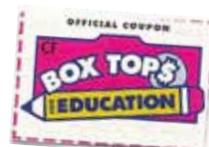
All parents and community members are encouraged to join the Winooski Penguin Plunge team by registering to plunge or donating to support a student through this website: <http://www.firstgiving.com/team/247809>.



You Can Help!

The PTO is continuing to collect Box Tops this year. Please save them and bring them to school. Your child's teacher can send them to the office for collection.

Please note: We no longer collect Campbell's Soup Labels as they have ended that promotion. Thank you!



Winooski Dollars for Scholars Thanks You

By Morgan Kelner and Winooski Dollars for Scholars Board

Hi everyone. Winooski Dollars for Scholars has now launched it's 20th year kick-off with an exciting fundraiser, which was organized in 2 weeks! On October 26, Sneakers created and sponsored a fun-filled Halloween fundraiser with all donations going to Winooski Dollars for Scholars. It was truly a community/school happening, with students from Ms. Poquette's business class designing the flyer and participating in the actual Halloween event; Jenny, Sneakers' store manager organized the event, talked to Ms. Poquette's business class, solicited all the donations, along with hundreds of other things and Mark, Sneakers' owner opened his restaurant, cooked along with his great dynamic staff and made this fundraiser possible. When Jenny wanted to do a fundraiser for Winooski students, Jodi Harrington suggested that Winooski Dollars for Scholars would be a great organization to support. Thanks Jodi for getting the ball rolling. We are extremely appreciative to everyone who made this fundraiser happen and to the following businesses who donated items, money or gift certificates:

Andrew and Betsy Allen (VT Stage tickets) ~Asian Bistro
~Dean Ferrara (hats) ~Donny's Pizza ~Farrell Distributing
~McKees Pub and Grill ~Misery Loves Company ~Monkey
House ~Mule Bar ~ My WebGrocer ~Our House ~Papa Franks
~Tiny Thai ~Top Hat Entertainment ~VSAC ~ Winooski Circle
Arts and the Woolen Mill.

Of course we are always grateful and appreciative to all the individuals who show up at fundraisers for Winooski Dollars for Scholars and who generously donate to our organization. We raised \$1300 that night, with all money going to scholarships to Winooski students.

Another great launch to our 20th anniversary is the annual Winooski Train Show, which will be on Saturday, December 7. Mr. Malcovsky has organized this show every year for 20 years, with proceeds going to Winooski Dollars for Scholars; and as always, we are extremely grateful to him.

Thanks again to everyone who made the Sneakers Halloween event a success and we hope to see you at the Winooski Train Show!

Project Graduation Begins Fundraising

By Kelley Lind

The Winooski Senior class held a coin drop at the Winooski High School on Saturday, November 23, 2013 to benefit Project Grad 2014. Thanks to all who helped and contributed to this fundraiser!

Project Grad is a substance-free graduation event held the night of graduation that is designed to keep our students safe. We are arranging a fun evening full of activities to help celebrate graduation and need to raise money to help with the cost.

We will continue to do fundraising throughout the year. Look for more information on Front Porch Forum or in this newsletter. We invite you to support our cause by contacting Linda Casier at 655-0411 during school hours. Thank you!

Free College Classes!

College information night for all Winooski families with students in grades 9-12 - December 17

Come to the Community College of Vermont (CCV) and learn how to take a FREE college class as a high school student.

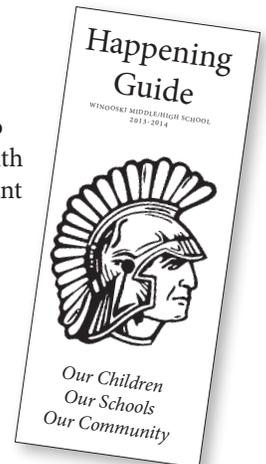
- Learn about the process and the benefits to starting college early.
- Free Dinner and \$10 Shaws gift card for each family who attends
- Transportation provided (must arrange in advance)
- **Date:** December 17, 2013 **Time:** 4:00-6:00 pm
- RSVP to Cathy Printon: Printon@vsac.org or 542-2293.

Family-School Partnership Coordinator's Message

By Anera Foco

A group of WMHS outreach workers, students and staff alike, have knocked at the doors of all MHS families to say hello and to share with you a calendar filled with exciting activities and information relevant for this school year. From school plays, graduations dates to parent and family-lead meetings, there is a little bit for everyone.

Sorry if we have missed you but rest assured we will be back. I am using this opportunity to invite you to join us for any and all activities planned thus far. If you are in need of a calendar please do not hesitate to contact me or you can find the calendar is our schools, teachers' classrooms, WSD web calendar and throughout the community. You can reach me at afoco@wdschools.org or at 655-3530.



Happy Retirement and Best Wishes to Shirley and Nancy!

By Nina Hansen, Abbey Food Services

With deep appreciation we said good bye to our dear Meme, Shirley Francis, and Nancy Augustino, long time food service professionals for the meal program. These ladies took care of thousands of students who come through their lunch line at Winooski. We thank them for their years of service and dedication to the Winooski School community.





