



# WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

MARCH 2012

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 6

*celebrating Our Achievements!*



## Winooski and Burlington School Districts awarded Nellie Mae Education Foundation Grant

*By Mary Martineau, Superintendent of Schools*

On February 15, 2012, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation formally announced that \$16.4 million in grants over three years had been awarded to the following school districts: Burlington and Winooski, VT; Pittsfield, NH; Portland, ME; and Sanford, ME. Each of these districts is linked to an organization that was involved as the lead community partner in the grant application. In Vermont, that agency is Voices for Vermont's Children. The total amount of money that will be awarded to Burlington and Winooski is \$3.7 million over 3 years.

The grants are being made under one of the four long-term strategic initiatives of the Nellie Mae Foundation. For Winooski and Burlington, that approach is District Level Systems Change (DLSC). This approach will promote the implementation of a student-centered

learning approach.

The focus of the District Level Systems Change (DLSC) for Winooski and Burlington will be in the following areas:

1. Effective Teaming (Teachers will work in a team to plan and provide instruction)
2. Proficiency Based Personalized Learning Plans (A student centered learning approach places students at the center of their education. It fosters deeper learning that will better prepare them for the future. This approach will target the skills and knowledge students need while connecting their learning to interests, strengths and experiences. Technology will be an important instructional tool).
3. Community Based Learning (Students will have opportunities for internships during their high school career).
4. Family School Partnerships (Both schools will work with families and the community to create meaningful relationships to support student learning).
5. Student Voice (Students will receive training on how to take leadership roles in school change, and adults are trained to support this).

During the FY13 budget preparation this fall, it was not known if the grant award would come to fruition. Both Principals (WHS and BHS) were committed to moving forward with the principles of this grant either way. It was clear to everyone that the "one size fits all" model of education is no longer appropriate or fair to our students. This led to an \$80,000 request by Principal Brown for WHS to support

the technology focus of the grant. A 1:1 laptop initiative will begin with the Freshmen and Sophomore classes next school year. Technology will be a learning tool that will eventually replace textbooks. This is one of many skills that will be necessary to prepare students to adapt in a rapidly changing world.

The Nellie Mae Grant requires school districts to think about sustaining the work identified in the grant once the grant is gone. To that end, there are in-kind costs. For Winooski, that will not be new money, but rather a reallocation of funds already in the High School budget. For example: We currently partner with Linking Learning to Life to provide students with job training. Community based learning opportunities is a focus in the Nellie Mae grant. The money currently budgeted for Linking Learning to Life will meet that requirement of the grant.

The Nellie Mae Grant is a wonderful opportunity for the Winooski and Burlington School Districts to be leaders in educational reform in the state of Vermont.

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### Save the Date for The Wizard of Oz!

Coming soon to our Performing Arts Center: "The Wizard of Oz!" It will be performed by a very talented group of 4th and 5th graders on Friday, March 9th. Show times are at 9:00, 10:30, and 7:00 p.m. The performances are free and open to the public. Please join us!

### School Budget Information: Part Two

By Robert Millar, Board of School Trustees

Last month, Jay Lambert told you a bit about the budget the School Board approved for Fiscal Year 2013 and hopefully gave you a good idea of where the increase we're requesting comes from. This month, with the vote just around the corner (**March 6th!**), I'm going to try to give you a good idea of what the increased budget could mean for you. I'll also talk a bit about what you'll see on the ballot. Everything I'm covering here will also be covered in the presentations that I and some of the administrators gave on February 15<sup>th</sup> on CCTV (available on their website, CCTV.org) and on **Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, at the city's annual meeting.** The annual meeting begins at **6:30 pm** and will be held at the school's Performing Arts Center. I strongly urge you to attend the annual meeting if you are able.

The annual meeting is important to attend not only so you can get information about the budget, but also because there are three things we still vote on the old-fashioned way, by show of hands. Every year at the annual meeting the day before Town Meeting Day, we elect a **Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk**, decide whether to accept the Annual Report, and decide whether to continue to allow the use of school facilities by "appropriate groups and agencies." This year, one of the questions you'll see on the Town Meeting Day ballot will be whether the Treasurer position should be voted on by ballot on Town Meeting Day, instead of by show of hands at the annual meeting.

As always, the most important thing we'll be voting on on Town Meeting Day is the budget, which actually comes in two parts, the **Federal Budget** (\$1,398,063 this year) and the **Regular Budget** (\$12,417,616 this year).

Let's start by talking about the Federal Budget. By voting for the Federal Budget, all we're voting on is whether to accept federal funds to pay for federally mandated programs. **This budget does not affect your property taxes in any way.** However, if it were

to be voted down, the school would still be required to provide these programs – we'd just have to pay for them ourselves, which *would* potentially mean a huge property tax increase.

The Regular Budget *will* affect your property taxes. And the fact is, this year, after several years of essentially level funded budgets, we are asking for a bit more than we have in a long time. This year's regular budget increased by about 7.47 percent over last year. Because our student population has leveled off for the moment at about 936 students, our per-pupil cost – the figure that matters most for your taxes – will also go up a little, from \$10,717 to \$11,352. To put that in perspective, the state average is well over \$14,000. Even though we are asking for a little bit more this year, the Board and Administration have still worked very hard to keep costs down as much as possible.

Dividing the per-pupil cost by the state determined "base education amount" of \$8,723 (which could still change) gives us a district spending adjustment of 130.1 percent, up from last year's 123.4 percent. Education property taxes vary based on this number, whether you pay based on your income or the value of your property.

Most Winooski property owners pay their education property taxes based on their income via the **prebate system.** This will apply to you as long as your household income is less than \$90,000 a year. The amount you will pay is based on another state set figure (currently 1.8 percent) multiplied by the district's spending adjustment, which gives us a figure of 2.34 percent – the

percent of your income you will owe. This is up from last year's number, 2.26 percent, which means you will likely see a slight increase in your bill, depending on your income. For example, if your household income is \$50,000, you would pay an extra \$40 in additional education property taxes this year based on this budget.

If you *do not* receive a prebate, your property tax rate will equal the district spending adjustment times the state set base rate (currently \$0.89) divided by the state set Common Level of Appraisal (up slightly this year from 97.5 percent to 98.91 percent). With the figures we have now, this will give you a rate of \$1.1707 per \$100 of assessed value of your property, up about 7 cents from last year's \$1.1043. Again, this rate only applies if your household income is more than \$90,000.

Finally, non-residential property owners *will* see a slight increase in their education property tax – but not because of this budget, **as non-residential education property taxes are set entirely by the state.** Non-residential education property tax rates this year are anticipated to be about \$1.38 per \$100 of assessed value, up two cents from last year's rate. Again, the budget we're presenting has no effect on this rate; it is entirely determined by the state.

