

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 9

JUNE 2011

Celebrating our Achievements

School Resource Officer Jackson Wins Outstanding Professional KidSafe Collaborative Award

Beginning in 2004 as School Resource Officer (SRO) for the Winooski School District and Winooski Police Department, Ron Jackson has worked with the school administration to build an environment in which all students, from Pre-K through Grade 12, were safe – physically, emotionally and socially.

Ron develops relationships with the kids, noting that he can sometimes stop fights between students just by knowing what is going on in their lives outside of school. Asked which weapons he uses most in his work, Officer Jackson replied, “Words...and presence.”

Ron is so trusted that parents who might otherwise be reluctant to share information about incidents in their neighborhood come into school and

talk to him. Many days, Ron works beyond his regular hours attending court hearings, evening Reporative Board hearings, working through the CHINS process, or visiting families in the evening when parents are home.

Ron serves on the internal Winooski School Child Protection Team and is a frequent attendee at the KidSafe Collaborative Child Protection Team. As SRO, Ron has taken on professional development in Internet Safety. He is a member of the Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community Board of Directors. He also served for 19 years as a volunteer firefighter in Winooski and for three years on the School Board.

A native of Winooski and Burlington, Ron pursued a first career in information technology following graduation from

Champlain College. After many years with IBM, he joined the Winooski Police Department. Ron and his wife Pauline have two grown children who also live in Winooski. He is a certified Divemaster and enjoys scuba diving and playing golf in his spare time.



Michael GW Stein

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Important School Dates to Remember

Last Day of School: Due to the three snow days we have had this year, the last day of school has changed to **June 16**. School will let out on Thursday, June 16 @ 11:00 AM.

2011 Graduation: Winooski High School is pleased to announce that graduation will take place, Saturday, June 18 @ 1:00 PM.

First Day of School 2011: The first day of school for the 2011-2012 school year is Thursday, September 1 at 8:00 am.

“Middle and high school students, who you might normally think of as anti-police or anti-authority, seek him out when they have concerns or are feeling troubled by life’s challenges.”

NOTES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

School Board Update

By Michael Decarreau,
School Board Member

I would like to begin with a “Thank You” to all of you who got out to vote in March. The overwhelming support for the School and City budgets was incredible to witness especially in light of the current environment of economic uncertainty.

To date I have participated in three School Board meetings and have a few observations and an associated request to pass along.

- 1) The Administrators, Teachers and Staff are an extremely hard working and focused group.
- 2) The challenges placed on this group with the recent influx of new Americans into our district would have brought most School Districts in this state to their knees!

The focus among this group has moved away from the traditional “disseminate the same information to all students” approach to a focus on teaching the *individual* student. Whereas this situation could be viewed as a “problem” (an excuse to quit), I see this so far being viewed as a “challenge” (a puzzle to be fixed). And with a sense of urgency.

Now for the request. As I mentioned in the flyer while campaigning it truly does take a whole village to educate our children. With the challenges noted above we have gotten a substantial amount of financial help with which to make improvements. One common theme among all the groups giving their help is community involvement. Not necessarily parents only! We currently have a focus group specifically on parental involvement and *need your help*. Parents, (or interested community members): we *must* get the adults involved in the education process. The time commitment is minimal... *the payback is will be huge*.

If you would like to help please contact any School Board member or one of the Administrators to find the meeting times and more information.

Thanks you in advance for your help on this critical initiative. And please contact me any time with questions or comments at mdecarreau@winooski.k12.vt.us.

Superintendent’s Report

By Mary Martineau, Superintendent of Schools

The 2010-2011 school year is quickly coming to an end; and with that plans for next year are already underway. “Ensure student growth through continuous improvement” is the vision that has been guiding our work this year. As a district we have participated in professional development in the area of brain research and how people learn. Teachers have worked with consultants and in teams to develop the curriculum in grades K-8. The High School has been immersed in professional development in writing for understanding. A common scoring writing rubric has been developed which is used across discipline areas. These are some of activities that we have participated in to improve student outcomes. A complete template showing all our activities will be presented at the June 8th board meeting. It will also be posted on our District website in early June.

In order to continue to improve student outcomes, while providing teachers with the professional support they need, we are making the following changes in our administrative structure for next year. This new structure will allow us to use our resources more effectively to coordinate our efforts K-12 while focusing on 21st century learning.

- Stefanie Hamble – Director of Teaching and Learning K-12 (this position falls under the teacher’s contract. The primary focus of this position is supporting the Principals in curriculum and assessment).
- Justin Brown – Winooski High School Principal (no change)
- Mary O’Rourke – Pre-K-K-8 Principal (no change)
- Katherine Helm – K-8 Assistant Principal

In addition, we considered the student population of each school. February 1st census data shows 513 students PreK – grade 8 and 268 students at the high school. The new governance model is more equitable.

In August, the District will begin a new 5-year strategic plan. The School Board awarded the project facilitation to Marty Jacobs of Systems In Sync who has worked with other school districts throughout Vermont. An invitation to join the stakeholders meeting to discuss our core values and beliefs as a community and school will be held in August. Please check the District website, front sign, and Front Porch Forum for more information during July and August.

In closing, thank you for providing me with the opportunity to serve as Superintendent of Schools for the Winooski School District. I look forward to continuing to serve you next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Funds Available

Did you know? Winooski Dollars for Scholars to allots money for middle and high school students who wish to participate in educational, enrichment programs such as music, drama or art camp, leadership programs or coursework not offered at Winooski schools. **This money is available throughout the year.** We currently have \$2,730.00 available for high school students and \$1365.00 for middle school students, which will go back into our general fund if not used. Please see Marc McQuinn at the high school to get an application.

Hawthorne Field Parking

Fans and spectators must park at the school parking lot from now on for safety reasons. You may walk down George Street from the school parking lot to the field entrance.