Students Challenge Community to Design A School System for All Learners at Partnership for Change Learning Conversation

By Megan Behrend

What happens when 25 students ask their community to design a school system that allows each of them—and all of their peers—to meet their personal goals and contribute to a bright future for their cities? Last month, Winooski and Burlington, Vermont found out.

On Saturday, November 2, more than 160 people gathered at Winooski Middle/High School to imagine a school system designed for all learners. Participants joined from both Winooski and Burlington and represented a number of stakeholder groups, including students, parents, teachers, administrators, community partners, business leaders, city officials, and representatives from higher education.

Organized by the Partnership for Change, this Community Learning Conversation was the second in a series of events that aims to involve our entire community in redesigning the education system for all learners. The event was the continuation of a conversation started last school year by more than 350 people about what our graduates need to succeed. To move this work forward, participants in the November event were asked to think deeply about what elements and resources are essential in a school system that meets the needs of every student.

The event began with a presentation by Winooski Middle/High School Principal Leon Wheeler, Burlington High School Principal Amy Mellencamp, Partnership for Change Director Hal Colston, and Burlington's Mayor Miro Weinberger. To kick off the conversation, these school and community leaders described the major challenge facing public education in the 21st century.

"During the last century or so, the vast majority of American classrooms have been teacher-centered, with one lesson plan delivered to all students in the same way, and all students moving in lock-step from one grade to another, regardless of whether they mastered the learning," said Principal Wheeler. "But these methods don't account for the variability of all our students. They were designed based on a



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partnershipvt.org
info@partnershipvt.org
802-363-2342

myth that if we design for the average learner we design for most learners."

After laying this foundation, the facilitators for the day's small-group discussions were welcomed to the stage: 25 middle and high school students from Winooski and Burlington.

"My name is Ali Omar and I am an 11th grader at WHS. Help me design a school system that will redefine imagination," said one student. Others challenged the audience to help them apply their learning to the real world, master the English language, develop strong relationships with teachers, or meet specific college or career goals.

The participants then broke out into small-group conversations led by one student facilitator and recorded by an adult notetaker. After learning more about their student facilitator's interests, learning style, and goals, each group brainstormed and prioritized the top ten components of a school system that would help their learner succeed. The groups brought forth a wide range of ideas, from outdoor education and citywide Wi-Fi to more time for reflection and less emphasis on tests. Some of the most popular ideas included internships in the community, one-on-one advisory, and increased student choice.

To learn more about the input collected from our community and how it will inform our redesign efforts, visit www.partnershipvt.org. The Partnership for Change would like to thank everyone who contributed their voices to the conversation, particularly the student facilitators who inspired us all. If you would like to help move the school change process forward, we invite you to join one of our Implementation Teams. The next meeting is on Thursday, December 12 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm at Burlington High School. All are welcome!

K-5 News

By Mary O'Rourke, JFK Elementary Principal

Our holiday performance, "Growing Stars of the Future," will be held on **Thursday, December 19th** at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at the Winooski Educational Center. Please accept our invitation to bring your whole family to our annual show and watch our stars shine. We are tying our performance this year to the graduate expectations. Before each class gets up to sing, a member of our community will introduce the song and explain how that song ties our GXs and why the song was selected.

In August, the elementary teachers participated in a "Best Practices in Mathematics" class. While this was a weeklong course, we will continue throughout the year to have follow-up professional development days. These are called studio days. One of our teachers is the studio teacher and the other participants are studio residents. On the first professional day, the consultant, administration and our math coach observe in classrooms. We are in each about 15 minutes. These observations are called data snaps. The information collected give us a snapshot of what is happening in math. On the second day, the residents observe the studio teacher. We then debrief and spend time reviewing the information collected during our data snaps. We have had two studio days so far this year. We found these days very beneficial.

The Gift of Warmth

As the winter season nears and the temperature drops, many families are in need of warm coats for their children.

We are very fortunate here at John F. Kennedy Elementary School to have received donations from two very generous sponsors. The Knights of Columbus and a donor that chooses to remain anonymous has given us coats to distribute and we are happy to say many students will be very warm thanks to their thoughtfulness.

We would like to wish everyone a happy, safe and warm holiday season and may the generosity of others be a guiding example of what true community means.

Spooky Halloween Community Reads!

By Lisa Goetz

Our Spooky Halloween Community Reads was a huge success! Many thanks to the families who were able to attend. The children listened to Officer Dean read a Halloween story and then enjoyed some cider and donuts. After that, the children and their parents were able to visit different Halloween stations such as making slime, origami, building with pretzels and marshmallows, Halloween bingo, Halloween books, and Halloween coloring activities. This event was sponsored by the J.F.K. PACTS Team.



Accountable Talk Read Alouds at JFK

By Jennifer Lapointe

What is an accountable talk read aloud and how is it being implemented at JFK?