So there you have it. It's important to keep in mind that all of the figures I've mentioned that are set by the state are *not final* until the legislature votes sometime this session. Even so, I hope I've been able to answer some of your questions about how we pay for our schools here in Vermont and how that could affect your education property taxes when you support this budget on **March 6<sup>th</sup>.**

Again, I want to urge you to come to the annual meeting at **6:30 pm on March 5<sup>th</sup>,** whether you have more questions or not. **And please, don't forget to vote on March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center on Barlow Street, between 7am and 7pm!**

**\* DO YOUR PART \***

# VOTE!

**MARCH 6, 2012**

## Superintendent's Message

By Mary Martineau, Superintendent of Schools

During the January and February board meetings, there was a presentation on school safety by Officer Chris Machavern, the Student Resource Officer, and Chief Steve McQueen. The discussion with the administrators and school board focused on safety measures currently in place within the District and suggestions where we could improve. Options and recommendations that were presented are some of the safety measures currently being used in other schools in Vermont and across the nation.

After much discussion and consideration, we will be implementing the recommendations presented over the February vacation.

- A buzzer system will be installed at the main entrance of JFK and the Main Lobby. This will ensure that staff are aware at all times who is entering the building. We want our schools to be welcoming, **AND** we also want to assure parents that their children are safe. The positive side to this safety feature is that parents will now be able to enter the JFK entrance rather than the lobby, if preferred. The buzzer system works like a doorbell with an intercom. The visitor will be greeted by the administrative assistant via the intercom. Visitors will then be directed to sign in at the JFK office or at the main lobby desk. If parents are picking children up for an appointment, the office will call the classroom to have the child sent down to the office for an early dismissal.
- The elementary school teachers will be walking the students outside to meet parents following dismissal. This will allow pedestrian traffic to flow better, while preventing bottlenecks in the hallway.

Decisions such as these are never easy, so we ask for your support in keeping our children and schools safe.

## Meet The Candidates for School Board

There are three candidates running for the two school board seats that are open this year. Robert Millar, currently serving on a two-year term, is running for re-election. Amy Booher is also running for that seat. Jay Lambert, serving on the board since March of 2005, is running unopposed for re-election to the three-year seat. Here is information submitted by the candidates to help you get to know them a little better. You are also invited to attend the meeting March 5th, 2012 in the Performing Arts Center, for a full review of the city and school budgets, in addition to meeting the candidates, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please do your part and become informed about these important issues, and vote on March 6, 2012 at the Senior Center on Barlow Street between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

### **AMY BOOHER**

**Running for:** 2-year seat

87 Elm St Apt 39; (802) 343-9790

email: aboohier27@comcast.net

**Work:** 1 Day a week at New World Enterprises; Stay at home mom; Veteran (4 years Active Army and 3 years Army National Guard)

**Education:** Colchester High School Graduate; Essex Technical Center Graduate, Printing and Computer Graphics; 31U Signal Support Systems Specialist School; CCV, majoring Criminal Justice/Social Work, not completed GPA 3.89

**Hobbies:** Fishing, Reading, Gardening, NASCAR

**Community Service:** Mentoring at Risk Youth, Tutoring Math, Social Studies, Adult Student, Tax Prep for low income

**Reason for Running:** The district is in transition and as we continue implementing the SIG and exploring the Nellie Mae Grant, I want to insure the process is transparent and in the best interest of the children and the community. I have two children in the district. I want to ensure they, as well as their fellow students, have every opportunity to receive the skills they need to be successful in and out of the classroom and beyond.

### **JAY LAMBERT**

**Running for:** 3-year seat

6 Franklin Street; 802- 655-2942

email: toricleiland@gmail.com

**Work:** Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning

**Education:** Graduated high school, Served 5 years in the U.S. Navy, Certified sheet metal Journeyman.

**Hobbies/activities:** Reading and serving children in any way I can.

**Community service:** Member Winooski

Boosters. Currently serving as a Justice of the Peace.

**Reasons for running:** I have a strong belief in public education and a love of children, (I have four). I am currently in the process of working to increase student achievement in the Winooski school district. I have a strong belief that all things are possible in this great land we live in, and I wish to see these values nurtured in our children.

### **ROBERT MILLAR**

**Running for:** 2-year seat

262 North St Apt D; 802-238-0089

email: rmillar@winooski.k12.vt.us

**Work:** Office Manager, Friends of Bernie Sanders

**Education:** Graduated UVM in 2009 with a BA in English and minors in Political Science and Vermont Studies

**Hobbies/activities:** Avid reader; amateur cook

**Community service:** Justice of the Peace; Chair, Board of Civil Authority

**Reasons for running:** Since I've been on the Board these last two years, we've accomplished much, from making our meetings greener by using laptops instead of photocopies, to major accomplishments like reaching a fair settlement with our teachers. With the Nellie Mae grant coming soon, I hope I've earned your trust and that you will allow me to help guide the district through the major changes to come. This small measure of continuity will benefit everyone. Thank you.

**\* DO YOUR PART \***

# VOTE!

**MARCH 6, 2012**

# WARNING

## WINOOSKI INCORPORATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 5 MARCH 2012 AND 6 MARCH 2012

The legal voters of the Winooski Incorporated School District in the City of Winooski, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Performing Arts Center, Winooski Educational Center on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7:30 o'clock in the afternoon to act on Article I, Article II, and Article III and to conduct an informational hearing on Australian Ballot questions, and the meeting to be adjourned to reconvene at the Winooski Senior Citizen Center, Barlow St., on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 to transact any business involving voting by Australian Ballot, said voting by Australian Ballot to begin at 7:00 o'clock in the forenoon and to close at 7:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The legal voters of the Winooski Incorporated School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17 and §473 and 553 of Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

ARTICLE I: Elect a Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk.

ARTICLE II: Shall the District accept the 2012 Annual Report and all included sub reports?

ARTICLE III: Shall the Board of School Trustees be authorized to allow appropriate groups and agencies to use school facilities and equipment in accordance with District policies?

### AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ARTICLES

ARTICLE IV: Shall the District accept and expend the sum of One million, Three hundred ninety-eight thousand, and sixty-three dollars (\$1,398,063) or whatever sum is provided by federal programs for the support of compensatory education and special programs? Said sum shall be exclusively federal funds received by the District. (No local or statewide school property taxes included in these funds.)

ARTICLE V: Shall the District vote to appropriate the sum of Twelve million, Four hundred seventeen thousand, six hundred sixteen dollars (\$12,417,616) for the support of public schools for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013? Said sum shall include the amount anticipated from state and federal education aid and reimbursements, except as provided in Article IV above, and all other sources of revenue.

ARTICLE VI: Shall the Charter of Winooski School District be amended as follows (new material underlined):

FIRST: § 23-3. Annual district meeting

The annual district meeting shall be held on the first Tuesday of March and the immediate preceding Monday as follows:

- (1) Monday:
- (2) Tuesday:
- (D) Elect a school district treasurer whose duties authority and responsibilities shall be those established by law.