Parking at Hawthorne Field is for game coaches, officials and those individuals with valid Vermont state handicapped parking stickers. No others will be permitted to park in this area.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Graduation Calendar

Graduation is fast approaching, and there are many dates, times, and events to remember during these last weeks of school:

June 2: Senior Trip. Students will be traveling to the Great Escape. The bus will be leaving at 8:15 am sharp and returning at 4 pm.

June 7: Honors Dinner will take place from 5-8pm at the Windjammer in Burlington.

June 13-16: Final Exams will take place from June 13-16th. Final exam schedules are available from the office. Be sure to clean out your locker, return all books to the LMC if any are due and check in the office for any obligations that need to be cleared up before the last day of school. (ex. Past texts not returned, broken items, missing team uniform, etc.)

June 16: Caps and Gowns will be distributed at WHS in the gym lobby. Students need to bring their payment of \$20 and pick up their cap and gown from the Balfour representative starting at 12pm. Please make checks payable to Balfour.

June 16: Rehearsal for Graduation will take place from 12-2pm, or later if needed, in the gymnasium. We will go over the lineup and seating, practice marching, and answer questions about the ceremony. Please be prompt and ready to pay attention. The smoother the rehearsal goes, the fewer times we need to run through the exercise. We will have another, **final rehearsal on June 17** which will take place from 10-11am. Please arrive at 9:45.

June 18: Senior Breakfast begins at 8:30 in the Winooski School Cafeteria. We encourage everyone to attend; it is a great start to a memorable day and a positive reflection on the past four years in our school system.

June 18: Graduation is at 1:00pm, but we expect all seniors to be at school by 12:30pm. We will lineup in the cafeteria and go over any last minute questions. Rusty DeWeese will be the graduation speaker. The graduation ceremony usually lasts about 90 minutes; we ask people to observe the celebration by dressing formally. Graduation seating on the floor will be on a first come, first serve basis. Overflow seating will be on the bleachers. There is no limit to the number of guests graduates may invite. There will be no tickets.

Athletic Banquet Scheduled for June 12

By Lori Lambert

Winooski High School's 67th Annual Athletic Banquet sponsored by the Winooski Boosters and the Athletic Department will be held this year on Sunday, June 12th at 6 pm. Dinner will take place in the cafeteria with the awards ceremony following in the Performing Arts Center. Freshman and Sophomore athletes' parents are asked to bring a cold dish to share. Junior and Senior athletes' parents are asked to bring a hot dish to share. Parents of athletes should have received a call about the banquet and what they will need to bring. If not they can call Lori Lambert @ 324-2019.

Reminder: Athletes should not wear shorts or hats to this event!

Three Great Ways to Watch the Graduation!

Doug Dunbebin, RETN Community Relations Associate

Don't worry — if you are unable to attend graduation, you still have options!

1. **Watch the rebroadcast on RETN Channel 16 (Comcast)** — Tune in Wednesday, June 29 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, July 2 at 5 p.m.
2. **Watch online at retn.org** — Watch on demand using clickable chapters.
3. **Purchase a DVD** — Order a DVD copy before graduation and SAVE 25%. After graduation, DVDs can be purchased for \$20 each.

For more information, contact RETN at 802-654-7980, or info@retn.org.

Dollars for Scholars Calcutta is July 15

By Morgan Kelner

Hi Everyone. Winooski Dollars for Scholars is in gear for our big fundraising event, our CALCUTTA and SILENT AUCTION on FRIDAY, JULY 15th.

Eli Harrington, WHS alumnus, will once again be our charming and delightful MC, who keeps the evening moving forward at a lively and fun pace. Silent Auction items will be even more exciting this year, with items to celebrate the BOYS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP game. Tickets are \$65.00 which entitles you to a delicious dinner for two, an opportunity to bid on exciting auction items and also come together as a community, and to support scholarships for Winooski kids. If you're at Winooski High School, you can buy a ticket from Marc McQuinn or call the main office (655-3530) and purchase a ticket from Katherine Helm. Our community board members will be contacting everyone we know, but if you are not on our list, have switched over to a cell phone or are hard to reach, please contact us (655-4184). This is a chance for you to win \$1000.00, but if you don't win the grand prize, everyone leaves with a great auction prize. This is also an opportunity for you to donate a few hours of your time to offer lessons (math, french) or a service (babysitting, gardening, carpentry, flower arranging) to our Silent Auction.

On another note, Cindy Orfe, who has co-chaired the Scholarships and Awards Committee with Karen Green will be retiring this year. Winooski Dollars for Scholars thanks her for all of her dedication and hard work and wishes her the best.

DFS continues to welcome new board members and hope that you will find time to either join the board, help us with a fundraiser, or even work on one project. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT and hope to see you at our Calcutta on July 15.

Twenty-One WHS Students Inducted to National Honor Society, Join Twelve Others

By Katherine Jennifer Helm

On Wednesday evening, May 11, the Winooski High School held its' 48th National Honor Society Induction. Along with twelve current members, twenty-one additional juniors and seniors were recognized for their superior efforts in demonstrating the qualities of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. There were over forty family and friends who joined in the celebration.

Mrs. Greene, Miss Orfe, and Mr. Brown were very pleased with the preparation of the students, which resulted in an evening that ran very smoothly.

Congratulations to the current members: Murjan Amir, Kailey Antoniak, Uyen Bui, Stephen Eddy, Jasmin Halkic, Alex Isham, Zachary Isham, Jessica LaMothe, Brianna Magowan, Kassy Montgomery, Hollie Patnaude, and Okephief Robinson; and to the new members: Heba Abdulkhaleiq, Abdirizak Amir, Nick Cusson-Ducharme, Yamuna Dahal, Katelyn Decarreau,



Farah Fidow, Omar Fidow, Christopher Fountain, Hawa Garre, Fardowsa Hassan, Faridor Ko, Fardoos Mohamed, Emilie Mukuluwa, Mon Rai, Devon Rollins, Alicia Russell, Rebecca Spittle, Bethany Trainque, John Truong, Kyle Wells, Bashir Yussuf.