Traditionally, we are used to teacher directed classrooms. This model relies heavily on the teacher doing most of the talking while students listen and respond. But with the demands of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS in place 2014) that require all our children to be career and college ready, this model will not help teachers attain this goal. The kinds of text students will be reading, the complexity of those texts and the amount of time that children need to read, requires a different instructional approach. The accountable talk read aloud (ATRA) is a literacy model that relies upon our students doing most of the talking about what they are learning while citing evidence from the text to support their ideas. The teacher's role is to model thinking and reading strategies and facilitate conversations about the text using prompts which students then try out first in active engagement right on the rug, and then independently.

The ATRA is a powerful teaching component of literacy. Research confirms the importance and value of reading aloud to students of all ages. Teachers read aloud several times a day, and provide daily opportunities for accountable talk during a read aloud session.

It is important that teachers plan for ATRAs. The choice of text is the first important decision. Teachers need to consider how the text can support or lead the reading work students do independently. For example, if the class is studying character (and students are reading about characters independently) the teacher will read aloud a book containing strong characters who change over the course of the text. This would offer the class several opportunities for deep talk about characters feelings and traits. If the class is working on non-fiction texts, the teacher would be reading aloud non-fiction texts to support the students in their independent work within this genre.

Planning for an ATRA requires a teacher to "mark up" the text usually with sticky notes to mark the places where

they want students to do some specific, higher-order thinking. These stopping places are intentional and focus in on the main teaching point of the text. Teachers will also mark up places to "Think Aloud" which provide opportunities to model that readers don't just read the words, but also think about the story. For example, if you stop in the middle of a text and say, "I can't believe the character is acting this way. I wonder why she's being like this...?" you demonstrate to your students that readers question the characters and wonder about their motivations. If you think aloud by saying, "I bet she's going to lose the bracelet," you model that readers make predictions as they read. When you say to your class, "I want to reread that part again. I was daydreaming and lost the story", you teach that rereading is a strategy to regain comprehension.

In addition to "think alouds", teachers provide opportunities throughout a text for students to "turn and talk" with their reading buddies about the text. Prompts by the teacher sound like, "turn and tell your reading buddy what you think will happen next and why you think this" or "turn and talk with your partner about how the character's actions reveal the kind of person they are.....remember to cite evidence from the text as to why you think this...". Students are then trained to respond to these texts by using specific prompts that facilitate conversation such as, "I agree with you because....", "I can build or add on to that thought", "For example" and "I disagree because" just to name a few.

By doing all of this, teachers demonstrate that readers predict, envision, question, develop theories about characters and monitor for meaning as they interact with text. An ATRA allows students to develop skills not only when interacting with text as readers, but also meets the Common Core State Standards for speaking and listening because it requires students to:

- Pay attention to what other's are saying
- Reproduce the ideas of the last speaker
- Build on the last speaker's comments

- Produce evidence to support what someone is saying
- Create an environment that supports active speaking
- Learn to support, defend, oppose and clarify talk within an academic setting
- Support by evidence

Accountable talk read alouds require students to participate in intellectually challenging tasks and to hold discussions in a respectful manner. Students respect the points of view of their peers and their communication skills are strengthened by interaction. Most importantly, it empowers students to back up their views with cited evidence from text. They get practice in being good conversationalists. A teacher's job as facilitator is crucial in making this happen in the classroom.



Math Read Aloud

By Mag Thomas

A new program that is happening this session in afterschool is **Math Read Aloud**. Mrs. Moulton and a group of students from Kindergarten and 1st grade meet on Wednesdays to read a math-based book. *Count on Pablo*, *Monster Math Picnic*, and *One, Two, Three, Oops* are just some of the titles that they are reading. After hearing the story, the children learn a new math game that they can play. The games focus on counting to 50 and helping them learn their basic addition/subtraction facts. We have quite a group of mathematicians who are working and playing very hard!

Energized by Celebration

By Kate Grodin, Assistant Principal, WMHS

Winooski Middle and High School faculty recently came together to view Dewitt Jones's *Celebrate What's Right with the World*. There were several powerful messages in this 20 minute movie. One that resonated with me centered on the idea of being open to possibility. Jones encourages focusing on what is right with a particular situation, so one can eliminate what is not working. This elimination allows what is right to flourish and grow, sometimes way beyond one's expectation or even beyond what one thought was possible. This is not a very original metaphor, but this message reminds me of when I have to brutally cut back my fern because I haven't watered it in weeks. I can often see the baby leaves, curled up tightly in the plant struggling against the straw-like yellowed stems, which when removed allow the the babies to unfurl and grow into deep green, healthy leaves. The reason this flourish can happen, Jones argues, is that, *when we celebrate what is right, it gives us the energy to fix what isn't.*

"When we celebrate what is right, it gives us the energy to fix what isn't."

— DEWITT JONES

Jones is an award winning photographer and I am no botanist, but this theory makes sense. Even though I feel terrible cutting back this living thing, I know my fern needs to redirect its energy to the fresh new growth underneath. As educators, we too need to look at a situation, highlight what is working, and cut away what we know is not to better nurture *what is right*.