SECOND: § 23-7. Australian Ballot

All questions at any annual or special meeting, except for the acceptance of the annual report and the election of school district officers other than the board of trustees and the school district treasurer, shall be voted by Australian ballot. The election of school district officers other than the board of trustees and the school district treasurer, the acceptance of the annual report, and public discussion of Australian ballot issues shall be on the day preceding the Australian ballot.

THIRD: 23-17 District Treasurer

The school district treasurer shall:

1. Deposit in the school account school tax levies paid over and received as well as state education spending payments, and all other state and federal public education payments.
2. Serve as a member of the board of abatement.
3. Keep an account and registry of monies, bonds, notes and evidences of debt paid or delivered to or issued by the school district, and monies received and disbursed for the school district, which accounts shall be open to the inspection of persons interested.
4. Invest and reinvest monies received on behalf of the school district with the approval of the board of school trustees.
5. Keep uniform accounts.
6. Appoint an assistant district treasurer and revoke any such appointment at any time, and to file notice of such appointment and revocation with the school district clerk and school board of trustees.
7. Keep a record showing the amount of taxes voted for the support of the school district.
8. Pay orders drawn by the board of school trustees, keeping a record thereof.
9. Settle with the person conducting the audit required under Section 23-16 thirty days prior to each annual school district meeting, and at such other times as the board of school trustees may require.
10. Upon retirement or resignation, immediately pay over to his or her successor all funds in his or her possession belonging to the school district, together with all official books and records.
11. Keep in a separate bank account all monies appropriated or given for the use of the school district.
12. Procure and maintain a personal bond in such sum as the board of school trustees shall determine, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the school district treasurer's duties.
13. Prepare an annual report and deliver the same to the board of school trustees within sixty days following the close of the school district's fiscal year.

Winooski School District  
Winooski, Vermont  
James Read, District Treasurer  
February 13, 2012

  
James Read, District Treasurer

## FY '13 Budget Information

### What is included in the FY '13 Warning?

ARTICLE I, II, III: These Articles are self-explanatory.

ARTICLE IV - FY '13 FEDERAL BUDGET: Each year, the Winooski School District receives Federal Funds for designated programs. This Article allows the School District to accept and expend these funds. **This article has no effect on the property tax rate.**

ARTICLE V - FY '13 REGULAR BUDGET: The School Board used a modified zero based budget process. The administrators, board and budget advisory committee members worked hard to maintain current programs while containing costs.

### What is different in this year's budget?

The FY '13 budget maintains all current programs. Contractual obligations and utilities continue to be a significant portion of the budget. We have added 2.0 FTE English Language Learner teachers to meet the needs of our New American students. 30% of the student population is comprised of non-English speakers. Our students from around the world provide all students with an opportunity to learn about other cultures while learning to respect differences. This results in a rich learning environment!

1.5 FTE math positions have been added to the high school. Students entering high school below grade level will participate in a math intervention program in addition to their regular math class. Research shows that students require 60 minutes of math daily in order to improve outcomes.

The Nellie Mae Grant required us to contribute \$80,000 toward the one-to-one initiative (laptop computers) at the high school. Technology will become an important instructional tool as we move toward personalized student learning plans. The use of technology for all students will increase learning time outside the school walls. Students will be provided with new opportunities to achieve, demonstrate and celebrate proficiency.

Our conservative approach to school finance has served the Winooski community very well over the past few years allowing for minimal tax increases. The new positions in this year's budget are necessary in transforming the high school and improving student outcomes.

ARTICLE VI - CHARTER CHANGE: Article VI on the ballot was requested by a community member. This article would amend the Winooski School Charter. The School Treasurer would no longer be a vote from the floor at the Annual meeting. The position would now be voted on through Australian ballot. The amendment to the charter outlines the role and responsibilities of the school treasurer.

## Honor Roll – Second Quarter: 2011-2012

### HIGH SCHOOL

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#### Seniors

##### First Honors

Alex Brown  
Katelyn Decarreau  
Bethany Trainque

##### Second Honors

Dahir Abdi  
Heba Abdulkhaleiq  
Shelby Lynn Alger  
Abdirizak Amir  
Nicholas Cusson-Ducharme  
Chrishopher Fountain  
Jason Gerred  
Travis Martin  
Myles Moran  
MonBahador Rai  
Alicia Russell  
Jennifer Sikorski  
Rebecca Spittle  
Bashir Yussuf

#### Juniors

##### First Honors

Hala Mohammed  
Brianna Robare

##### Second Honors

Amanda Billado  
Coralyn Boivin  
Kaitlyn Callahan  
Dino Dzinic  
Moriah Leary  
Hari Luitel  
Canary Ly  
Simon Pearce  
Isho Sadik

#### Sophomores

##### Second Honors

Cara Casier  
Luke Fountain  
Kevin Pham  
Serina Phuong  
Skyler Trayah

#### Freshmen

##### First Honors

Uyen Bui  
Randall Knox  
Amanda Nattress  
Nhung Nguyen

##### Second Honors

Kylee Burt  
Conner Drown  
Avah Eaton  
Christopher Francis  
Michaela Metivier  
Madhavi NePal  
Chanefer Nheb  
Victoria White

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

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#### High Honors

Noah Alger  
ThaZin Aye  
Rui Rainbow Chen  
Edmund Do  
Hannah Little  
Mariah Metivier  
Steven Shover

#### Honors

Lai Lar Bi  
Brandon Bigelow  
Heaven Clogston  
Hau Duong  
Andrew Durkin  
Jarod Fountain  
Nicole LaBonte  
Christina LaRose Terry  
Colton Lavalette  
Wakeme LittleJohn  
Marie Ly  
Eh Man  
Brianna Moore  
Lydia Nattress  
Maryam Omar  
Mariah Philbrook  
Kim Soukone  
Ledania Taylor  
Jacob Therrien  
Olivia Treadwell  
Rebecca White  
Rachel Wilondje  
Ball Wit

# Want To Get Involved In The Winooski-Burlington Partnership For Change?

For more information about any of these employment or volunteer opportunities, please visit the Partnership for Change website at [www.partnershipforchangevt.org](http://www.partnershipforchangevt.org) or send an email to [partnershipforchangevt@gmail.com](mailto:partnershipforchangevt@gmail.com).