To become a member of the National Honors Society, one must be a junior or a senior and meet the following criteria to the satisfaction of the faculty:

Scholarship: Must have attained a grade point average of B or higher since

the beginning of high school.

Leadership: Must be a positive influence on other students and thus promote the general welfare of the school.

Character: Must demonstrate respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Service: Must contribute to the community and the school, with an attitude of unselfishness and willingness to offer support with no thought to personal gain.

Save the Date: FWHS Golf Tourney July 17

Come celebrate the return of the golfing season at the Ninth Annual Friends of Winooski High School Golf Tournament on Sunday, July 17. You'll be joining other Winooski and area golfers who have enjoyed this fun community event for the last eight years.

Entries received after June 1st will be \$400 per team/\$100 per individual. Registration fees include carts, a complimentary driving range before the event, contests, prizes, raffles, and a barbecue dinner to follow. Sponsorship opportunities are also available to help support this event.

Please call Anne at 655-0942 today to reserve your team or individual entry or go to the school website at <http://www.winooski.k12.vt.us>.

Watch School Board Meetings on RETN!

Many people aren't able to attend Winooski School Board meetings for various reasons, but did you know you can watch them on the internet on your own schedule? Visit www.retn.org and click on "Board Meetings" under the "School Connections" heading. You can find Winooski at the bottom of the list of area schools.

Weight Management Program Offered

By Connie Tompkins, PhD., Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation and Movement Sciences, University of Vermont

Researchers at the University of Vermont are looking for 12-18 year olds to participate in a free weight management program. Participants will receive weekly nutrition, physical activity, and behavior instruction, a complete body composition and fitness assessment, and compensation for time and travel.

They are also looking for 8-18 year olds to participate in a research study examining decision making and planning skills in relation to body weight. This study involves only one 1-hour testing session and includes compensation for time and travel.

For more information and to see if you qualify for either study, please call Dr. Connie Tompkins at 802-656-3817.

June Update

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

Next year at JFK School we will be implementing a new social skills program. The entire elementary school will be following the Second Step program. This program focuses on the following four areas: Skills for Learning; Empathy; Emotion Management, and Problem Solving, which will be reinforced at every grade level. The program is sequential and builds upon previous lessons, so each year students will be introduced to new areas of needed skills.

Our guidance program will put into practice the Social Skills Improvement System (SSiS). This will compliment the program being used on a daily basis in the classroom. SSiS has an assessment component and students that continue to struggle with social skills will be able to work in small groups with our guidance counselor to refine and practice the skills learned in the classroom, in guidance and in small group work. Many of the new studies clearly indicate that children that have necessary social-emotional skills are more successful in school. This is one more component of our program that we hope will help our students achieve and become more successful.

In the fall a program evaluation in mathematics was conducted K-8 by Vermont Mathematics Partnership. We have formed a committee with representatives from all K-8 classrooms, special education and ELL teachers. We are working with facilitators from the Vermont Mathematics Institute. Over the course of the next few weeks, we will begin to develop a draft action plan. This plan will allow us to set direction for our future work in mathematics. It continues our journey of ensuring student growth through continuous progress. Teachers need to continually refine their skills to help our students become more proficient.

The middle school held its April Town Meeting. Each team recognized students who were given the PRIDE awards. The acronym stands for:

Patience • **R**espect • **I**nquiry • **D**esire to learn • **E**xcellence

Below is a list of students who received the PRIDE awards:

Abdirizak Hussein, Chanda Pringle, Holden DubaS, Mariah Metivier, Domini Perrault, Fartun Sharif-Mohamed, Niki Dang, Noah Alger, Kim Soukone, Hau Duong, Conner White, Francine Bahati, Willi Burns, Shpetim Krasniqi, Bobby Romprey, Isiah Bouvier, Joy Carpenter, Jacob Therrien, Hemkumar Bista, Amanda Nattress

The following students received the Take a Stand-Lend a Hand award:

Nghia Le, Nhung Nguyen.



Thank You Berlin City Auto Group!

In April, Berlin City Auto Group sponsored 20 educational grants, of up to \$3,500 each, for worthy New England school programs.

On May 4th, Winooski students were notified they won two of three grants awarded to Vermont schools. JFK Middle School was awarded a grant to help continue their Bushintai Do martial arts program in Team Velocity; Winooski High School was awarded a grant to support the purchase of additional resources for Read-180, a newly installed program to help students become better readers.

On Thursday, May 5th, Tim Westover of Berlin City Auto in Williston, presented a check for \$7,000 to some of the students involved in these programs. JFK Middle and Winooski Senior High schools are both extremely grateful for these financial awards.

Teamwork Blossoms in Grade Three

The third graders from Mrs. Goetz's class teamed up with the girls from UVM's Pi Beta Phi Sorority to plant flowers under the Winooski School District sign. The girls from Pi Beta Phi have been volunteering all year long in our classroom working with us in reading, writing, and math. As a final project, the sorority donated flowers and helped the 3rd graders plant them. They look beautiful!



5th Graders at War

by: Bailey Miller and Matthew Bailey

The 5th graders went to a civil war reenactment in Shelburne last week. We got to try on the uniforms that the people really wore in the civil war. The shirts and pants were made out of wool. The people had belts that held their food and guns. At the Artillery, a man was teaching us how to load muskets and rifles. The man was firing the musket and it was very loud.