I recently met with a student because teachers were terribly concerned about his grades and tardiness to school. I asked him, "What's going right for you at school?" He said without blinking, "I am ready to learn." Hmmm, isn't

this the student who is late every day? Who has struggling grades? Who folks are concerned about because he is not engaged? Turns out, when he arrives at school (albeit late) he is ready to engage. He gets immediately involved in conversation; he learns by listening. I praised this ability, let him know not everyone learns that way and that it is a real skill. Somehow during this conversation, he mentioned that he would be even more ready to learn if he were more prepared, but he really needed to stay late at school to get his homework done. A plan was born. We decided to tackle homework and organization first, and then I mentioned that once that plan had taken root, I was going to really press him on getting to school on time. He said he was willing to work on getting to school at the same time but, "when I start to get some better grades, I bet I will feel really motivated." I felt like I saw a new leaf begin to unfurl.

News from the iLab

By Will Andrews

Learning! Growth! Connections!
Apple Bread!

The fall has officially taken hold and the iLabbers have settled in. Projects are humming along, community connections are being made, and students are making huge gains in their learning. Here is a quick update on all things new in the iLab!

Share-it Night - All iLab students are required to participate in three Share-it Nights throughout the year. During these nights students show off their projects to interested family and community members. Our students are busily getting their interactive presentations together, and the night should be a blast.

Project Process - All of the iLab students have settled on a project, and

have moved into their Learn it and Make it phases. Students in the Learn it phase are required to do research on their project, with an emphasis on connecting to both local and global experts. Once students have gathered solid research, they move on to the Make it phase where they start to create a product that matters to themselves or to the community. Many of our students have settled on ideas for their Make it phase, and their products are fantastic!

iLab Council/Leadership - As we learn more about what the iLab is, more power within the classroom will go to the students. We have just recently started the iLab council, which is a weekly meeting where students can express concerns, and offer ways to improve the iLab space, learning process, or future actions. The iLab council also acts as a time for students to purpose ways for us to use our budget

and give us ideas on how to make our classroom even more student friendly.

iLab Future - In order for us to keep the iLab fresh and growing, we are constantly thinking about ways to improve and grow the iLab. We have recently had conversations with CCV about using iLab students as adjunct professors teaching community members technology skills they need in our ever changing world, talks with the City of Winooski on how to use iLab students to increase student voice within the city government, and connections to other schools around New England that want to observe the iLab and use our students to help design a version of it in *their* schools.

Thanks for reading this and if you have any questions or want to help out the iLab, please feel free to email me at WAndrews@wsdschools.org.

On the Move with our Middle Schoolers

By Nancy Keller, M.Ed, CAS, NBCT

Winooski Middle School launched its Spartans in Motion (SIM) program in September. Thanks to funding from the Bay and Paul Foundations that has funded equipment, teacher training and a SIM Coordinator, middle school students are engaged in aerobic activities—every day--that gets them up and moving and building brain cells! Current



Middle schoolers enjoy crab-walking together. Active bodies make healthy minds.

research now confirms what our parents told us when we were young – Eat right. Sleep well....and get outside and play! Too much sitting and inactivity is the equivalent to the health effects of smoking and has a negative impact not only on your body but on your brain as well.

Through October, middle school students rotated through



Desiree LaRock and Sela Brown pose long enough for a SIM noodle javelin photo.

exercise stations on the soccer field and, once done, recorded their exercise effort on their SIM card. The overall goal of the SIM program is to instill the importance of movement and exercise in our middle schoolers' lives, so that they will become not only life-long learners, but live a long and healthy life.

Middle school teacher, Chris Magistrale, leads his TA in the SIM "grape vines," a movement that promotes balance and coordination.



Students of the Quarter Honored

High School students are recognized at an Honor's assembly that takes place shortly after the quarter ends. In addition to the recognition, students are invited, along with their parents, to a luncheon sponsored by the Winooski PTO. These luncheons take place at Waf's Westside Deli. Being honored as a Student of the Quarter means that you have worked very hard and done your best to exemplify the kind of student that we would like everyone to aspire to.

The staff and students would like to thank the Winooski PTO for their generosity in maintaining this special event.

The following students were honored on Wednesday, November 13th, 2013:

Leadership	Kassian Prior
Character and School Citizenship	Maryan Kadawe and Onna Morgan
Arts and Humanities Scholarship	RoZe Yar, Chandra Pringle, Colton Lavalette, Hasan Ko, and Victoria White
Social Sciences Scholarship	Steven Truong
Math, Science, and Technology Scholarship	Luke Fountain and Alyssa Winegar
Special Recognition	Uyen Bui
Most Improved	Niha Jackson and Ram Gurung

Spartan Merchandise Available!

The PTO supports activities like Student of the Quarter Luncheons by fundraisers and through the sale of Spartan clothing (sweatshirts, t-shirts, hats) as well as blankets, stickers, and stadium seats. This merchandise is all available for purchase on the school website (www.wdschools.org) or by calling Jen Corrigan at 233-7642. Payment is due at time of delivery. We have a nice selection of items available, so call today!

