

JULY 2012

Congratulations Class of 2012!



Presenting... The Class of 2012!

- * Dahir Abdi
- * † Heba Abdulkhaleiq
- Gopal Acharya
- Alew Adiem Alew
- Krystal Lynn Alexander
- Shelby Lynn Alger
- * Hoodo Ali
- * Abdirizak Amir
- Michele Anderson
- Michaela Ann Aruzza
- Alex Robert Brown
- Elijah Fox Carpenter
- Benjamin Lee Raymond Carton
- Calin Chadwick
- Cory Chaplin
- * † Nicholas Jonah Cusson-Ducharme
- Deepa Dahal
- * † Yamuna Dahal
- * Katelyn Marie Decarreau
- * † Devon Lee Dostie-Rollins
- * † Omar Hassan Fidow
- * † Christopher Thomas Fountain
- ‡ Jason Douglas Gerred
- Ahmed Abukar Hassan
- Robert Hayes
- Cody Jay Hemingway
- * † Issak Issak
- Edifice Jengo
- * Faridar Ko
- Connor Lapan
- Jason D. Mains
- * Travis W. Martin
- Derrick Scott Mashteare-Guilmette
- Abdulkadir Mohamed
- Mohamed Mohamed
- * ‡ Myles Fredrick Moran
- Esperance Niyibigira
- * Claudine Nkurinziza
- Erick Nzeyimana
- Stephen O'Brien
- Ahmed Okash
- * Ayanle Olow
- † Abdinasir Ahmed Osman
- Brittany Lee Provost
- * Mon Rai
- * Miranda Sue Rouille
- Jacob Roy
- * † Alicia Ann Russell
- * Jennifer Lynn Sikorski
- Emmanuella Kavira Siriwayo
- * † Rebecca Spittle
- Jeffrey Robert Tatro
- Nicholas Adam Ticehurst
- * Tong Tong
- * † Bethany Marie Trainque
- * † John Minh Truong
- Gelle Ugas
- Butros Wargu
- Chol Wegn
- * Eh Wet
- Treh Wigmore
- Santo Y. Yel
- * Bashir A. Yussuf
- * Honor Student
- T National Honor Society Member
- ‡ National Technical Honor Society

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HONORING SCHOLARSHIP

Before awarding the Graduation Scholarships and Awards on Saturday June 16th, Winooski High School Principal Justin Brown announced the following: "It is appropriate for us to recognize members of the Class of 2012 who have been honored with financial awards this spring in other settings. Please congratulate these students as their names are read and they stand."

GREEN AND GOLD SCHOLARSHIP -

The University of Vermont awards this full-tuition scholarship for eight semesters provided that full-time enrollment and at least a 3.0 GPA are maintained.



The student who has attained the highest academic distinction at the end of the junior year shall be the recipient. The Green and Gold Scholar for Winooski High School is **Bethany Trainque**.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - The Winooski Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organization, supports WHS graduates who aspire to continue his/her education at a Catholic College or University. This year's recipients are **Jennifer Sikorski** and **Nicholas Cusson-Ducharme**.

VERMONT BASKETBALL COACHES

ASSOCIATION AWARD - This award is presented to a graduating senior who has participated in high school basketball and has academic excellence. This year's recipient is **John Truong**.

SAMUEL SAMUELSON MEMORIAL

AWARD - Samuel Samuelson Memorial Award is presented to the student who has shown the greatest desire for learning during the four years of high school. The recipient of the Samuel Samuelson Memorial Award for 2012 is **Deepa Dahal**.

-CLASS OF 2003 SCHOLARSHIP - The class of 2003 scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a senior who has demonstrated dedication to his/her class, and exhibited genuine care and respect for Winooski High School. The 2012 recipient of the Class of 2003 Scholarship is **Claudine Nkurinziza**.

WINOOSKI EAGLES SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Eagles Scholarship is presented to a deserving student continuing his/her education. The 2012 recipient of the Winooski Eagles Scholarship is **Yamuna Dahal**.

SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP - The Service Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is awarded to a student who volunteers dependable and well-organized assistance within the school and/or within the community. The 2012 recipient of the Service Scholarship is **Bethany Trainque**.

MAIDA F. TOWNSEND SCHOLARSHIP

- The Maida F. Townsend Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is given to a student who has demonstrated a love of learning, an openness to the richness of differences among people, and a willingness to use his/her time and talent in service to others. The 2012 recipient of the Maida F. Townsend scholarship is **Myles Moran**.

VFW COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD -

The VFW Community Service Award is presented to two graduates in recognition of outstanding community service. The 2012 recipients of the VFW Community Service Award are **Christopher Fountain** and **Bethany Trainque**.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP -

The Academic Scholarships, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, are presented to two students who excel academically. The 2012 recipients of the Academic Scholarships are **Bethany Trainque** and **Katelyn Decarreau**.

THE ABBEY GROUP SCHOLARSHIP

- This scholarship is given to a student pursuing a post-secondary education in the culinary field. The 2012 recipient of

the Abbey Group Scholarship is **Jason Gerrod**.

STUDENT COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

- The Student Council Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a student who has made notable contributions to bettering WHS, who has served his/her community, who is active in school activities, and who handles responsibilities willingly and efficiently. The 2012 recipients of the Student Council Scholarship are **Rebecca Sittle** and **Shelby Alger**.

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

AWARDS - These awards, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, are presented to two graduates who have shown the most improvement during their four years of high school. The 2012 recipients of the Board of School Directors Award are **Abdirizak Amir** and **Shelby Alger**.

WOODY AND SUSAN MARTEL

SCHOLARSHIP - The Woody and Susan Martel Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a student with financial need who is pursuing higher education and who has participated in athletics, attained good grades, and been a good school and community citizen. The 2012 recipient of the Woody and Susan Martel Scholarship is **Cory Chaplin**.