The people acting as confederate soldiers taught us how to survive on a horse for a very long time. We got to go on a wooden horse with a gun and a sword. Then they taught us about the saddle that the horse had



to wear and the person that had to sit on the horse. The cavalry taught us how to march. If we marched wrong, the guy would make us do it again until we got it right. We did it for about ten minutes until we got it right; we were very tired. The guy would not let us cross our arms, he would yell at us. After we got it right we got to grab a wooden gun and he taught us how to march with the gun, which we had to get right too.

The detention center showed us all the cool stuff that they used to hold the prisoners so they would not get away from the camp. If you did something wrong, that's where you would go. They chained us up like they would in the Civil War if you did something bad in the

camp. They had handcuffs that were really small, and shackles tied our feet and hands together.

Central camp area is the store that traveled with a unit and sold them food. If the soldiers had some money, and even if they did not have money, they would ask the commanding officer if they could take money out of there pay. If he said yes, the soldier would get a check that they could use at that store only. If they had change left over they would get a paper that said you had this much money and you can just use it at the store.

We really liked this field trip. It helped us understand what it was like to be living and fighting during the Civil War. Thank you Champlain Valley Historical Reenactors!



Facilitative Leaders Present to School Board

By Jackie Lynch

Last month students from the Facilitative Leadership program presented to the Winooski School Board. Students shared the results of their recent survey, which showed that while there are a lot of positive things happening in the middle school, there is room for improvement. Students recently conducted interviews of their peers and facilitated focus groups to gain more insight into their thoughts about school. The students hope to share this information with teachers and administrators and work together to improve the climate of our school.

At the school board meeting, the Facilitative Leaders also shared the benefits of their Tai Chi and relaxation

skills. Students have been practicing these techniques for several months now and are reaping the benefits. Reduced levels of stress, better focus and behavior in school, plus better sleep at home are some of the positive outcomes. Students demonstrated some Tai Chi techniques and then led a five minute Tai Chi class for the adults. It was very exciting because everyone in the room participated! Students overheard board members saying, "We should start every meeting this way."

The Facilitative Leaders will be wrapping up the year with discussions about how to sustain our work throughout the next school year.



9630 Box Tops!

Many thanks to the students at JFK for bringing in 9,630 Box Tops this year. We made \$963.00 which will go right back to the children to help pay for various programs. Keep bringing those Box Tops in!!

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM



Celebrating Our Afterschool Programs and a Thank You!

This year the 21st Century Community Learning Center program, in partnership with the KidsFirst afterschool program provided more than 100 afterschool programs during the school year. We are excited that over 440 K-12 students participated in a wide variety of afterschool programs throughout the year. Thank you to all of the teachers and students who participated this year. A special thank you to the administrators and community for your continued support!

We are looking forward to next year and are very eager to continue to expand our afterschool program offerings! We are very interested in working with parents and community members—so if you would like to be a part of the afterschool program, please contact Linda Casier, KidsFirst Director at 383-6025 or lcasier@winooski.k12.vt.us or Barbara Russ, 21C Director, at 383-6041 or bruss@winooski.k12.vt.us. Again, many thanks for your ongoing support and please look for our fall afterschool fliers in early September!





Austin and Mr. Willette are working on a math problem in **Afterschool Tutoring**.



Sophia and Alex are enjoying the book *Geronimo Stilton and the Lost Treasure of the Emerald City* in the afterschool **Book Club**.



Stella, Max, and Charlie are learning a new card game in **Flip & Roll Math Games**.



Madison and Saige identify animals in the book from their **Read Aloud** program.



At the beginning of **Spring Read Aloud**, Cody, Devon, and Alyssa draw about the changes that will happen as spring approaches.



In **Kindergarten Literacy Program (KLP)**, Eric, Eric, and Makaylah listen to a story to build background knowledge to help them as they learn to read the book *Feathers for Lunch*.



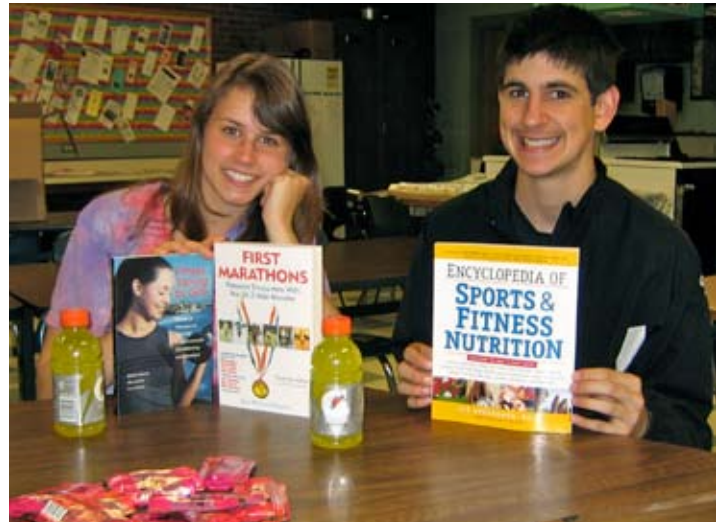
Edmund, Jacob and Willi are all working on their chess strategies in afterschool **Chess Club** with Mr. Andrews on Mondays.



Shyanna and Ashley are cooking up a storm with Ms. Unger on Thursday afternoons.



Brandon is all ready to read during lit circle in afterschool **Literacy Lab** with Mr. Magistrale.



As they train and prepare for the Key Bank Vermont City Marathon and Relay at the end of May, Kassie and Cody are reading about running and fitness in **Summer Shape-Up 26.2** with Ms. Unger.



Kevin is catching up on his work in **Spanish Core Support** with Ms. Basille on Tuesdays afterschool.



Coralyn and Laura are able to get their questions answered as they work on math assignments with Mrs. Mellen during afterschool **Math Core Support**.



HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

New Beginnings

By Justin Brown, Principal

I recently came across the figure of \$32,000 per year. This is the average salary of 25-35 year-olds who have attained a high school diploma. As I sat to sign this year's diplomas for the 2011 Winooski High School Graduates, the immense responsibility of what schools are expected to do struck me. With the handing over of these pieces of paper, we are participating in a right of passage for our students. Parents and families have entrusted us to educate their children. Ideally, we have done more than created what a speaker at last year's graduation called "jail for kids." We have hopefully lived up to our stated mission as a high school: to continually challenge students to develop as responsible citizens. And, if I may add, life-long-learners.

While graduation is an immense milestone for graduates, it is also a time for reflection for those of us who generate the diplomas. The work that has been done by the staff, students and community members during the 2010-11 school year has focused on ensuring that the diplomas from Winooski High School are increasingly meaningful. The 2010-11 school year has been marked with significant events including a new High School schedule; a barely averted strike; a rigorous budget season resulting in an approved budget; state-budgetary stresses; creation and implementation of an analytic writing rubric; writing across the High School curriculum; development of meaningful assessments in writing and math for 9th and 10th graders; a completely mapped curriculum; and an emergent understanding of the work entailed in truly transforming Winooski High School.

Though this past year has been fraught with challenges, we have begun the work of creating a launch pad to meet the district mission of ensuring student growth through continual improvement. If we truly believe in continual improvement, then the work we have done this year must be viewed as foundational for our future work. In May, a group of High School Faculty and

I attended a New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) conference to begin preparing for our upcoming accreditation in 2014.

Like any good assessment, accreditation is not an end point, but a check on how well we are living up to a set of research-based standards found at <http://cpss.neasc.org/>. The foundation of the standards is in research on continual improvement in schools. As we look into the coming year and next graduation season, Winooski High School will be using the NEASC Standards to build clarity in how we do our work. It is our moral and professional obligation to define what we expect all of our students

to know, understand and do in order to graduate.

It is my sincere desire that all of our current career and college-bound students have the greatest success in their future endeavors. It is also my drive to ensure that the work we do to prepare our young people for life beyond high-school is ever-improving. Congratulations again to our 2011 graduates. To our returning students, I look forward to seeing you in the fall. To our community members, please be in touch, we can't do this work without your support.

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me at jbrown@winooski.k12.vt.us.

Collaboration Creates Blogs and Websites

By Drew Blanchard

Students in Mythology class demonstrated their mastery of course content via an unconventional assignment. Instead of a more traditional summative paper, these students created Websites and blogs in the "voice" of major mythological characters. Thus was born Zeus's Rant, The Triumph of Nike, and other Websites filled with a blend of modern and ancient cultural information.

In an age of copy-and-paste, the challenge is to create final assessments and writing assignments which cannot simply be taken from the pages at Wikipedia.com. Thus was born a collaboration between Mr. Webb's mythology class and Mr. Blanchard's technology curriculum. These students learned how to create "private" Websites using Google Sites; these Websites were only visible to those who had been "invited" to see them. The students gave site access to their fellow classmates, and to both teachers, and prepared to add content.

Students selected a character from ancient mythology, and, armed with their research, began to blog as if they were actually that mythological entity. At the same time, the students frequently perused the other blogs being created, and responded to this content within the pages of their own blogs. As the projects progressed, the students became more invested in the accuracy of the information held on the pages, and would often dispute the validity of information they read. Animated discussions erupted every day about the sources used for information, whether or not "Zeus would have really said that," and shared how-tos about formatting their Websites.

At the end of three weeks, these students had created lengthy, interesting, and unique pieces of work which were filled with "factual events" written in the voices of their chosen characters. Students also learned how to create their own Websites, configure them in a suitable style, add a wide variety of different content, and control public access to their work. Several students noted they had worked on their Websites during April break, and others said this was the first assignment they could remember wanting to work on outside of class. Their enthusiasm was evident throughout the project, as was their obvious pride in their finished work. An ambitious project with excellent results!

Underground Teen Center To Host Event

The Underground Teen Center is going to have an outdoor spring concert event June 11th! All Winooski students and their families are welcome to attend.

There will be a DJ and Hip-Hop group, activities and a high school outdoor basketball tournament. We hope you'll join us!

Students of the Quarter Honored at Luncheon

The Student of the Quarter program is one in which students are nominated by the staff at the end of each ranking period based on academic improvement or success and character. Those students selected are invited along with their parents to a luncheon where the nominating teacher speaks on the student's behalf as to why they were selected.

These luncheons are completely funded by the Friends of Winooski High School. This volunteer group works throughout the year to support special needs of our students. Congratulations everyone!

On Wednesday, May 4, 2011, the following students were honored:

Leadership: Brianna Magowan; Character and School Citizenship: Ars Sambou; Most Improved: Claudine Nkurinziza, Gabrielle Speirs, Sadie Speirs, Krysta Jacobs; Arts and Humanities Scholarship: Brianna Robare; Social Sciences Scholarship: Dakota Duffy, Cara Casier; Math, Science, and Technology Scholarship: Stephen Eddy, Jasmin Halkic, Jessica LaMothe, Robert Luten, Okephief Robinson, Brianna Robare; Special Recognition: Kassian Prior



COMMUNITY NEWS

Free Summer Meal Service Schedule In Winooski

During the summer of 2011, the City of Winooski will once again be providing free meals to children through the Vermont Department of Education's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Funded by the USDA, SFSP is designed to ensure that children who rely on low-cost meals during the school year continue to have access to nutritious food throughout the summer. Meals will be provided to all children without charge, and no child will be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.

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



Winooski School District 60 Normand Street Winooski, VT 05404	JUNE 20 - AUGUST 5 Breakfast 9:00am-10:00am Lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm
Winooski Family Center 87 Elm Street Winooski, VT 05404	JUNE 20 - AUGUST 12 Breakfast 9:00am-10:00am Lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm
O'Brien Community Center 32 Malletts Bay Avenue Winooski, VT 05404	JUNE 20 - AUGUST 12 Lunch 12:30pm-1:30pm Dinner (Served through the Underground Teen Center on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) 5:30pm-6:30pm

Summer Drivers Needed

The Winooski Senior Center is looking for volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels. This valuable program delivers a hot, nutritious mid-day meal to seniors in the city of Winooski, 5 days/week.