WMS/WHS Stuff It Afterschool Program

By Barbara Russ

On Tuesday afternoons you can hear a lot of conversation, laughter, and excitement as 19 middle school and high school students come together to work on their sewing projects in our Stuff It afterschool program. Many of the students have participated in this program over the years and really look forward to this program offering. The program is co-taught by Ms. Brosnan and Ms. Soliz and students choose the projects that they want to complete. Following directions, attention to detail, and learning and practicing new stitches and techniques are all part of Stuff It! When asked what they like best about the program or why they are continuing to participate in the program, students say:

“I like learning how to sew.”

“I know how to crochet, but I like learning a new way to sew.”

“I like to go to Stuff It because I’ve learned how to sew and have my friends there so we can learn together.”

“It’s relaxing for me.”

“I like **Stuff It** because we can make stuffed animals that we can keep.”

“What I like best about **Stuff It** is it helps me with my sewing skills and takes me away from my stress and troubles.”

It’s clear that our students enjoy this program and as a result it has become a WMS/WHS afterschool tradition!



Winooski High School Students Attend Leadership Conference

By Dennis Barcomb, Athletic Director

On November 11th and 12th four WHS students attended the 20th annual Vermont Student Leadership Conference.

The students were selected by the WHS coaching staff. The students selected were: **Niki Dang, Brandon Bigelow, Andy Pham, and Hannah Little**. The purpose of the conference is to equip the students with the tools and confidence to be effective leaders on their particular teams and to share this positive attitude with their school and community.

We are all very proud of our students who attended this conference and look forward to them being leaders on our teams here at WHS.



Guidance News

By Emmy Charron

- **December 4th:** TOEFL at St. Michael's College - Please register with Emmy
- **December 7th:** SAT test date
- **December 14th:** ACT test date
- **December 17th:** Aspirations day for all students at WHS.
- **December 27th:** Last day to register for January 27th SATs at Collegeboard.org

** Sophomores and Juniors who are interested in taking **Intro to College Studies** at CCV this spring should come see Emmy ASAP!

Reminder for Seniors: All FAFSA & VSAC Grant applications need to be completed during the month of January. Seniors should be working on Scholarship Applications. VSAC scholarship booklet early application deadline is February 7th, regular deadline March 7th.

Questions about financial aid? Contact VSAC Coordinator Heidi McLaughlin at mclaughlin@vsac.org.

You can reach me at 655-3530 or at echarron@wsdschools.org.



Sensei Quinlan teaches how to do a guard pass to the Afterschool JiuJitsu club.

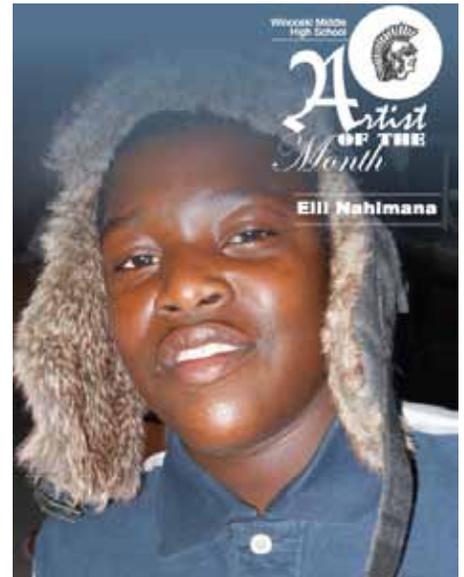
Winooski Students Persevere in Tournament

by Nancy Keller

On Saturday, November 9, Winooski Educational Center's gym was the home for a major Brazilian JiuJitsu tournament hosted by Winooski Middle/High School's CCLC after school JuiJitsu teacher, Sensei David Quinlan of Martial Way Self-Defense Center. The tournament, also known as the Vermont Open, draws competitors, both youth and adult, from across New England, New York and Quebec. Three of the fourteen middle and high school students from Sensei Quinlan's after school JiuJitsu Club decided to participate in this event, met the challenge, and finished like champions. Sixth grader Hannah Poirier ended up with second place in a very tough match, and seventh graders Evan

Eaton and Xavier Bouvier battled to a first and second, respectively, in their division.

Congratulations to these young martial artists for participating in this competition, and congratulations to all of the middle and high school students in afterschool JiuJitsu Club for their consistent effort and dedication to their training! Sensei Quinlan is already planning for the Spring CCLC Afterschool JiuJitsu Club, to begin in March and ending with tournament competition in mid-April, so mark your calendars now!



November's Artist of the Month:

Elli Nahimana

Please join me in congratulating Elli Nahimana for his achievement in earning the coveted Artist of the Month for November.

Elli has shown tremendous growth and maturity in and outside of the classroom, and has always been very helpful in facilitating expected behaviors. He is a true role model for his peers. In the art room, Elli has shown great pride in his work, with the greatest enthusiasm, positivity, and grace.