WINOOSKI EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Education Association Scholarship is presented to an individual entering the field of education in recognition of exceptional contributions to school activities and all around excellence in academics. The 2012 recipient of the Winooski Education Association Scholarship is **Alicia Russell**.

VERMONT HONORS SCHOLARSHIP -

The Vermont Honors Scholarship, initiated by the Vermont Legislature, is presented to a student with outstanding academic achievement going on to college. The 2012 recipient of the Vermont Honors Scholarship is **Katelyn Decarreau**.

WINOOSKI BUSINESS DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Business Department Scholarship is awarded to students who have excelled in Business classes and are pursuing a degree in business or a related field. Recipients will have demonstrated a desire to learn about business, by challenging themselves to learn beyond the classroom and contributing their knowledge to class discussions. This scholarship is paid for by fundraisers done in the Winooski High School Business Department. The 2012 recipients for the Winooski Business Department Scholarship are **Bethany Trainque** and **Devon Rollins**.

CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP - The Challenge Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a well-rounded, highly motivated student (in the top 25% of the graduating class) who has overcome obstacles in achieving his/her success. The 2012 recipient of the Challenge Scholarship is **Heba Abdulkhaleiq**.

PTO SCHOLARSHIP - The PTO Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a student who is pursuing a career in education and who has displayed community involvement through school or work experience. The 2012 recipient for the PTO Scholarship is **Katelyn Decarreau**.

FRIENDS OF WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP - The Friends of WHS Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is given to two scholarships given to students who have shown an overall commitment to and involvement with the high school in multiple and varying ways. The 2012 recipients of the Friends of WHS Scholarship are **Rebecca Spittle** and **Devon Rollins**.

AL'S FRENCH FRY'S SCHOLARSHIP - The Al's French Frys Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a graduate with financial need, planning on a 4-year post-secondary program. The 2012 recipient of the Als French Frys Scholarship is **Jennifer Sikorski**.

LINDA L. GELINAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - The Linda L. Gelinas Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by the Gelinas Family and co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is awarded to a student who is interested in pursuing a 4-year degree in nursing or education, who has been involved in the community, and who has demonstrated strong leadership skills. The 2012 recipient of the Linda L. Gelinas Scholarship is **Alicia Russell**.

GERRY KRASNOW MEMORIAL AWARD - Given by the Krasnow family in memory of Gerald Krasnow, teacher and guidance counselor at Winooski High School from 1973 to 1998, the Gerry Krasnow Memorial Award is given this year to four graduates who plan to continue their education at any accredited post-secondary institution; have shown a commitment to community service; have demonstrated an ability to overcome personal challenges with an upbeat, optimistic attitude and/or sense of humor about life in general. The 2012 recipients of the Gerry Krasnow Memorial Award are **Abdinasir Osman**, **Ayanye Olow**, and **Myles Moran**.

CAROL L. KESSLER, R.N. MEMORIAL AWARD - The Carol L. Kessler, R.N. Memorial Award is presented to a student or students who are in the upper 25% of the senior class and who have demonstrated a love of life, acted as role models or mentors to peers, and who, preferably, are intending to continue their education at any accredited post-secondary institution to pursue a career in healthcare or a related field. The 2012 recipient of the Carol L. Kessler, R.N. Memorial Award is **Christopher Fountain**.

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP - The Leadership Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and exemplified positive attitudes. The 2012 recipient of the Leadership Scholarship is **Rebecca Spittle**.

PART-TIME SCHOLARSHIP - The Part-Time Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is awarded to two students in the top 25% of the senior class, who have

financial need, and a dedication to pursue a post-secondary degree on a part-time basis. The 2012 recipients for the Part-Time Scholarship is **Omar Fidow**, and **Abdinasir Osman**.

ROUSSELLE/FLAHIVE SCHOLARSHIP - The Rousselle/ Flahive Scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who is representative of the "Winooski Experience," having been a longtime member of the Winooski School Community. The 2012 recipient for the Rousselle/ Flahive Scholarship is **Nicholas Cusson-Ducharme**.

JOHN J. MALCOVSKY COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP - The John J. Malcovsky Community Service Scholarship is given to a deserving student who has participated actively in community service. The 2012 recipient of the John J. Malcovsky Community Service Scholarship is **John Truong**.

WINOOSKI BOOSTERS SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Booster Club Scholarship awards four athletes who participated in sports throughout high school, especially their senior year, and demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities on and off the playing field. The 2012 recipients of the Winooski Boosters Scholarship are **Rebecca Spittle**, **Alicia Russell**, **Cory Chaplin**, and **Devon Rollins**.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP - The Mayor and City Council Scholarships, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, are presented to one male and one female student who have shown the most improvement over the four years of high school. The 2012 recipients of the Mayor and City Council Scholarships are **Shelby Alger** and **Bahsir Yussuf**.

ROD STONE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - The Rod Stone Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Roderick L. Stone to a hard-working individual blessed with an inquisitive nature, a love for life, and a commitment to excellence and others. The 2012 recipients of the Rod Stone Memorial Scholarship is **John Truong**.

Superintendent's Message

By Mary Martineau, Superintendent of Schools

The 2011-2012 School Year in Review:

Goal 1: Increase Student Learning and Growth:

- Data has been collected K-12 to inform instruction through grade level data teams, common assessments, benchmarks, local assessments, NECAP results, WIDA ACCESS scores and attendance.
- The administrators have been reporting data to the Board quarterly. This data can be disaggregated by sub-groups.
- Eric Jensen's brain research and teaching children in poverty has been a major focus in the K-5, with work beginning this spring in the 6-8. A group of teachers and administrators (including me) attended a week-long conference last June. We learned that brains continue to grow and change. With that information comes the confirmation that we as educators can and do make a difference in the lives of all students. Using the right instructional strategies and understanding how people learn are the critical components to make that happen.
- Assessment continues to be a focus K-12. Teachers have received professional development to use the essential questions of the curriculum maps to move to the next step in designing pre and post assessments to inform instruction. As we transition to the Common Core, work will be done to incorporate those standards into the local assessments.
- Professional development in the area of literacy continues to be a focus K-12. Teachers are learning about the common core standards.
- Professional development in the area of math continues to be a focus K-12. Teachers are learning about the common core standards, and also using recommendations from the math program evaluation completed by the Vermont Math Institute last spring to further shape next steps.
- A new 3 year Technology plan focusing on using technology as an instructional tool to extend and increase student learning was developed. The Board adopted this plan at their May board meeting.
- Reads 180 and System 44 were implemented as reading interventions for students struggling in reading. This is a scientifically research-based program that targets basic reading skills and comprehension. Individual student progress is monitored.
- The High School teachers have continued to focus on Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) as part of the school improvement grant. The PLCs will allow teachers to meet in interdisciplinary teams to review student data to inform instruction.
- The WSD adopted the VCAT student data management system this year. This system will allow us to store our assessment data (local and state) in one system. As teachers and administrators are trained in the use of the system, we will be able to quickly access data to look for historical trends, sub group information, class information, grade level, subject, etc....
- The Nellie Mae grant was awarded to the Winooski and Burlington School Districts this year. The 1:1 initiative and the personalized learning plans will lead to increased student learning and growth.
- The Grade 3 and 4 Albany College of Pharmacy afterschool science program has been a huge success. Students are paired with a pharmaceutical student and participate in hands on learning in the area of science.
- The 21st Century Afterschool Program continues to be a huge success. Students jump started their summer reading with a Book Giveaway sponsored by TD Bank on June 4th.

Goal 2: Increase Student Engagement through Best Instructional Practices:

- The Danielson Evaluation tool was fully implemented this year. Teachers were placed in either formal or informal evaluation cycles. Those in the formal cycle were observed by an administrator. Those in the informal cycle focused on the same goals. The focus of evaluation this year was on establishing a culture for learning and engaging students in learning. Both of these correlated with the Board goals for 2011-2012. Patterns and trends identified by the administrators indicate that teachers need more training in questioning techniques and how to structure independent work time. This will be important to further increase student engagement so that students have "brain sweat".
- The administrative team worked with a consultant to create an evaluation manual outlining the steps in each cycle of evaluation. This frames the responsibilities of the teacher as well as the administrator to provide a professional and timely evaluation.
- Brain research and Teaching with Poverty in Mind were a focus. Incorporating research-based strategies into classroom instruction (ie: mental models, rapid feedback, targeted practice, movement, etc...) is essential to increase student engagement. The Jensen group, made up of several teachers from JFK, have become teacher leaders for other elementary teachers. The HS teachers have done work in their PLCs and assessment work using these brain-based strategies. Teachers at the Middle School attended the Jensen training this spring and work will continue next school year.
- The Nellie Mae grant award has resulted in the High School preparing for a 1:1 laptop initiative for next year's 9th and 10th grade students. In addition, as the grant is implemented, the High School will move toward personalized learning plans for each student.

Goal 3: Increase Parent & Community Engagement:

- The School Board President and I have participated in the City's strategic planning process as members of the Steering Committee.
- The City Manager and I meet or speak monthly to collaborate on city and school issues and projects. Both the city and school are committed to a collaborative working relationship sharing resources and tackling issues that affect the community. The parking lot project last summer-early fall was a collaborative effort.
- This year we have spent time working with a contracted facilitator to develop a new District strategic plan. This work consisted of a steering committee, a community forum and sub-groups working on specific action plans. The work will continue into the fall.
- The Winooski School District administrators have participated in New American meetings throughout the year, along with administrators from the Burlington School District. The purpose of the meetings is to build relationships and trust so that each side can become familiar with the culture and expectations around education.
- The WSD parent community engagement group has been working with PIRC-VT (Parent Information Resource Center) this year to learn research-based strategies to increase parent and community engagement. The group consists of various stakeholders including board members, administrators, teachers/staff, parents and community members. The group is in the process of finishing a training, where a mission statement and action plan were developed. The WSD will continue to work with PIRC-VT next school year.
- Various modes of communication (AlertNow, District News!, e-mail, website, letters, front sign, Ch. 17, Front Porch Forum, and the annual meeting) to share information with parents and the greater community. This information included school board meeting dates, budget workshops, school events, principal hiring process, fundraisers, etc... We are hoping that next year, more

teachers will be creating classroom webpages for parents to access.

- The FY13 school budget successfully passed on Town Meeting Day! This is an indicator of community engagement and support.

Goal 4: Collaboration and Communication:

- The WEA leadership meets with me regularly to keep the lines of communication open and problem solve potential issues.
- The WSD and South Burlington School Districts have collaborated on transportation in the event of an evacuation. Both districts have participated in the drills to practice.
- The WSD and Winooski Police Dept. collaborate through the SRO and also on community matters.
- The WSD continues to collaborate with the VT Refugee Resettlement Agency and the Agency of Human Services to support New Americans.
- The WSD has collaborated with the partners involved in the Nellie Mae grant (Tarrant Foundation, Linking Learning to Life, Burlington School District, Vermont Adult Learning, Voices for Vermont's Children). These partnerships will continue for the next 3 years of the grant.

As the 2011-2012 school year comes to a close, we can be proud of the work we have accomplished this year! The work we started will continue as we move into the 2012-2013 academic year to build on this year's successes. Thanks to Justin Brown for his two years of service to the Winooski School District! We wish him well in his professional endeavors. Congratulations to the Class of 2012! Best wishes for a happy, healthy and bright future! Enjoy the summer!