If you have an hour to give once or twice a month, please contact Lori Pinard at 802-655-6425 or seniorcenter@winooski.vt.org.

Potluck Schedule Changes

The Winooski Monthly Community Potlucks have begun again with a few changes. Potlucks will no longer be held monthly, they will instead be held only for special occasions. If you wish to be informed of future potlucks, or would like to help the Potluck Coordinator in planning future potlucks, send an email to lynnengelke@gmail.com.

The next potluck will be hosted by the Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community on Monday, June 20th at 5:30pm, and will feature live entertainment. Please join us!

If you have questions please contact: Jessica Engelke, VYT AmeriCorps A*VISTA, The City of Winooski. Email: lynnengelke@gmail.com. Phone: (802) 655-6410.

City Councilor's Report

By John Little, Winooski City Council



Green-Up Day Success: Green-Up Day on Saturday May 7th was a large success in Winooski. Many residents came out to volunteer as either part of the organized event which started at the O'Brien Community Center, or on their own. Thank you to all of you who helped clean up our neighborhoods. Let's all continue to 'green up' and make our City look as fine as the people who live here.

Winooski City Marathon: Come out and join your neighbors and friends for a fun 26.2 mile "marathon" scheduled to take place over the course of nine weeks! Starting June 22nd, groups of folks will be taking a walk, run or stroll(er) around one of nine pre-determined 2.91 mile courses through Winooski. These events will take place weekly covering much of our City. Details can be obtained through City Hall and eventually Front Porch Forum, so put your 'team' together and come on out and walk with us!

Farmers' Market: Starting Sunday June 12th (through October 9th), the Winooski Farmers' Market will once again 'take over' a portion of the green space near the Champlain Mill. Hours are 10:00 am to 2:00pm. There are many vendors signed up already, but there is still room for more. If you or someone you know would like to secure a spot, contact City Hall for details or email winooskimarket@gmail.com. In the meantime, plan to stop by on Sundays and check out the wide variety of local food, arts and crafts and listen to some music!

Outstanding efforts by the WWTP Staff: As we are all aware, this has been a very unusually wet spring. With the increased rainfall and snowmelt, it is not unusual for wastewater treatment plants to have trouble keeping up with the demands. There have been many plants in the area which have had permit violations because of the extremely high flows. Winooski is one of a very few that has not. This can be 100% attributed to the dedication, professionalism and experience of our staff! Congratulations and many thanks to Erik Bailey, George Lavallee and Brian Line for their commitment to put in long hours to keep things running smoothly.

Heart Walk: On Friday June 10th, beginning at 4:00 PM, Vermont's Annual HEART WALK sponsored by the American Heart Association will take place in Downtown Winooski. Over the years, this event has grown tremendously and has become very popular. It is a great opportunity and honor for our City to host this event and we hope many will come out in support.

Winooski Pop-up Gallery: Starting on Thursday June 23rd, teams of artists will open and operate three to five art galleries in the available retail space in Downtown. For six weeks this area will come alive with a variety of artists' creations, on display to view and purchase. Be on the lookout for flyers and other advertisements promoting this event that is sure to bring new life to the greater downtown area.

Strategic Planning Process: As mentioned over the last couple months, the City has been organizing a Strategic Planning Steering Committee to assist in developing a vision for staff and Council moving forward. The first meeting was held on Tuesday May 10th, where a rough outline was reviewed and discussed at length. The committee will hold monthly meetings to further develop the plan. This will not be a 'microwave' type operation, but rather one that will be put into place with much thought and input from many over the upcoming months. The committee will bring updates to the City Council meetings, so that the information is available to the public. There will also be opportunities for others to weigh in as we move forward. Be on the lookout for more news as this exciting project moves forward.

Memorial Day Parade: Our annual Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday May 28th. The parade will start at the Winooski Educational Center campus and proceed to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) on Main Street for a short ceremony followed by a cookout. We look forward to seeing you there.

Summer Camp: Applications are available at both schools. Scholarships and discounts are available. First session starts June 27th at 8 am.

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

Winooski Summer Program Seeking Counselors-In-Training

The Winooski Summer Youth Enrichment Program is currently accepting applications for Counselors-In-Training (CITs) for the summer of 2011. CITs will be expected to assist the program staff for approximately 15 hours per week, during afternoons, for the six weeks the Summer Program operates, June 27 – August 5. They will receive a \$150 stipend for every two weeks that they fulfill their responsibilities in the program.

Any high school student who lives in Winooski is eligible to apply for a CIT position. Interested students may pick up an application at Winooski High School (Karen Greene's office) or the O'Brien Community Center (Youth Programs Office). Completed applications are due by June 10th and may be submitted at either of those locations.

"Move It" with the Y!

Winooski On Foot "A Marathon in Steps" (12 Week Run, Walk, or Stroll'ers program)

Bring your friends, family and even your family pet, to form a team! We will make our way around a variety of 2.9 mile courses, through the City of Winooski every Wednesday from 5:30—7:30pm. This event is open to all ages and abilities. Kickoff Registration will be: Wednesday, June 8th from 5:30 – 7:30pm at the O'Brien Community Center. We'll sign up teams and have healthy snacks for all. Entry Fee: \$25 per person or \$125 per Team (7 people) Fee includes: Running Shirt and water bottle. Award Ceremony and Barbeque will be held at the conclusion of the program. Team Sponsorships are available! For more information contact: Kevin Hatin at 655.9622 or khatin@gbymca.org

Myer's Pool Grand Opening: Father's Day; Sunday, June 19th...free barbeque! The Y will be providing swim lessons for all ages and also coach the swim team. For more information contact Jess Lucas, at 862.9622 or jlucas@gbymca.org

Contact Winooski YMCA at 655.9622 or go to www.gbymca.org.