Congrats to Elli!

—Jessica Bruce, Fine Arts Educator



Evan Eaton dominates his opponent in the Vermont Open Grappling Championship.

Business Students Make Community Connections

By Courtney Poquette

The first quarter of the year has been a busy one for students in Business classes. Students in **Personal Finance** connected their in class learning to what is happening in our community with field trips to CCV and Merchants Bank. At CCV students learned about opportunities in which they can earn college credits while in high school and also learned about financial aid. At Merchants Bank students learned about the benefits of banking and how to open and manage checking accounts. They also learned about careers in the banking industry. Students also participated in mock job interviews with professionals from our community.



In **Business Topics** students spent the first quarter of the year learning about Sports and Event management. In this class students worked on setting marketing goals for our schools' upcoming Train Show. They were thrilled to find so many businesses



in the community who supported their efforts by allowing them to hang signs to promote the upcoming event.. Students also helped Sneakers plan a Halloween Fundraiser to raise money for Dollars for Scholars. Lastly students in this class reinforced what they were learning by visiting Centennial Field and the Champlain Valley Expo. They were able to see what it took to promote sporting events and concerts.



Update from your City Council

By John Little

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving! Below are a few things which the City Council has been focused on over the last few weeks.

We are in the very beginning stages of developing the City's budget for FY 2015 which runs from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. This is always a challenging endeavor and this year is no exception. We have many decisions to make and we need your input in order to appropriately address any enhancements to existing services or introduction of new services. Please plan to attend the Council meetings in the coming weeks and voice your opinion.

The Riverhouse Apartment project recently celebrated their grand opening as construction was completed. This is another piece of our thriving downtown which contributes to the attraction of living in our great city.

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC), the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the City are moving forward with the design that will increase the safety of both the vehicular and pedestrian travelling public within the Circulator. Soon there will be opportunities for public comment during the design phase, so please look for this on upcoming Council meeting agendas and come out and provide your input.

As noted in last month's article, the Neighborhood Watch program has been launched and multiple meetings have taken place. The Winooski Police



Department is sponsoring this endeavor and is advertising the upcoming meetings on Front Porch Forum. If you are interested in organizing an association in your neighborhood, you can contact the police at 655-0221. If you have questions and want to see what it is all about, everyone is welcome to any of the meetings throughout the city. No matter what, remember that if you see anything that concerns you, don't hesitate to contact the Winooski Police.

Remember that the City Winter Parking Ban starts on December 1st. Specifics can be found on the City's website, including what to do if you feel you do not have adequate off-street parking.

Lastly, I encourage residents to be part of the decision making processes on the above issues and the many other items throughout our City. Please consider getting involved on the numerous boards and committees and be part of helping to move our City forward in the direction you see appropriate. At the bare minimum, please come to your council meetings and let your opinion be known.

As always, feel free to contact any of the City Council members with any questions or concerns.

As always, if you have any thoughts or concerns about your community, please feel free to contact any member of the City Council, or attend a City Council meeting.

Youth Programs Update

Hello! My name is Sarah Petrokonis, and I am the Winooski Youth Programs' newest AmeriCorps State member. As the Special Events Coordinator at the Teen Center, my focus is to develop and expand the center's programming for local youth. In particular, I will be working to provide free, nutritious meals for children ages 18 and under, and assisting youth in the city's Summer Teen Employment Program. I am also looking forward to developing new programs that get youth involved in the community in new and interesting ways.

Dinners at the Teen Center are free and available to anyone 18 and younger, and are served Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm. I look forward to seeing you there!

Winooski Youth Basketball

Enjoy this great sport & physical activity that will help develop endurance, speed and coordination while having fun! We'll teach the fundamentals of basketball through fun scrimmage games and drills. All participants will receive a game jersey, certificate and free pizza lunch at end of season!

- **Ages:** K-4th grade (Co-ed)
- **When:** Saturday's from 9:30 – 11:00am. December 14 – February 15. (No practice on Dec. 21 & 28) Registration starts December 2nd at the Winooski Y.
- **Where:** Winooski High School (side entrance)
- **Contact:** Mike Cioffi, Winooski Y 655-9622, mcioffi@gbymca.org
- **Cost:** Member/ Winooski Resident \$30, Non-Member \$45
- **Additional Information:** Financial Assistance is available. Nobody will be turned away for inability to pay.

GREATER BURLINGTON YMCA
266 College Street, Burlington VT 05401
P 802 655 9622 www.gbymca.org

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Michael O'Brien	mayor@winooskivt.org	802-655-4879
Deputy Mayor Sally Tipson	sallysflower@comcast.net	802-655-3894
Councilor John Little	jlittle@winooskivt.org	802-655-0106
Councilor Seth Leonard	sethinwinooski@gmail.com	919-616-0276
Councilor Sarah Robinson	sarah.kunz.robinson@gmail.com	802-734-6422
City Manager Deac Decarreau	deac@winooskivt.org	802-655-6410

Visit the city website at winooskivt.org or call 802-655-6410.