**APPLY FOR A JOB:** The **Director of Transformation** and **Project Manager** are the primary staff of the Partnership for Change. The Director will act as the CEO of the initiative, and the Project Manager will coordinate its many moving parts. **Director of Transformation:** A full-time position charged with the overall leadership of the Partnership for Change initiative. Appropriate education and leadership experience required. Competitive salary and benefits. Timeline: applications due March 26th. Full posting and application submission via [schoolspring.com](http://schoolspring.com). **Project Manager:** A full-time position charged with logistical oversight and project communications (including via social media). Meticulous attention to detail and relevant experience required. Competitive salary and benefits. Timeline: applications due March 12th. Full posting and application submission via [schoolspring.com](http://schoolspring.com).

**APPLY FOR A FELLOWSHIP:** Fellows will support the professional learning and implementation of the initiative, working in five areas integral to school change: **Effective Teaming** - Full-time Fellowship involves identifying, training, launching, and supporting effective teaching teams in both districts. **Personalized Learning** - Full-time Fellowship includes proficiency-based learning, personal learning plans and management systems, 1:1 technology-rich learning, and extended time learning. **Youth Engagement** - Half-time Fellowship focuses on increasing student leadership, voice and engagement in school transformation and learning. **Family-School Partnerships** - Half-time Fellowship focuses on new strategies to involve all families effectively in student-centered, technology-rich learning. **Community-Based Learning** - Half-time Fellowship includes expansion of community-based learning opportunities and community partnerships. Educators and non-educators eligible to apply. Applications due March 6th.

**VOLUNTEER TO BE ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE:** The governance structure and authority for this initiative, as a result of its spanning multiple districts, schools and community entities, exists separately from the Winooski and Burlington school boards. It rests instead with the Steering Committee, an integrated group of educators, learners, parents, and community members who are mutually committed to the mission and vision of the project. The Steering Committee oversees and is accountable for the mission, goals and objectives of the initiative. Members are charged with providing expertise, stakeholder perspectives, leadership, innovation and vision to ensure the progress and coordination of work across this ambitious and complex effort. All members of the Steering Committee must be committed to working with diverse partners. To do the work required of the Committee, all members must also be familiar with and have access to the internet (if internet access is a barrier, please call 865-5332). Applications due March 15th. Time commitment: 4-6 meetings per year plus volunteer subcommittee and ad hoc work.

**JOIN AN IMPLEMENTATION TEAM:** Implementation Teams will engage in collaborative learning, experimentation, research, and partnership to support transformation. Educators, youth, families and community partners will work together on the Teams, along with a Fellow, to move the work of the initiative forward in ways determined by the Team itself (with the support of the Transformation Academy). Implementation Teams will be created in each of the five focus areas listed in the "Fellowships" box above. Three themes will be integrated into the work of each Implementation Team: student engagement, vulnerable populations, and technology integration. Careful attention to these themes throughout the work of the teams will ensure the most lasting, positive change in our schools. Time

commitment: To be determined. Will include regular meetings, visits to schools, programs and other communities, and learning opportunities. Positions will be filled in the spring/summer.

## **VOLUNTEER TO BE ON A SELECTION OR HIRING COMMITTEE**

Selection and Hiring Committees will be needed to fill volunteer and employee openings in the first year of the Partnership for Change initiative. Participants can expect to engage in brief training, application review, candidate interviews and selection during March - April of this year. Volunteers for the Selection and Hiring Committees will do vitally important work, naming the people who will carry the initiative forward through its early stages. Positions on the Selection and Hiring Committees will be filled in February or early- March.

## **Curriculum Coordinator's Report**

*By Stefanie Hamble*

This month, we have had professional developments in the area of the Common Core along with our continued work with Math coaches and Literacy specialists. A group of K-12 teachers attended the 2nd day of a 5 day series with Bob and Judi Laird around the Math Common Core. They had the opportunity to spend the morning immersed in the standards of practice (instructional strategies and expectations) and the content standards (what will be taught in Math). During this time, teams were split up and talked with teachers from other districts about what they are doing in Math and how they are preparing for the Common Core. During the afternoon, district teams came back together to debrief and do some planning around next steps and professional developments. The day was a huge success, with a lot of knowledge being brought back.

We are looking forward to obtaining even more knowledge in the area of the Common Core these coming months and applying it to our practices and curriculum.

# How to Ensure Academic Success

By the Jensen Group\*

Skills matter, but what influences will ensure academic success? Hope and Growth Mindset! Hope is to fuel the long term effort (they must feel that what they are doing is possible) and Growth Mindset is the belief that the process is possible. So, why encourage hope in your student/child? Because it is a positive belief about a future situation. When a student/child believes that success is possible, they will try harder and explore more. This positive expectancy improves brain chemicals which increase positive mood, which increases results. If a student/child doesn't think you believe in them, you'll lose ground. Some key factors that foster this hope are:

- Supportive relationships (with peers, teachers, and parents)
- Skill builders (some of those working memory games)
- Positive role models
- Affirmation
- Setting and getting goals
- Having a vision for themselves
- Perception that things are getting better
- Stories and pictures of those who made it
- Doing service work as a class project

The key things that develop the growth mindset are:

- Value effort more than talent (hard work usually pays off)
- The process of learning is as important as the results (the brain can change for the better, IQ is not fixed)
- Learning from mistakes is critical (reward the making and correcting of mistakes)
- Stop labeling kids as "smart" or "bright", instead acknowledge the student's effort, strategy or attitude (If a strategy isn't working, support the change!)

Remember, positive Hope and Growth Mindset will ensure academic success. Let's have persistent hope and promote that positive attitude and mindset in all of our students and children!

\*The Jensen group is comprised of teachers and staff: Deb LaForce, Stefanie Hamble, Casey Hogan, Jen LaPointe, Jacie Knapp, Dave Muir, Nancy Timbers-Devost, Mag Thomas, Regan Charron

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Knights of Columbus: Jacket Donation

The Knights of Columbus--2284 Council, generously donated winter jackets to J.F. Kennedy Elementary School. We are very fortunate to receive these coats and have found many happy students who appreciate the gift. Many thanks to the Knights of Columbus from all of us at J. F. Kennedy Elementary School.

### Winooski School District Annual Report

As a cost savings measure, the Board of School Trustees will not mail out the Annual Report to each household in Winooski. The Annual Report is available at the following locations:

- City Hall
- Winooski Memorial Library
- All School District Offices
- Winooski Family Center
- Senior Citizen Center
- Casey Family Center

The reports will be available on or after February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

### Bake Sale Supports Worth Cause

Thank you to Miss Unger's middle and high school health classes who worked hard to put on a bake sale to promote World Hunger Awareness and support the Vermont Food Bank. The project was a state-wide Family and Consumer Sciences project and all proceeds support Vermont Food Bank. The sale was a huge success with items from sweets to samosas to fried chicken flying off the table at record rates! Thanks to all the students and everyone who stopped by to sample and support!

### Comedy Basketball Comes to Winooski

By Mike Decarreau

On March 24, 2012 Winooski High School will host the Harlem Superstars for a fast paced and funny evening of basketball. We have assembled a group of teachers and residents to play against this talented team. This is a fundraising event for Project Graduation (which provides a safe and entertaining evening of alcohol and substance free fun for our graduating senior class).