Join The Winooski Swim Team!

By Jess Lukas, YMCA

Join us in putting the "WIN" in Winooski! Our summer season runs June 13th – August 7th. This summer program is open to all ages, abilities and residents of all communities. The Greater Burlington YMCA is partnering with the current Winooski Swim Team to build a team where sportsmanship, teamwork, your personal best and FUN are the goals. Practices are at the Myers Memorial Pool in Winooski at 40 Pine Street; across from Landry Park. Season costs are \$115 for 1 child, \$175 for 2 children, and \$200 for 3 or more children. Our coaches Avery Pittman, Chris Cochran, Melanie Nattress and Jess Lukas are looking forward to working with parents and swimmers to have another great season! Please contact Jess Lukas jlukas@gbymca.org 802 862 8993 x143 or Melanie Nattress 802 655 1616, or Nattress96@comcast.net for more information.



Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community presents

Getting Down to Business: FREE NEW SERIES! Lunch and Learn • Dessert and Learn

Ever wondered how to turn your great idea into your own business? This 5-week session will give you a great overview of what you need to know to start the process. Choose either the lunch or the dessert presentation--whichever fits your schedule. No registration required. Completely free. Food provided.

WHEN: Lunch presentations are held on Mondays from 12 to 1 PM.*

Dessert presentations are held on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 PM.*

WHERE: O'Brien Community Center (32 Malletts Bay Avenue Winooski, VT 05404 (802) 655-1392 x10) • www.wcspc.blogspot.com

*Each series' final session will be extended by one half hour to include a question and answer session. Participants will be able to ask questions about any of the presentations during the series in this half-hour.

DATES TOPIC AND PRESENTER

May 23 & 24 **Basics about Starting a Small Business:** Have you thought about starting your own part-time or full-time business? Then please join Simeon Geigel from the CVOEO Micro Business Development Program to learn about the basics of business start-up, business funding and what services are available to help you with your idea in the area. Please bring all of your questions.

June 6 & 7 **Business Marketing on a Budget:** If you know you need to market your business, but don't know how and to whom, come hear Flashbags got started and get some tips on business marketing on a shoestring. Presented by Ali Marchildon, Program Coordinator of The Women's Small Business Program, Co-Founder of Flashbags, LCC

June 13 & 14 **How to finance your business if you don't use a bank loan:** Using Individual Development Accounts (IDA) to help you fund your business. IDAs are accounts where you deposit savings and the program matches your savings. He will also talk about the benefits of bootstrapping a new business. Presented by Jim White & Greg Huysman, CVOEO

June 20 and 21 **All About Credit** - Presented by Jane King, Opportunity Credit Union

June 27 & 28 **Training and Legal Requirements.** Presented by Kristin Brownlow, Vermont Works for Women and Grant Peterson; and a Q&A follow-up for all presentations

Thank You to our Generous Sponsors: Fletcher Allen Health Care, Catholic Charities of Vermont, Vermont Works for Women, Women's Small Business Program, CVOEO, Opportunities Credit Union, YMCA

Winooski Library News

The Winooski Memorial Library wants you to get involved with the Read & Rove Summer Challenge! Participants can earn points for engaging in fun, free and local challenges all summer long for a chance to win some great prizes. This is a great way to explore Winooski this summer! Scorecards can be picked up at the library or online at winooskilibrary.wordpress.com/

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Winooski Underground Teen Center

Teen Center Assistants: Teen Center Assistants work with staff members to oversee the center, enforce safety guidelines and interact with the teens. Teen Center activities include ping pong, foosball, billiards, Xbox and Wii video games, movies, computers, indoor and outdoor basketball, and board games.

Requested minimum commitment is one evening a week for the duration of the summer. Currently, we need Teen Center Assistants for the following days and times beginning May 10th:

Tuesdays 6-9pm

Thursdays 6-9pm

Fridays 6-9 and 9-11

Skills Desired: Youth Development- Experience working with youth in a casual setting preferred, but not required.

Teen Center Cooks: Teen Center Cooks arrive at 4pm and work independently to cook, serve and clean up a free, delicious meal for an average of 30 wonderful Winooski children. Cooking experience not necessary. Training available. All ingredients and commercial-grade cooking equipment provided. Teen Center Cooks are required to commit to at least one 2 hour shift per week. Currently, we need Cooks for the following days and times beginning May 10th:

Tuesdays 4-6pm

Thursdays 4-6pm

Fridays 4-6pm

For an application: Please contact Jessica: lynnengelke@gmail.com. Office: (802) 655 6410. The City of Winooski, 27 West Allen Street, Winooski, VT 05404.

Registration Open for Winooski Summer Youth Enrichment Program

The City of Winooski will be operating the Summer Youth Enrichment Program from June 27-August 5 during the summer of 2011. The six-week program this year will serve children entering 1st through 6th grades and will be divided into week-long sessions. Open from 8:00am to 2:30pm, Monday-Friday, the program will serve both breakfasts and lunches provided by Winooski-based FRESH Food. The daily schedule incorporates plenty of opportunities for children to play games and be active outside, explore new interests in "club" activities, and reinforce their reading skills and academic learning. Friday "Fun Days" will be spent swimming, playing and picnicking at Landry Park.

The cost of the Summer Youth Enrichment Program is \$125 per session, but discounted rates are available for Winooski families. The program also accepts Vermont childcare subsidy; families are strongly encouraged to apply well in advance to ensure that subsidy is in place prior to the start of the program. Families who need childcare until 5:30pm some days may opt to have their child(ren) attend "Extended Hours" for an additional charge.