Deliver a Smile - Volunteer with Meals on Wheels!

Do you want to make a difference in a seniors life? Do you have weekday mornings free? If you answered yes, become a Meals on Wheels Volunteer! The Winooski Senior Centers Meals on Wheels volunteers combat senior hunger and provide a lifeline and companionship for community members who would otherwise be isolated. We are looking for volunteers who would like to dedicate 1.5 hours one morning a week delivering meals, chatting with seniors, and doing safety checks at seniors homes in Winooski. With this program, seniors in our community know where their next meal is coming from and that there is someone in the community who is looking out for them. We provide training for all volunteers including ride-alongs with experienced volunteers. For more information on this volunteer opportunity, please contact Alaina Wermers at vista@winooskivt.org or fill out an application here: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll?ap?AP=1386587504>

Do you like to play basketball? Come volunteer with us!

The Winooski Youth Program's high school drop-in program is looking for volunteers! If you volunteer with us, you'll get to have a great time while making a difference in a young person's life!

On Friday nights (9 to 11pm), youth have the opportunity to play basketball at the Winooski Education Center. We are looking for volunteers who love to play basketball and want to share that passion with youth.

We offer an orientation and training to all new volunteers as well as continued support from staff. If you are interested in this position, please fill out our volunteer application at winooskivt.org or contact me at vista@winooskivt.org

WCSPS Update

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

Thanks to all who helped make the holiday community dinner at the community center possible for another year! We enjoyed celebrating the start of the holiday season with everyone, and hoped it provided a stress-free way to relax with friends and family.

Our UVM Medical School Public Health project is wrapping up. Through this project, we assessed risk factors for drug abuse in Winooski. We will share the final poster and findings with the community as we receive them, and look forward to deeper conversations as a result of this inquiry.

We are working with Winooski student interns to help educate the public about the dangers of second-hand smoke in outdoor spaces. These students are also working to educate the community about the effects point-of-sale marketing has on increasing the number of youth who start to smoke, which is especially important because almost 90% of people who become lifelong addicted smokers start before they are 18 years old.

We are also working with other local coalitions on a regional effort to address prescription drug abuse and underage drinking. We look forward to these projects and the potential they have to improve the quality of life.

Our next community dinner will be January 15. Stay tuned for more details.

WCSPC.org | 802.655.4565 | kate.winooskicoalition@gmail.com

802.655.4565 | 32 Malletts Bay Ave, Winooski, VT 05404 | wcspc.org

Winooski Senior Center

By Jahnine Spaulding

The Winooski Senior Center welcomes all community members 55 and older! If you have questions about any of the activities listed below, please give us a call at 655-6425 or stop by any weekday between 8am and Noon. Here's what's happening this month:

- **December 4th**- 10-11:30 Craft Morning - make a beautiful poinsettia or holly pin for yourself or someone you love! \$1 Please call 655-6425 to sign up (and to ensure we have enough supplies!)
- **December 18th**- All community members 55 and older are invited to join us for a Senior Holiday Feast on Wednesday, December 18th at 11:30 am. A roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, entertainment, and a few holiday surprises will make this a community lunch to remember! \$4 - make your reservation today! 655-6425
- **Coffee Hour** - join us for a "cup of joe" and a chat any weekday morning 8-9 AM
- **Exercise classes** - a Tai Chi style class from 10-11 AM free and open to all seniors
- **Line Dancing** - a great way to keep those holiday calories from going to your hips! 1 PM Every Monday \$5 per class
- **Community Meal** - everyone is welcome! Every Thursday 11:30 AM \$4 suggested donation
- **Bingo** - every Thursday at 12:30 PM \$10 per sheet
- **Nepalese Senior Luncheon** - 1st and 3rd Friday's of the month - any Nepalese or Bhutanese senior is welcome to enjoy some exercise, practice their English, and share a meal. Please call 655-6425 for more information.
- **Holiday craft days** are coming! Call 655-6425 for more information or to sign up.



Learn Something New!

The Winooski Memorial Library offers **Universal Class**, a website with over 540 classes on a huge range of topics, including Exercise and Fitness, Entrepreneurship, Arts and Music, Home and Garden Care, Cooking, Computers and Technology, Health and Medicine, Homeschooling, Job Assistance, Law and Legal, Parenting and Family, Pet and Animal Care...plus 100's more. The Vermont State Department of Libraries has purchased access for all the public libraries in Vermont, including us! Visit the Winooski Memorial Library for more information! We are open Tuesday 10-7, Wednesday 3-7, Thursday 10-6, Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-1 or call 655-6424.

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Health Office Coordinator

Over the past month the Health Office has noticed an increase of strep throat cases in all three schools.

Please observe your child for any signs and symptoms of strep.

- red and white patches in the throat
- difficulty swallowing
- tender or swollen glands
- red and enlarged tonsils
- headache
- lower stomach pain
- fever
- general discomfort
- loss of appetite
- rash

If your child experiences any of these symptoms, please seek medical attention.