School Board Passes Resolution Regarding F-35 Jets

Resolution of Vermont Air National Guard Aircraft Paths

Whereas, the Winooski School District's mission is to offer a safe and supportive educational environment that is conducive to learning for all of its students;

Whereas, the Winooski School District seeks to create conditions for its students that will maximize learning;

Whereas, research shows that excessive noise affects cognitive performance and interferes with learning;

Whereas, F-35A Vermont Air National Guard jets based at Burlington International Airport will be flown in the vicinity of the District and during school hours;

Whereas, the flight path of the current F-16 Vermont Air National Guard jets based at Burlington International Airport already have an adverse impact on the learning environment at the Winooski schools; and

Whereas, it is expected that F-35A jets would follow this same flight path, and will have an adverse effect on the learning environment.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Winooski School Board as follows.

RESOLVED:

That the Winooski School Board opposes a flight path for F-35A jets that would impact the learning environment. Further, the Winooski School Board opposes the current flight path for F-16 jets that impact the learning environment.

Ways to Watch the 2012 Graduation!

Doug Dunbebin, RETN Community Relations Associate

In case you missed it, you can catch the graduation online at www.retn.org on the Champlain Valley's education station — RETN Channel 16 on Comcast and Burlington Telecom. (<http://bit.ly/IJHkzp>), or order a DVD and watch it anytime! DVDs are \$20. For more information, contact RETN at 802-654-7980, or info@retn.org. A portion of the proceeds benefits Winooski High School.

Honor Roll – Fourth Quarter: 2011-2012

HIGH SCHOOL

Seniors

First Honors

Alex Brown
Katelyn Decarreau
Christopher Fountain
Bethany Trainque

Second Honors

Abdirizak Amir
Calin Chadwick
Omar Fidow
Travis Martin
Rebecca Spittle
John Truong

Juniors

First Honors

Dino Dzinic

Second Honors

Laura Alger
Ashley Antoniak
W. Jordan Bisson
Ashley Bushey
Kaitlyn Callahan
Michael Cross
Moriah Leary
Yen Canary Ly
Hala T. Mohammed
Brianna Robare

Sophomores

First Honors

Kevin Pham

Second Honors

Cara Casier
Luke Fountain
Sunita Gurung
Austin Mayo
Rita Rai

Freshmen

First Honors

Randall Knox
Amanda Nattress

Second Honors

Uyen Bui
Connor Drown
Avah Eaton
Christopher Francis
Michaela Metivier
Nhung Nguyen
Chanfer Nheb
Victoria White
Ro Ze Yar

MIDDLE SCHOOL

High Honors

High Honor
Noah Alger
Edmund Do

Cordell Fisher

Semir Kostic
Marie Ly
Onna Morgan
Anju Pokwal
Rachel Wilondje

Honors

Thazin Aye
Oo Mai Bi
Rui Rainbow Chen
Riley Corrigan
Hau Duong
Jarod Fountain
Faiza Hassan
Calvin Hayford
Brianna Holton
Bishnu Khatiwada
Som Khatiwada
Brianna Knox
Taylor Langlais

Christina Larose-Terry

Hannah Little
Kaitlenn Little
Eh Man
Mariah Metivier
Brianna Moore
Lydia Nattress
Riziki Numbe
Keshav Pokhrel
Dhan Pradhan
Bradley Senna
Steven Shover
Ledania Taylor
Olivia Treadwell
Alexis Utter
Conner White
Rebecca White
Alyssa Winegar
Ball Wit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE:

Winooski Dollars for Scholars Calcutta

*By Morgan Kelner, Chair,
Winooski Dollars for Scholars*

Winooski Dollars for Scholars is proud to offer financial aid to so many deserving students. Congratulations Winooski graduates! We wish you all the best in your new endeavors. Looking towards the future, WDFS will be holding our **Annual Calcutta/Silent Auction** on **October 6th** at the RVA in Winooski. We hope to see you there. If you want to purchase your tickets early or support Dollars for Scholars in any way, please contact: Morgan Kelner at: mkelner14@gmail.com or Lisa Graves at BPSVT@aol.com. We wish everyone a safe and healthy summer.

Winooski High School is Changing! Three Ways Parents Can Help:

- 1) Share your hopes and concerns in a one-to-one conversation
- 2) Get involved in a team to help plan the

- changes at the high schools
- 3) Become a Parent Leader to help organize parents

The Winooski-Burlington Partnership for Change is working to better prepare all students for the future. Dawn Moskowitz and Peter Garang Deng, Community Organizers with Voices for Vermont's Children, are hosting conversations with parents & students, helping to build a parent action network and supporting new leaders. To set-up a one-to-one conversation, or to learn more, call Dawn at 802-318-5892 or partner4kids@gmail.com or Garang at 802-363-8613 or peter.garang2@gmail.com.

Friends of Winooski High School Hosts Golf Tournament

On June 3rd, our 10th Annual Golf Tournament took place under sunny skies, with over 70 golfers participating in a day-long event that raised just under \$6000 to benefit the students and staff of Winooski High School.

We use these funds over the course of the school year to fund teacher grants and improve the school community for all

Winooski high school students and staff through various program supports. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month and would welcome your involvement! Please call Anne Elston at 655-0942 for more information.

A special thanks to: Chick's Market, Basin Harbor Club, Champlain Country Club, Costco, Country Club of Barre, Cupp's Café, DJ's Tree Service, Dunkin Donuts, Edward Jones Investments, Essex Eye Associates, Frenchys Meat Market, Frito Lay, Hannaford's, Healthy Living Natural Foods Market, Key Bank, Killington Golf Course, LaVigne Funeral Home, Inc., Mahoney Appraisal Services, Inc., McGregor's Medicine on Time, McKee's Pub & Grill, McKenzie's Country Classics, Merchants Bank, Mountain Bagel Company, North Country Federal Credit Union, Northfield Savings Bank, O'Brien & Kaffenberger, Inc., O'Brien's Irish Pub, People's United Bank, Price Chopper, Rocky Ridge Golf Club, Shaw's Supermarket, Shelburne Shipyards, Snider's Auto Center, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., TD Bank, The Abbey Group, UBU Daycare, Williston Golf Course, and the Winooski Police Association.