Applications for childcare subsidy and Summer Youth Enrichment Program registration forms are available at JFK Elementary School (see Cathy Burbo) or in the Youth Programs Office at the O'Brien Community Center. For more information about Winooski's Summer Youth Enrichment Program, please call Programs Coordinator Ethan Hausman at 655-1392 x21.

Get Involved: Winooski Culture Hop!

Preparations for the Winooski Culture Hop have begun! If you would like to participate in the preparation or have suggestions, please contact Kate Nugent at 655-1392 ex. 10 or kate.winooskicoalition@gmail.com

The WCSPC will have a new phone number and dedicated line as of May 17: 802-655-4565.

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Health Office Coordinator

It is with sadness this month we say good-bye to Ms. Christina Bilodeau, RN who has been with us this past school year. Join me in congratulating Christina, as she has completed her Masters program and will begin pursuing her Nurse Practitioner license this summer. Christina, it has been an honor to work with you and the Health Office wishes you well as you start your new career.

I just want to say what a privilege it was to serve in this school district since February. I am very thankful to have found a home and family with you all and I am looking forward to being able to serve your needs next school year. The Health Office wants to wish you all a very safe and happy summer!!! See you in September!

Tooth Tutor Update

By Diane Polson, RDH, Tooth Tutor



- All tobacco products are HARMFUL.
- Smoking causes stained teeth, plaque build-up, bad breath, mouth sores, gum disease, tooth loss and increased risk for Oral Cancer.
- Smokeless tobacco causes tooth abrasion, gum recession, increased tooth decay, tooth discoloration, bad breath, Addiction and Oral Cancer.
- Remember FLOSS, Brush and see your favorite Dentist regularly!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU — JUNE

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

AVAILABLE DAILY

- *Hoagievillle Deli
- Sandwich
- *Garden Fresh
- Salad Bar
- *Cabot Yogurt Parfait & String Cheese
- *Vegetarian Options
- *Farm Fresh Milk
- *Assorted Juice & Fresh Fruit

PRICES:

- Breakfast**
- Regular \$0.85
- Reduced \$FREE
- Adult \$1.50
- Lunch**
- Regular \$1.75
- Reduced \$0.40
- Adult \$3.25
- Beverages**
- Milk \$0.50
- Juice \$0.50

DAILY BREAKFAST OPTIONS: (Cereal, Bagels, Muffins, Fruit, Milk and Juice offered daily)

Mon: French Toast Sticks w/ Maple Syrup • Tues: "UBR" Whole Grain Breakfast Bar • Wed: Healthy Breakfast Pizza • Thurs: Sausage & Cheese Muffin • Fri: Egg or Yogurt w/ Bun

We Support Local New England Companies		Wed., June 1	Thurs., June 2	Friday, June 3		
Samosa Man Sentinel Orchards Mckenzie Westminster Crackers New England Coffee Champlain Orchard VT. Hydroponic Produce LLC		Early Dismissal Grades 9-12 Chicken Mania Chicken Patty Sandwich on Wheat Roll Oven Baked Potato Puffs Veggie Sticks Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Fiesta Nachos Supreme Seasoned Taco Meat, Nacho Cheese Sauce, Lettuce, Salsa & Cabot Sour Cream, Corn Tortilla Chips Rice Pilaf Steamed Corn Low-Fat Dessert Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	End of Year BBQ Hamburgers or Hot Dogs w/All The Fixings Garden Pasta Salad Patriot Pops Fresh Watermelon Farm Fresh Milk		
Lewis Creek Farm VT. Country Farms Cabot Cooperative Michaela's Salsa Nazza Farm Stand Cold Hollow Cider Sunrise Orchards		Mon., June 6	Tues., June 7	Wed., June 8	Thurs., June 9	Friday, June 10
		That's a Wrap Buffalo Style Chicken Wrap Chicken & Buffalo Sauce in a Soft Flour Tortilla Oven Baked French Fries Crunchy Carrot Sticks w/Dip Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Buon Appetito Pasta w/ Meat or Marinara Sauce Dark Green Garden Salad Homemade Garlic Breadsticks Happy Birthday Cake Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Brunch For Lunch Waffles w/ Warm Syrup Sweet & White Home fries Baked Ham Verry Berry Crisp Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Caesar Crazy Chicken Caesar Salad Chilled Fruit Cup Wheat Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Itza Pizzai Homemade Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Rice w/Black Beans & Cilantro Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk
		Mon., June 13	Tues., June 14	Wed., June 15	Thurs., June 16	Friday, June 17
		Fiesta Chicken Fajitas On Soft Flour Tortilla w/Onions, Peppers & Salsa Or Chef's Creation Rice Pilaf Steamed Corn Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Spring Fling Dress Your Own Burger on Wheat Ketchup, Mustard, Relish & Onions, Cheese & Pickles Or Chef's Creation Ranch Rice Pilaf Seasoned Veggies Danielle's Famous Brownies Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Fiesta Taco Bar w/ The Works Seasoned Taco Meat, Shredded Cheese, Lettuce, Onions, Salsa, Cabot Sour Cream & Soft Flour Tortilla Or Chef's Creation Spanish Rice Steamed Corn Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Last Day Of School Breakfast Only	

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

Superintendent of Schools

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

John F. Kennedy Elementary and Middle School

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

Winooski High School

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

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rmillar@winooski.k12.vt.us
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mdecarreau@winooski.k12.vt.us

Mission Statement

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

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

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

About Our District

The Winooski School District is a PreK through 12 system that is housed in one educational center. At press time, there were 399 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 143 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 267 attending Winooski High School (grades 9-12).

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

"District News!" is published by the Winooski School District, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404. Anne Linton Elston, Editor. Phone: 802-655-0942. Email: aelston@winooski.k12.vt.us.

Newsletter of the Winooski School District

Winooski School District
60 Normand Street
Winooski, VT 05404

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