We would like to invite you to come join us on March 24th for a great evening.

Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door. We will be selling tickets in the High School lobby on Saturday mornings from 9am to noon. You can also print out an order form on the school website main page (look for the Harlem Superstars emblem) and mail it in or drop it off at school with your payment.

Lastly, for those that do not want to attend the game BUT would like to support the senior class, we would like to offer you the unique opportunity of purchasing a set of tickets and we will donate them to a deserving child in our district.

Thank you in advance for your continued exceptional support for our school community.

**COMEDY BASKETBALL**  
Coming to Winooski!  
DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO WATCH  
the Harlem Superstars take on the  
Winooski Community All-Stars

Join us for a night of family fun in the Winooski Gym! The Harlem Superstars are a talented comedy basketball team with "glibtastic" skills, spectacular dunks and trick shots -- don't miss it! They will play the top of coaches, teachers and community members.

The game features lots of audience participation and the halftime show includes 20-30 kids from the audience to test their basketball skills.

**March 24 • 7pm**  
AT THE WINOOSKI EDUCATIONAL CENTER GYM  
**\$7 in advance, \$8 at the door**

ORDER FORM: Harlem Superstars vs Winooski Community All-Stars

Clip this form and mail with your check to:  
Winooski High School  
Attn: Project Grad  
60 Normand Street  
Winooski, VT 05448

Make checks payable to **WHS Project Grad**.  
Questions? Email [PROJECTGRAD@gmail.com](mailto:PROJECTGRAD@gmail.com).

TICKET PRICES: \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door.  
(All tickets are general admission)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE:  
- PLEASE MAIL MY TICKETS TO MY HOME (at the address above)  
- WILL CALL (you will hold the tickets at the door for you)  
- PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION TO PROJECT GRAD and give my \$8.00 to a deserving student.

Proceeds benefit Project Graduation. Project Graduation is a cholesterol, substance free, all night party that is designed to keep our students safe as they celebrate their high school graduation.



## 10th Annual Friends of WHS Golf Tournament

Come celebrate the return of the golfing season at the **Tenth Annual Friends of Winooski High School Golf Tournament** on Sunday, June 3rd. You'll be joining other Winooski and area golfers who have enjoyed this fun community event for the last nine years. The team entry fee is \$400 (individual is \$100) and the deadline for applications is May 4th. Registration fees include carts, time on the complimentary driving range before the event, contests, prizes, raffles, and a hearty barbecue lunch to follow. Sponsorship opportunities are 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/schools/hs/Friends> to download your registration and/or sponsorship forms. Proceeds from the golf tournament benefit WHS students in ways that enrich their high school experience. These range from college scholarships, sponsorship of the Student of the Quarter luncheons, funding of field trips, Project Graduation, and many other worthwhile activities. We appreciate the generous corporate sponsorship we receive from so many local and area businesses, as well as our loyal golfer participation year after year. This continued support is what makes our mission of helping our school wherever possible successful, and we thank you very much for your help.

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## JFK ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

### March Update

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

It is that time of year again and we have received our New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) results. The NECAP is an assessment that is given each fall to all students in grades 3-8. Students in these grades take an assessment in reading and math and students in grades 5 and 8 take one additional assessment in writing. At JFK Elementary School (grades 3-6), 48% of our students were proficient in reading, 42% of our students were proficient in mathematics and 44% of our students were proficient in writing. At the middle school (grades 7-8), 48% of our students were proficient in reading, 30% were proficient in mathematics and 24% were proficient in writing. At this time, the entire K-8 staff is looking in depth at these results. Data is being disaggregated in an effort to identify where our strengths and weaknesses lay. Once we have completed this process, we, as an entire staff, will be looking at what we are doing and what we need to do differently.

Once again, we are fortunate to team up with the YMCA and have our "Rise and Shine" program for the elementary students in the morning before school starts. This gives students an additional way to get their engines just right. Students that have signed up to participate in the program can enter the cafeteria at 7:30a.m., eat their breakfast and then join in the activities.

Town meeting day is March 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Kindergarten Literacy Program

*By Mag Thomas*

On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, you will find a group of Kindergarten students working with Ms. Bushey or Ms. Henderson. They are taking part in the Kindergarten Literacy Program (KLP) afterschool program. The students are learning to read several books during this seven-week program. They practice reading the book and do an art activity that is connected to the book that they read. At the end of the session, they will each have their very own copy of *Pete's Pizza* by William Steig to take home. The other books they are learning to read are *Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina; *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry*, and *the Big Hungry Bear* by Audrey Wood; and *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni. We are glad to see so many excited and happy readers!





## Middle School Update

By Katherine Jennifer Helm

### January Community Meeting

Team Kaleidoscope sponsored the January Community Meeting. A wonderful treat for the middle school students was the performance provided by Luke Fountain, a high school sophomore. Luke began learning the guitar just a couple of years ago and has done a wonderful job of acquiring the skill. The students and staff had a great time listening and chair dancing to Luke's playing.



### Chinese Visit Update

We haven't gotten the word regarding the dates for the planned summer visit by the Chinese students. In the meantime we would like to go ahead and plan the two-week cultural and language camp. In order to do this, we need to identify the 12-15 students who want to participate in this special language and culture summer camp. Students will need to

make a commitment for the full two-weeks as well as to time beforehand attending training to become cultural ambassadors. These students will also help design the schedule of the camp for themselves and their Chinese peers. We expect the camp to take place during the last two weeks in July but it may be the first two weeks. If you have a student between the ages of 12-16 who would like to participate in this cultural opportunity, please complete the form below and return it to Ms. Katherine Helm in the Winooski HS/MS Office.

#### Chinese Summer Camp Application Form for American Student Culture Ambassador

Name:

Address:

Parent's Names:

Home Phone Number:

Grade:

Homeroom:

## JFK Guidance News

By Sarah Murphy, JFK Elementary School

**February Update:** In January, the Kindergarten, First, and Second grade classes learned about self esteem and self confidence. Because of the great discussions, activities, and work completed in the classes that month, I decided to continue the conversation into February. This month, the students learned about themselves and how they fit into the world by reading and discussing many different stories.

In the upper grades, we finished a bullying unit and began learning about feelings. We focused mostly on stress, anxiety, and anger. Students learned what those feelings were, what causes those feelings, and how to appropriately manage those feelings.

**Up Next in March:** The Kindergarten, First, and Second grade classes will be learning about team work and cooperation. In the upper grades, students will be learning about alcohol and tobacco.