K-8 News

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

I hope you all have an enjoyable summer. This is an opportune time to spend with your family in a relaxing atmosphere. Please don't forget the importance of reading daily and working on math facts regardless a child's age, K-8!

Research shows time spent on academics over the summer helps with retention and positions children to be more successful as they re-enter in the fall.

As I have mentioned in a previous newsletter, my responsibilities now lay in Pre-K-5 and I am looking forward to the many tasks that are ahead. There are numerous, exciting professional developmental opportunities coming our way in the fall such as social thinking, which over time will create a much more positive, safe learning environment. The professional development that will be offered in social thinking may be a way for us to collaborate with the city. This would be the ideal time for adults working in the community to join us in our training. Using the same common language and having the same expectations of our children would be one step forward in enhancing the positive aspects of our community.

I will be in my office throughout the summer. Please feel free to stop by and say hello!

JFK Students "Pay it Forward"

By Lisa Goetz

Thanks to the generosity of Sam, Arica, and Linden Bronz-Russo, we were able to plant beautiful flowers under the Winooski Educational Center sign.

The money for the flowers was donated by a generous member of our community who asked us to use the money in a way that would "pay it forward."

We used this as an opportunity to do a service learning project and we appreciate all the help we received from Stella Murdock, Kaw Ra Ban Bi, Cody and Jeremy McDonald, and Linden, Sam, and Jonah Bronz-Russo. If you appreciate the beauty of the garden, consider "paying it forward" - how can you pass your appreciation and gratitude along to the next person?

What small thing can you do to make someone else's day better? Consider the impact on our community if all kept deciding to "pay it forward!"



Got JFK Yearbooks?

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

Save Your Box Tops

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

Book Giveaway a Huge Success at JFK!

by Barbara Russ, 21C Afterschool Program Director

On Monday, June 4th there was a Reading Party and Book Giveaway at JFK Elementary School. First Book, in partnership with the Afterschool Alliance, selected JFK Elementary's Afterschool Program as one of four sites in the nation to host a book giveaway, thanks to a donation from TD Bank. Twenty-five TD Bank employees read *Frog and Toad are Friends*, *The Grouchy Ladybug*, *The Doorbell Rang*, and *Not Norman: A Goldfish Story* with our first graders. Throughout the day, all JFK students chose books to add to their home collections, celebrate the end of the school year, and to kick-off summer reading.

One first grader, after choosing his three books, was heard saying, "This is the best day of my life!" A huge thank you to TD Bank, First Book, and Afterschool Alliance for selecting our program and providing so many wonderful books for our pre-K through grade five students!

First Grade Explores Winooski

by Nan Johnson

The first grade explored parts of the Winooski community. First we visited the fire station where we were able to go in the fire trucks and see all the gear that the fire fighters wear in order to stay safe. It was a great learning experience for all of our students.



Towards the very end of the school year, we walked down to the Winooski Memorial Library. We had fun exploring the books and finding some of our favorites books such as Stephen Huneck's Sally books and Harry Potter. All first graders will be receiving their library cards so they can take books out throughout the summer.

Thanks so much to the fire fighters and Amanda at the library for allowing us to visit and for answering our many questions!



MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

It Takes a Village...

Thoughts from Middle/High School Principal Leon Wheeler

About 13 years ago my daughter, Coral, began her teaching career when she accepted a position at the JFK Elementary School in Winooski. I believe she started as a 2nd grade teacher...and she absolutely loved the school and community. I had the privilege on several occasions to visit the school and her classroom. A positive and welcoming climate was evident with staff and students alike, and I thought at that time that if the opportunity came, I could see myself working as a part of this school community.

Coral and her family moved to downstate New York a few years ago, and Winooski remains an important part of her life and growth. During the years from 1999 until today my journey has taken me to Black River High School (business/computer teacher), Plymouth Elementary School (teaching principal), Alburgh Community Education Center (principal), and finally to Mount Abraham Union Middle/High School (co-principal). After serving at Mount Abe for 5 years and seeing the school climate and culture truly blossom, I realize it's the right time for me to find a position much closer to my home in Alburgh. The timing of the middle/high school principal opening in Winooski could not have been more perfect for me. I'm thrilled that my strengths and skills match the needs of the Winooski School, and that I will join your community effective July 1. This is truly my dream principal job! I look forward to joining each of you: staff, students, school board, parents/guardians, and community residents alike. Working together I am certain we can build an exemplary school that celebrates and honors each student's individuality, nurtures each student's interests and dreams, and empowers each one with essential life skills.

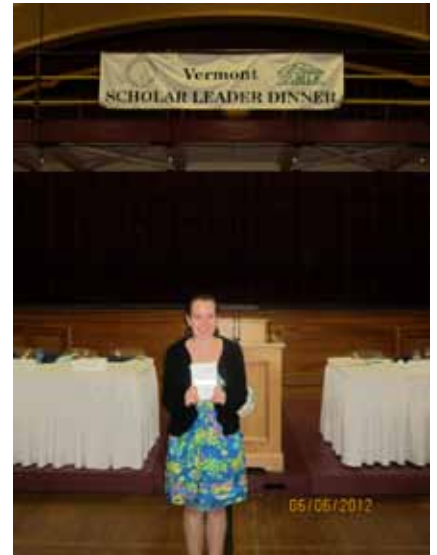
Enjoy the summer. Stay safe and healthy. I look forward to working with you in the days and years to come.

Hannah Little Wins VAMLE Award

By Anja Mosehauer

At the conclusion of every school year, the Vermont Association for Middle Level Education (VAMLE) hosts its annual Scholar Leader Dinner to recognize outstanding student leaders in grades five through eight. Eighty-three students from surrounding Vermont middle schools were

invited to Norwich University for the honorary dinner and ceremony. Among the eighty-three selected, one JFK middle school student, Hannah Little, was presented with an award. This is an exciting event with the Commissioner of Education, many teachers from around the state and two high school student speakers. The celebratory evening included dinner, speeches and finally an award ceremony where each student was announced and awarded a small plaque and picture with the VAMLE board. Accompanied by her family and teacher, Hannah represented the Winooski School District with great pride. We wish her tremendous success as she matriculates into high school.