Reminder no student may return to school with a positive strep diagnosis until they have completed 24 hours of antibiotics.

On behalf of the health office staff we would like to wish you and your family Happy Holidays!

Tooth Tutor Update

By Diane Polson, RDH

Happy Holidays to all! Remember to FLOSS, Brush and visit your Favorite Dentist regularly!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU — DECEMBER

DAILY BREAKFAST OPTIONS:

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

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

** Fresh Fruit & Milk With all Meals**

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

AVAILABLE DAILY

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

PRICES:

- Breakfast**
Regular \$1.25
Reduced \$FREE
Adult \$1.75
- Lunch**
Regular JFK \$2.00
Regular WMHS \$2.25
Reduced \$FREE
Adult \$3.25

Beverages

- Milk \$0.50
Juice \$0.50

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

Mon., Dec. 2	Tues., Dec. 3	Wed., Dec. 4	Thurs., Dec. 5	Fri., Dec. 6
Chicken Nuggets w/Dipping Sauce Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges Baked Beans Dinner Roll Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Spaghetti w/ Meat or Garden Marinara Sauce Chopped Green Salad Green Beans Garlic Breadstick Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Cheesy Breadsticks Hearty Homemade Soup Marinara Dipping Sauce Garden Slaw Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Nachos Supreme Seasoned Taco Meat, Cheese Sauce, Salsa, Lettuce, & Corn Tortilla Chips Rice Pilaf Warm Black Beans Steamed Corn Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Fish Poppers w/Tartar Sauce Homemade French Fries Roasted Butternut Squash Zucchini Muffins Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Happy Birthday Cake Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk
Mon., Dec. 9	Tues., Dec. 10	Wed., Dec. 11	Thurs., Dec. 12	Fri., Dec. 13
Sloppy Joes Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges Broccoli Carrot Salad Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Macaroni w/Meat Sauce or Garden Marinara Sauce Chopped Green Salad Garlic Bread Stick Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Early Dismissal 6-12 Homemade Pepperoni, Cheese or Veggie Pizza Caesar Salad Fresh Carrot Sticks Hummus Dip Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Chicken Fajitas Chicken, Sautéed Onions & Peppers, Soft Flour Tortilla, Salsa, Cabot Sour Cream Rice Pilaf Warm Black Beans Steamed Corn Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Taste Test: Butternut Squash Soup Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	French Toast Sticks w/ Warm Syrup Scrambled Eggs Sweet & White Home Fries Green Pepper Strips Apple Crisp Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk
Mon., Dec. 16	Tues., Dec. 17	Wed., Dec. 18	Thurs., Dec. 19	Fri., Dec. 20
Dress Your Own Burger on A Bun Lettuce & Tomato Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Mini Sea Shell Pasta w/Cheese Sauce Spinach Salad Italian Bean Salad Garlic Breadstick Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Delayed Start K-5 Homemade Pepperoni, Cheese or Veggie Pizza Squash Smiles Chopped Green Salad Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk	Holiday Feast Oven Baked Ham Chef's Mashed Potato Homemade Gravy Steamed Peas Chilled Cranberry Homemade Dinner Roll Holiday Dessert Fresh Milk	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Chicken Noodle Soup Celery Sticks Or Yogurt Or Sunbutter and Jelly Or Deli Sandwich Or Salad Bar Chocolate Chip Cookie Fresh Fruit Fresh Milk
Mon., Dec. 23	Tues., Dec. 24	Wed., Dec. 25	Thurs., Dec. 26	Fri., Dec. 27
No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Mon., Dec. 30	Tues., Dec. 31	PLEASE NOTE: Lunch is available for all students on early dismissal days! Pick up yours at either door on your way out. Middle and High school menu information is available at www.abbeygroup.net/schoolmenus. You can also learn about options for managing your child's account at the website.		
No School	No School	Looking for a job that lets you be at home when your family needs you there? Come Join our Team!! Got to the link below. You can download an application or see what we have available through Careerbuilder. http://www.abbeygroup.net/careers.php		

Newsletter of the Winooski School District

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Winooski, VT 05404

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WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wdschools.org

Superintendent of Schools

Sean McMannon: 655-0485
smcmannon@wdschools.org

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

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

Winooski Middle and High School

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

Board of School Trustees

Mike Decarreau, President: 310-4032
mdecarreau@wdschools.org

Jay Lambert, Secretary: 655-2942
jay.bird.2@gmail.com

Tori Cleiland, 655-7678
tcleiland@wdschools.org

Jen Corrigan, 233-7642
jcorrigan@wdschools.org

Julian Portilla, 399-0241
jportilla@wdschools.org

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 405 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 155 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 227 attending Winooski High School (grades 9-12).

One of the most diverse school districts in the state of Vermont, Winooski's teachers and staff are highly involved in professional development programs that help increase student achievement, address the needs of a diverse student population, and allow students to thrive in an engaging environment with high expectations.

"District News!" is published by the Winooski School District, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404. Anne Linton Elston, Editor. Phone: 802-655-0942. Email: aelston@wdschools.org.