## WMS Boys Basketball Recap

By Head Coach Dennis Barcomb

The Middle School "A" boys basketball team has had a great season. The team ended with a record of 9 wins and 5 losses. The team showed great improvement throughout the season. The players worked well as a team, and always displayed positive sportsmanship. Team members are: Eddie Lamson, Brandon Bigelow, Andy Pham, Adbi Muya, Jordan Ritchie, Shpetim Krasniqi, Jabril Abdulahhi, Ali Ibrahim, Evan Rutherford, Austin Mitchell, Trevor Gaboriault, and Yasin Malawia. The team Manager was Kip Dubie.

## Who Says Science Can't Be Fun?

By Melissa Richard

The **Who Says Science Can't be Fun** afterschool program meets every Thursday with Mr. Forman. The students in this program are making connections between what they learn in the classroom and the projects they create during this program.

Students have constructed bottle rockets and mouse trap cars. They successfully launched their rockets outside and raced their mouse trap cars down the hallway of the middle school. It is obvious that these students think science is a lot fun!



## HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

### Silver Lining

By Justin Brown, Principal

I write this submission shortly after NECAP (New England Comprehensive Assessment Program) scores have been released, and it is hard to be upbeat. Despite spending the past year providing the best training that we could find, our student results are still not where we want them to be.

Shortly after the scores were released, I was reminded of what we can and have accomplished in Winooski. I attended a Vermont Public Television filming of a round table discussion with Senator Bernie Sanders and the winners of his State of the Union Essay Contest. The winning student essayist and runners up were invited to attend, along with students from other Vermont High Schools. WHS student, Yamuna Dahal was a runner up with a powerful essay on college affordability. Our own Jen Sikorski won the State of the Union Contest with the following essay:

“Ever since the Declaration of Independence was signed, the United States has constantly paved the way to peace and prosperity both for itself and the rest of the world. However, as the world economy rapidly disintegrates, new issues have emerged, from unemployment to the environment to gay rights, and in the midst of it all, America stands still, seemingly oblivious to the fact that its future is crumbling in front of it. It is time to pave the way to prosperity once again through these issues in order to ensure that someday we can thrive again.

Perhaps the biggest problem we face as a nation is unemployment. As of 2011, 8.5 percent of people in the U.S. - over 26 million Americans - are jobless. While it may seem as if putting such a large amount of people to work cannot happen, there is a chance that it can be done. As unemployment has been rising, the condition of our environment has been deteriorating due to deforestation and the emissions of greenhouse gases and carbon dioxide given off by the use of fossil fuels. Renewable energy such as solar and wind power, on the other hand, has remained a topic of interest, yet it is



*Essayists (including two Winooski students, runner up Yamuna Dahal (farthest left) and contest winner Jen Sikorski (center –in front of Bernie) at a Vermont Public Television filming of a round table discussion with Senator Bernie Sanders and the winners of his State of the Union Essay Contest.*

still somehow largely unavailable to the public. However, the environment can be preserved, if not improved, by phasing out fossil fuels in favor of solar and wind energy, while millions of Americans can return to work to plant trees to restore our forests and to build, distribute, and repair solar panels, wind turbines, and other renewable energy products. We are actually lucky in a way to have to face both of these issues at once, as they can both be improved simultaneously.

America has also had a long-standing tradition of leading the way in human rights, with such important movements such as women's suffrage and civil rights abolishing discrimination based on gender and race. There is no reason why this tradition should not continue with gay rights as well. Currently, only seven states in the entire country allow same-sex marriage, and I am proud to live in one of the few states that has begun to lead the way. I have many friends and relatives that consider themselves gay or bisexual and are actively involved in the LGBT community, and I have witnessed their struggles as they have realized that many are intolerant of their lifestyles. The entire country should follow Vermont's

example and legalize same-sex marriage to continue to encourage not only the rights of certain groups of people, but the rights of everyone.

In conclusion, the challenges that we face with unemployment, the environment, and gay rights are just some of the challenges that, when dealt with appropriately, will make our country stronger and greater than before. Though our current situation looks bleak, we can always work towards goals such as these that will help make America and the world a better place.”

All of the essays can be viewed at <http://www.sanders.senate.gov/newsroom/news/?id=3892a7a6-3e7f-4f40-a922-2f75f104936e>

My sincerest congratulations to all of our student essayists. (Winooski had the second highest number of essay writers who entered the contest) and to the faculty and staff who are supporting the development of critical thinking and writing skills of our students.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions, comments or concerns. You can reach me by phone at 655-3530 or by email at [jbrown@wdschools.org](mailto:jbrown@wdschools.org).

# What's Happening in WHS Afterschool!

By Kaitlin Moran

It's hard to believe it's March and session four of afterschool! Session four afterschool programs will begin on March 12 and run through April 20. We have many returning programs for Session four. We will continue to offer **Math Core Support** two times per week- Tuesdays with Ms. Clark and Thursdays with Ms. Mellen. We will also continue to offer **Instrumental Music, Science, Technology, and French/Read 180 Core Support** Programs on Tuesdays. On Thursdays, we continue to offer **Choral Music / Piano Core Support, Spanish / Social Studies Core Support, and Debate Club**.

Debate Club is now open to students in grades 6-12! For the second time this year, we will be offering Jiu Jitsu to middle school and high school students.



This will be a special five-week program running on March 13th, March 20th, March 27th, April 3rd, and April 10th. We are very excited to be able to run these two programs!

It has been really fantastic to see so many students staying after school during the winter months. With so many winter sports, extracurricular activities, and "places to go" it's inspiring to see our young people stay committed to their academic enrichment. Pictured here is the Debate Club: Faith, Kristen, AJ, Zach, and Mr. Kernoff!



## Students of the Quarter Honored

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

The staff and students would like to thank the Friends of Winooski High School for their generosity in maintaining this special event.

The following students were honored on Wednesday, February 15th, 2012:

<b>Leadership</b>	Shelby Alger, Devon Rollins, and Keana Ferguson
<b>Character and School Citizenship</b>	Kaya Carlisle-Wimble
<b>Arts and Humanities Scholarship</b>	Faridar Ko, Uyen Bui, Jake Corrigan, and Hunter Robare
<b>Social Sciences Scholarship</b>	Jennifer Sikorski and Isaak Isaak
<b>Math, Science, and Technology Scholarship</b>	Arafat Omar and Andrew Decarreau
<b>Special Recognition</b>	Jordan Ashe
<b>Most Improved</b>	Aeman Aref, and Sunita Gurang

## Band Notes

By Randy Argraves

The Jazz Dinner was a great success! The musicians were wonderful and the audience was very appreciative. On behalf of the High School Band and

Strings students, I would like to thank Cindy Robare for helping make our Jazz Dinner so special. Our next concert is on **Thursday, March 22** at 7 PM in the PAC. Hope to see you there.