Middle School Update

By Katherine Jennifer Helm



Velocity's Bushintai Do Presentation

Velocity participates in Bushintai Do weekly throughout the school year. At the end of May the students put on a demonstration, with a few of the students testing for higher belts. Three of the students are **Connor White, Jessica Riley** and **Estevan Alvarez**.

Estevan began his Bushintai Do participation this year. He has tested and received his white, yellow, dark yellow, orange, purple, blue and at this demonstration earned his green belt. That is a lot of testing and work to accomplish in a single year. He is striving to be a black belt by the end of next year. I am one that believes he can do it.



Winooski Middle School Students Compete in JiuJitsu Tournament

By Nancy Keller

The Vermont Open Grappling Championships, a major Jiu Jitsu tournament that draws athletes of all ages and experience from across New England and Quebec, was held at Winooski High School on Saturday, April 7! Eight middle school students participated, a culmination of their training in Winooski's CCLC Afterschool JiuJitsu Program run by black-belt instructor, David Quinlan of Martial Way Self-Defense Center. All students competed like champions. Dylan Gardner took first place in his weight class, while Hem Bista and Bradley Senna each took second. Sophia Dallas-Severance placed third. Other competitors included Zachary Chagnon, Estevan Alvarez, A'vry Ready, and Ashley Andersen.

Thank you to all those who attended the tournament! Thank you to those who purchased a snack at the concessions run by JFK Middle School's Team Velocity. Almost \$400 was raised to benefit martial arts programs at our middle school! Join us for the next tournament in November 2012! Training begins for students in October!



JFK Middle School BJJ Competitors (L to R): Bradley Senna, Zachary Chagnon, Hem Bista, A'vry Ready, Estevan Alvarez, Sophia Dallas-Severance, Dylan Gardiner, Ashley Andersen

VCATS

Ms. Brosnan, the middle school guidance counselor, has worked with a group of students all year to promote a tobacco-free environment for all kids. These kids have met weekly to discuss and promote a clean environment at school, home, and dances. On this occasion they dressed up in HAZMAT suits and counted the number of cars leaving the Winooski School District parking lot where a person in the car was smoking.



8th Graders Receive "Moving Up" Awards June 12

The following awards were given to 8th grade students "moving up" to high school next year. Congratulations to everyone!

Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) - Requirements for the award of a good citizenship medal are given to a boy and a girl are based upon the five qualities: honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism. Awarded to **Taylor Langlais** and **Semir Kostic**.

Almedina Orucevic Award - Recipient demonstrates qualities of friendship, musical talent, helpfulness, thoughtfulness and loyalty. Named after a former 8th grade student who passed away. Awarded to **Hau Duong**.

Little Spartan Award - Spartan stands for: **S** = sacrifice, **P** = perseverance, **A** = positive attitude, **R** = respect, **T** = tolerance, **A** = ability, **N** = never say die. Awarded to **Hannah Little**. Hannah was also selected for the middle school VAMLE award as a top academic and all-around contributing member of her 8th grade class.

Resiliency Award - Established by Lynn Granger, retired teacher, and given to individuals who have overcome adversity in their lives. Awarded to the following students:

- Team Kaleidoscope: **Alan Priebe-Carter**
- Team Fusion: **Ball Wit, Shyanna Sweeney, Ball Wit, Eh Man**
- Team Eclipse: **Sophia Dallas-Severance**
- Team Phoenix: **Brianna Knox**
- Team Velocity: **Conner White**

Good Citizenship Award - Given to students who inspire enthusiastic school spirit, strengthen student self-esteem, promote appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and build responsible, knowledgeable citizens. Awarded to **Anthony Jones** and **Ledania Taylor**.

Perfect Attendance: For all three years of middle school: **Edmund Do**

Presidential Outstanding Academic Excellence: Edmund Do (High Honors for all 3 years)

Presidential Outstanding Academic Achievement:

- Team Fusion: **Ball Wit, Shyanna Sweeney, Eh Man, Hannah Little**
- Team Kaleidoscope: **Semir Kostic**
- Team Eclipse: **Hau Duong**

Academic Achievement awards:

- Team Kaleidoscope: Language Arts in ELL: **Anju Pokwal**
Science: **Alan Priebe-Carter** Math and Social Studies: **Semir Kostic**
- Team Phoenix: Science, Social Studies and Math: **Andrew Durkin**, Language Arts: **Brianna Knox**
- Team Fusion: Science: **Edmund Do**, Social Studies: **Ledania Taylor**, Language Arts and Math: **Hannah Little**
- Team Velocity: Bushintai Do: **Bradley Senna**, Science and Math: **Bradley Senna**, Humanities: **William Burns**
- Team Eclipse: Humanities: **Hau Duong**, Math: **Evan Rutherford**

WHS Seniors On Display

By Stephen Crowley

Want to find out about what it takes to become a vet, or a great marksman, or bake some awesome cookies? Maybe you'd be more interested in Somali dance, or creating stop-motion animation videos, or training to run a marathon. Well, on Friday, May 18, the place to see all this and more was at Winooski High School's Senior Exposition.

For the 14th year, all WHS seniors have immersed themselves in a major challenge, their Senior Project. They've identified and undertaken a major learning experience. They have spent a minimum of thirty hours, often much more, at that. Then, they've written a major paper, incorporating their project experience, background research, and interviews with experts in the field. Finally, it all comes together in May at the Senior Exposition.

In the weeks leading up to the Expo, anxiety grows as seniors prepare the ten minute presentations that they'll be delivering to a panel of judges. But by the day of the Expo, the work is done, and it really becomes a celebration of what our WHS students have accomplished.