## Win Prizes — Support Business Students and their NYC Trip

By Courtney Poquette

It is that time of year again. As the spring air approaches, students in the Winooski High School Business program are gearing up for an annual tradition of heading to New York City. This trip will give students the opportunity to learn first hand about the financial district they have studied, the sports management unit they covered, as well as take in amazing historic sights in the Big Apple. This year students will even attend their first Broadway show, Memphis.

To help fund the trip, students are raffling off 25 prizes that they collected from the local Community. All of the money from the ticket sales will go towards this two day trip. Any additional money raised will provide scholarships for the graduating class, so this is a great cause to support.

We will be selling tickets until Friday, March 9th. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. You can purchase tickets through any student going on the trip or contacting Courtney Poquette at 802-383-6192 or [cpoquette@winooski.k12.vt.us](mailto:cpoquette@winooski.k12.vt.us)

Please see our list of fantastic prizes you can enter to win.

## Personal Finance Knowledge Matters

By Courtney Poquette

Personal Finance is much more than just being able to balance a checkbook, but also focuses on being able to build a credit score, set savings goals, plan for retirement, invest in the financial markets, among many other important skills. This is a critical skill for success. As our nation is in a financial crisis, more and more states and schools are looking to make this a graduation requirement for students.

Currently Personal Finance is offered as an elective at Winooski High School. This course was first offered five years ago, and every year has improved and transformed. Now this class has been recognized as one of the leading Financial Literacy courses in the state of Vermont. The students in the Personal Finance class and I will be collaborating to teach two sessions at this year's seventh annual Jump Start Conference, which educates parents, teachers and community members about the topic of Personal Finance.

One of our sessions will focus on the topics we cover in the class, as students will demonstrate not only what they have learned, but how they use a computer simulation to experience a wide range of financial decisions. The second session will be based on the research of one student, Austin Mayo, who discovered an online investment activity, which he introduced to our class.

This conference is open to the public and we would love to see Winooski residents there. You can register to attend the event, which will take place at the Sheraton on March 15th by visiting the following website <http://www.jumpstart.org/states-vermont.html>

There is a fee to attend, but the wealth of knowledge you will gain from the day, along with a delicious lunch makes this a worthwhile investment. We hope to see you there!

## Winooski Business Department's

### New York City Raffle

1. Friendly's T-shirt, Foam Fingers, and Frisbees
2. \$15 Gift Certificate to the Grand Buffet
3. 16" Two Topping Pizza at West Side Deli
4. \$25 Gift Certificate to Koto Japanese Restaurant
5. \$25 Gift Basket From Cabot
6. \$25 Gift Basket From Cabot
7. \$25 Gift Certificate to Applebee's
8. \$25 Gift Certificate to Trader Dukes
9. \$25 Gift Certificate to Sneaker's Bistro
10. \$25 Gift Certificate to the University Mall
11. \$25 Gift Certificate to Magnolia Breakfast and Lunch Bistro
12. \$25 Costco Cash Card
13. Three Tins of Hot Chocolate from Lake Champlain Chocolates
14. Two free 12" pizzas from Leonardo's
15. Four Tickets to the Lake Monsters Opening Game
16. Four Movie Tickets to Palace 9 Theaters
17. Two Large Pizzas at Zachary's
18. Two Dozen Cupcakes from my little cupcake
19. \$40 Dollar Gift certificate to Three Tomatoes
20. \$50 Gift Certificate to Al's French Frys
21. \$50 Gift Certificate to A Single Pebble
22. Bag, Table Cloth, and Napkins from April Cornell
23. Four Passes for a Scenic Tour aboard the Spirit of Ethan Allen
24. Dinner for Two at the New England Culinary Institute
25. A One Night Stay at the Hampton Inn Colchester, Vermont

**Drawing on March 9, 2012 • Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00**

Please contact Courtney Poquette at (802) 383-6192, if you're interested in purchasing tickets.

**Winners will be notified by phone.**

Many thanks to all of our sponsors listed above, in addition to Casey Family Services, Merchants Bank, Northfield Savings Bank, and People's United Bank

## Romeo and Juliet Field Trip Report

By Matthew Webb

It's a tradition: every year, ninth graders in Winooski get a taste of Shakespeare through Romeo and Juliet. But it's not every year that students get to see a professional production of the play just weeks after studying the play. That's just what happened this January, when 71 students from Winooski High School attended a traveling production of the play at the Flynn Theater in Burlington.

Among 1400 adolescents from around the region, Winooski students stood out for their excellent theater etiquette, and many even dressed up for the theater excursion. They continue to make us proud!

The ninth-grade English classes, which had just read the play, returned to discuss how the performance varied from the script they had read and the films clips they had seen. They were very astute in noting what parts were cut from the play in order to fit it into a 90-minute show, as well as what the theater company added in order to make it more appealing to high school audiences. Though most students wished more had been cut from the beginning to allow greater attention to the gripping conclusion, they were especially pleased with the performances of Juliet and Mercutio. Hopefully, next year will bring another Shakespeare performance to the Flynn for our enjoyment.

On a special note, thanks to parents Melanie Nattress and Penny Robare for taking time out of the day to accompany us on this educational trip.

# High School ELL Students Featured in WIDA Video

By Bill Clark, ELL Teacher

“Would you be interested in participating in a videotape recording of your ELL class?” read the invitation from Connie North, a producer at the WIDA Consortium.

As a teacher of English Language Learners (ELLs), I had worked with WIDA standards and tested many students as part of the annual WIDA assessments. Now, a WIDA producer wanted to see my class in action, demonstrating the principles of academic language, as part of a project to create professional development resources for teachers and other WIDA audience members around the country.

After checking with Principal Justin Brown and Robin Hood, our ELL coordinator, I asked my Period 5 and Period 7 classes if they would be willing to participate in the project. Their response was overwhelmingly positive and we scheduled the videotaping for Friday, January 20th.

As I mentioned in my memo to Principal Brown: “This opportunity would showcase our ELL work and that of our students on a national level. WIDA would provide the production expertise and we would give WIDA access to two classes.”

“Asking teachers and students to open themselves up to a video camera requires a lot of courage and vulnerability,” said Jim McCobb the ELL Program Coordinator for the Vermont Department of Education in a memo announcing the project.



Students could opt out of the class, although all our students participated in some way.

Both classes had engaged in literature circle discussions around *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*, a Newbery Award-winning book by Robert C. O’Brien. The book tells the story of Mrs. Frisby, a mouse, who seeks help for her son suffering from pneumonia and must find a place to live before the farmer plows up their home. Her quest leads to a group of rats that had escaped from the NIMH laboratory, where they had received injections to make them smarter and stronger. They become her allies and help her save her home by moving it to a safe place.

My students had developed the themes of friendship and courage for several weeks in their writing and classroom discussions. They also gained comprehension by making connections between their own lives and the lives of the characters. Along the way, students developed a strong understanding of

the characters, setting, and plot elements.