A visitor to the afternoon open house would be able to hear John Truong talk about his analysis and ideas for the redesign of the Winooski roundabout. Or from Heba Abdulkhalieq, you could hear about the fascinating history and meaning of the



beautiful Arabic script. Or you could see what Bethany Trainque has done in her exploration of Bonsai.

If personal health and fitness is your interest, you could talk with Cory Chaplin and Tong Tong to hear what they've learned about weightlifting and fitness training, or from Cody Hemingway about his hard work getting ready to run in the Burlington Marathon.

Others have explored possible careers, or new (to them) art forms. Many of our New American students have explored their history and culture, or comparisons between their former lives and the way we live here in Winooski.

One of the toughest hurdles for many seniors is connecting with people in the community who are experts in the area of their chosen project. If you would like to help bridge the gap between school and the "real world" beyond, please call the school and leave a message for the senior project coordinator.



High School Update

By Katherine Jennifer Helm

Business Leaders Convention

In June, Ms. Poquette, the business teacher in the high school took her Personal Finance class to the Business Expo that was held at the Sheraton in Burlington. Two students, **Austin Mayo** and **Cheyanna Tyler**, were invited to present their business ideas and plans to a panel of local business leaders. They presented along with four other students from other area high schools. Their presentations were both focused and creative.



Guidance News

By Emmy Charron

Congratulations to the class of 2012! You have all been wonderful to work with and I wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors.

2013 Seniors! It's time to sign up for the SAT/ACT's for the fall if you have not done so already.

- ACT: September 8th test date - must register by August 16th (actstudent.org). October 22nd test date - must register by September 16th
- SAT: October 6th test date - must register by September 7th (collegeboard.com)

Summer time is a great time to start creating your college list (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>) and go on college tours. Go see for yourself what campus looks like, meet with an Admissions representative and see if it's right for you!

Schedule changes can be made prior to school on Monday, August 27th or Tuesday, August 28th (school starts on the 29th). Students will have a week and a half for add/drop once classes start, the last day being Friday, September 7th.

Have a great summer!

Team Omni Creates Shared Experience for High School Students

By Kim Ead

In OMNI's Career Exploration class we do a lot of work to build job and career skills. One of our projects was to find a problem in the school or community that we could fix. This project's goal is to build connections between students who may have been (or have felt) marginalized and empower students to be leaders by bringing them to Northern Lights Rope Course to have a shared experience.

The first step was connecting to organizations and people already working on this problem. We talked to school groups. We found that there was a need for a shared experience to have people work together. We decided to invite people from different ethnic backgrounds to participate in our project as selected by teachers. The idea was to improve the climate of our school.

The students discussed the project with Northern Lights Ropes Course. They made some fundraising suggestions. After our meeting we came back and made a plan to do a bake sale, an ice cream sale with Ben and Jerry's. The students worked with other classes to make bumper stickers with the message Accept and Respect and made a list of local businesses asking for donations. After the first bake sale they realized they would not make enough money to go on the trip. They began to focus on writing grants to the Ben and Jerry's Foundation and the Unitarian Universalist Church.

As time got closer and we hadn't heard about the grants, we called Northern Lights to tell them we could not support the trip and we had only raised \$300.00. The owner was so moved by the students efforts, she said we could come for whatever we raised. The day after we received the Ben and Jerry's Foundation Grant and the day before the trip we received the Unitarian Church grant. In total, we raised \$1,700.00.

On Monday June 4, 2012, 35 brave students visited Northern Lights Ropes Course in Essex with a mission to reduce discrimination by allowing people to work together and get to know each other. Students had to support each



other throughout the course because they were all outside of their comfort zones. The only way to get through the course successfully was by working together. They all shared a common experience by doing the ropes course- everyone was scared during it, but felt relieved and happy with the outcome. They were not afraid to be themselves during the course because they

weren't trying to pretend to be brave.

Some difficult aspects students shared included; working with language barriers but they overcame them through creative communication and work together. Getting funding and getting hold of the grant organizations was difficult as well as organizing the details the project, but each step was met with a lot of patience.

The results of the evaluations showed that this trip was not what people expected. They learned teamwork, respect, helping others, trust, that others are sacred like them, communication skills, new things about other people like many are strong enough to handle problems, not to give up, things are not as scary as they seem, and they learned not to be afraid to take risks. If anything would be changed students would trust themselves more.

In this process the student organizers reflected on this experience:

"When you put people into a sketchy position most will overcome it and grow, said Matthew Chamberlian.

Kaya Carlisle-Wimble said, "Working together can build relationships and strong bonds can be created through simple teamwork".

"The most rewarding part was watching people overcome their fears and see each other in a new light" said Dj Poss.

We feel that this project was very successful and has created new relationships and greater understanding.

Since we raised more money than we needed we are planning on continuing our work to build connections in the school by having another trip next year and working with professionals on fairness and equity.

End of the Year Memories

By Courtney Poquette

What a whirlwind the end of the year was. I was very fortunate to be a part of so many different activities with various groups of students from April to June. Time slipped by so quickly, I was unable to highlight every event, so here is a brief overview of the great accomplishments and adventures of many students.



Students in Business Topics traveled to visit two local businesses. At the conclusion of their retail unit, students traveled to Hero's Welcome in North Hero, VT. There they had lunch with former CEO of Pier 1 Imports and owner of the store, Robert Camp. They were able to learn about the challenges and joys involved with being an entrepreneur and working in retail. After the management unit students toured Vermont Teddy Bear, where they learned how a successful Vermont business got its start and how the production process works.



Students in Introduction to Business also participated in a few field trips of their own. We partnered with Linking Learning to Life Coordinator, Kim Ead and Family and Consumer Science teacher, Lauren Unger's Independent and Family Living Course to take part in a "College and Career

Field Trip." Students split up and visited five businesses: Seventh Generation, Home Port, City Market, Outdoor Gear Exchange, and Single Pebble. Some students also met with staffers at Senator Sanders office. After visiting many different businesses, including a stop for a snack at my little cupcake, students toured Champlain College.

Students in this class spent the second half of the year writing their own business plans. These impressive reports were submitted to a panel of business experts to be judged as part of the Vermont Business Plan Competition. Cheyanna Tyler and Austin Mayo were selected to take part in a Power Pitch at the Vermont Business Expo. They had three minutes to "sell" their idea to a panel of judges. At the expo all students were able to visit over 200 businesses to learn about job opportunities and how the businesses got their start. Both Austin and Bethany Trainque were also interviewed live on the radio about their business.



Of course there was another impressive field trip that has become a cherished tradition in the business department, the trip for second year business students to New York City. This two day trip in April went off as planned with students visiting the Statue of Liberty, Wall Street, Times Square, Madame Tussauds, and Top of the Rock. Students were even able to attend both an NBA game and a Broadway Show. We are very thankful for the community support, business donations and to the Friends of Winooski for donating funds to make this trip a reality. All of the other money was raised by students through our School Store and selling donated books, movies, and DVDs online.

As Student Council Co-Advisor with Karen Greene, we were also incredibly pleased with Spring Fling. This is an



afternoon of fun team-building activities for high school students. Student Council worked with the Abbey to provide lunch for all staff and students. Then members of Student Council led the school in a few events such as: School-Wide Capture the Flag, the Amazing Race, Tug of War and Water Balloon Toss. This year we were fortunate to have many wonderful students plan the event, and many people responded that this was the best Spring Fling.

Lastly, in my other role as Senior Class Advisor, I was able to take part in the Senior Class Trip to the Jay Peak Water Park. The class of 2012 is a tremendous group of people and they will be missed in our school community. In the four years I have been an advisor to this group, it has impressed me on how they have grown and matured since they were freshmen. They are a caring group of students, who work together to come to decisions as a team. They have shown concern for both their school and local community through various projects and activities. It was so nice to be with them as they relaxed and enjoyed the adventures of the water park and then shared in the beautiful view of Vermont mountains from the tram ride. On behalf of the other senior advisors and our high school staff, I want to congratulate this group and wish them well in the future.



Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN,
Health Office Coordinator

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tooth Tutor Update

By Diane Polson, RDH, Tooth Tutor

Another year is behind us. I hope you have a happy, healthy and safe summer. I look forward to seeing you in September. Just remember while you're having fun to FLOSS, Brush and keep those summer Dental Appointments!

Mayor's Message

By Michael O'Brien

It's summertime!! Do you have big plans? Well, how about including some of the fun activities planned here in Winooski. We have a great **Farmer's Market** that will be held every Sunday from 10 until 2 in front of the Champlain Mill. How about a walk? Why don't you join your friends and neighbors and enter the **Winooski Marathon**? The marathon will run for 12 weeks this summer. The concept is to walk 3 miles a week for 9 of the 12 weeks starting on Wednesday June 13. Please contact the Winooski Y for more information. What a great way to get some exercise and enjoy a fun social activity!

Once again this summer, the **Pop-Up Gallery** will be open at the traffic circle with events running Thursday through Sunday with an Opening event on June 22nd. The summer season will run from June 22 through August 4 and will be open on Thursday through Saturday from noon to 8pm and on Sundays from 10am until 3pm. This year, there will be 5 artists in residence using in this space as a studio. Free kids art classes will be held on each Saturday thanks to the generosity of Creative Habitat and Casey Family Services. These classes will be limited to 10 children, so sign up soon! The Gallery is looking for volunteers to sit in the galleries for 2 and 4 hour shifts. Please stop into the Gallery to get more information.

As always, if you would like to discuss an item, feel free to contact me or any member of the City Council: Mike O'Brien – mobrien@winooski.vt.gov; Sally Tipson – stipson@winooski.vt.gov; John Little – jlittle@winooski.vt.gov; Sarah Robinson – srobinson@winooski.vt.gov; Megan Moir – mmoir@winooski.vt.gov. Enjoy your summer!



July at the Winooski Senior Center

Join us Fridays, through July, from 10-11 for Tai Chi. This free class gently works on balance and flexibility.

Interested in learning how to use a computer? Want to enhance those mad computer skills you already have? Contact the Senior Center to sign up for private and small group sessions. 655-6425 or seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov

Sign up has begun for the bus trip to the Saratoga Race Track and Casino for August 8. Call or stop in to reserve your spot.

Environmental Board Update

By Ali Kenney

It's summertime and maybe you'll be grilling or hosting a party for your friends. If you have a BBQ, think about these six tips from Earth911 on how to lessen your impact:

- 1) Stock up on low-waste snacks: Get food from the bulk aisle, and skip the pre-cut veggies with extra packaging. Or consider making your own hummus, dip or salsa!
- 2) Whip up your own condiments: Forget the single-use containers and try to make your own mustard or salad dressings!
- 3) Serve low-waste drinks: Skip single-use water bottles and serve tap water in a pitcher or buy soda in larger bottles
- 4) Choose reusables: Forget plastic silverware and paper plates- use your own dinner plates and step up that BBQ a notch!
- 5) Ask your guests to help you go green: Let your guests know that you're trying to create a waste-free event and encourage them to follow with any items that they may bring
- 6) Set up recycling and compost bins: Make party cleanup easy for you and your guests and setup clear bins prior to the start of the party.

Follow the above steps and you're bound to have a great summer BBQ party in our beautiful little city of Winooski! Find us on Facebook and keep up to date with the latest events from your Winooski Environmental Board!

Winooski School District
60 Normand Street
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Newsletter of the Winooski School District

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Mission Statement

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

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

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

About Our District

The Winooski School District is a PreK through 12 system that is housed in one educational center. At press time, there were 398 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 156 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 250 attending Winooski High School (grades 9-12).

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

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