Almost everyone dressed up for the taping session. There were a few ties, some impressive native garments from Thailand, Nepal, and Somalia, and an underlying sense of excitement.

Both classes performed outstandingly well under the pressure of the cameras. In fact, everything happened as it would in a normal literature discussion.

The Discussion Directors led the conversation and everyone had something to say as part of their roles of Illuminator, Summarizer, Illustrator, and Connector.

The producer used Period 6 for a separate interview with three Nepali students and myself to provide more background about their backgrounds and feelings for the instruction. I spoke about my educational philosophy and how I teach academic language to ELL students.

Our students acquitted themselves quite well as they performed for a national audience. I felt a deep sense of pride in the accomplishment of these twenty-four students. They spoke knowledgeably and well about literature. Their ability to discuss a book demonstrated to other teachers and students just how successful ELL students can be in a Language Arts class.

The producers are editing the January recordings and expect to have a finished version available for distribution in late spring or early summer.

## Catch A Wave

By Jessica Bruce

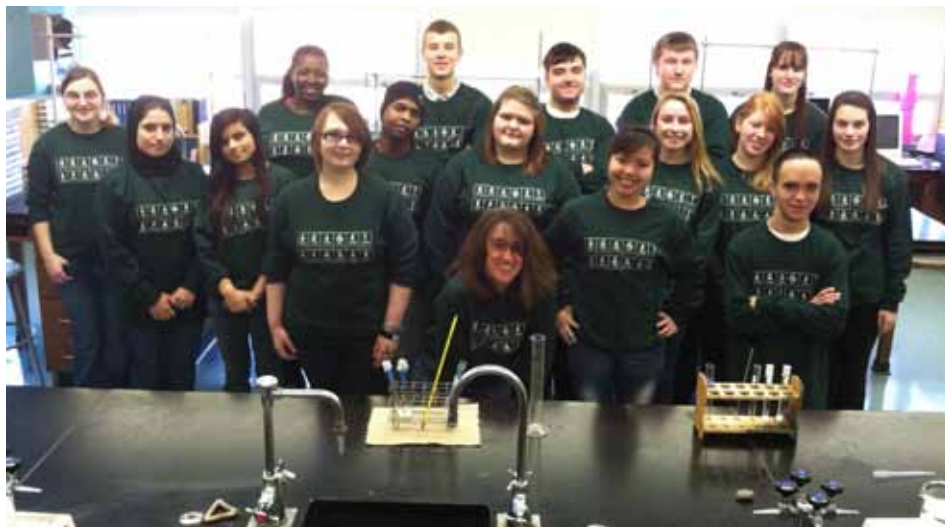
Students in Winooski High School’s Painting class with Mrs. Bruce completed a unit studying the Japanese woodblock prints of Hokusai. They painted their own version as a collaborative group project where each student was given a square section that was later put together as a whole. Great Job, Spartans. Beautiful Work!



## You Too Can Be Winooski Chemistry Cool!

By Shannon Bundy

While observing the periodic table, chemistry students Kaitlyn Callahan and Moriah Leary realized that the words “Winooski Spartans” could be spelled out using elemental symbols (see if you can identify the elements in our logo!). They brought me a sketch of what it looked like, and I immediately saw an opportunity to make what is already a cool class, full of cool kids, even cooler! With a little research, a lot of enthusiasm, and the support of WHS Friends of Winooski, we were able to purchase T-shirts for each of the chemistry students. We all wore them to school, and they were a HUGE hit! Everybody wanted one, too! This got me thinking that this would be an excellent way to fundraise for the junior class! So, if you would like your own T-shirt, so that you can be as cool as the WHS chemistry students, send an email to [sbundy@wsdschools.org](mailto:sbundy@wsdschools.org) indicating what size and how many you want. You will need



to prepay for your shirt(s). You can choose from a long-sleeve T's for just \$17.00, or a short-sleeve T's for \$13.00. Both are dark green with white lettering. The purchase deadline is March 15, 2012, and payment must be made by that date. So, be as cool as the chemistry students, and order your shirt(s) today!

## The Ultimate Consumer Challenge

By Courtney Poquette

On February 9th students from Winooski High School traveled to Montpelier, to compete in the third annual Life Smarts Competition. This jeopardy style challenge focuses on five topics: Personal Finance, Health and Safety, the Environment, Technology and Consumer Rights and Responsibilities. Schools have to complete an online test to



make it to the state competition and Winooski made it through for the third year. In the first round, Winooski



defeated Lake Region to advance to the Semi Finals. Unfortunately we lost to Green Mountain Technology and Career Center in that match up. They in turn lost to CVU, who will have the opportunity to represent Vermont at the National Competition in Philadelphia, PA. Our team was very well represented by Shelby Alger, Domini Perrault, Devon Rollins, Rebecca Spittle and Bethany Trainque. They not only demonstrated that they were tough competitors, but they supported and encouraged the other teams that were competing.

Overall it was a great day. The capital was busy with activity. Students were able to visit with our local representatives at lunch and also watch the Governor sign the I am Vermont Strong bill. Students also mingled with local television personalities who were in the capital or guest announcers in the competition.

At the end of the competition, one competitor's name was drawn to win a Kindle and the lucky winner was Winooski's own Rebecca Spittle! Congratulations once again to our team!



# Our Voices Xposed: OVX Groups Lead Charge Against Smoking and Secondhand Smoke

By Lauren Unger, Winooski FACS Teacher

We all know smoking is bad for us. So why do some of us try anyway? Because sometimes it's hard to listen to your gut feelings, especially when people are smoking all around us.



Student OVX members Amanda Nattress, Domini Perrault, and Samantha Bushey, recently went to the Vermont State House to talk to lawmakers about the dangers of smoking and of secondhand smoke exposure in parks, beaches, multi-unit housing and cars.

OVXers are letting their voice be heard! What can you do to support OVX, and keep our air clean and healthy to breathe?

First, check out [www.ovx.org](http://www.ovx.org). You'll find out how to get involved and take charge. When you're on the site, make sure that you "Listen to Your Gut." Watch two TV ads – "Meet Your Insides" and "Quit While You're Ahead" – that feature the characters Lungs, Stomach and Brains. Remember that even if you've tried smoking, that doesn't make you a smoker – quit while you're ahead!

Also, make your own animated story on the OVX site. Choose a character (Lungs, Stomach or Brains), select from the cool sound effects, and share your story with your friends. When you're on Facebook, make sure you check out OVX.



To find out more about what you can do (and get free stuff), visit [www.ovx.org](http://www.ovx.org). And join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/OVXVermont](http://www.facebook.com/OVXVermont).

## WHS Guidance Office News

By Emmy Charron, High School Guidance Counselor

**Tech Centers:** March is an integral month for any students interested in attending either Burlington Tech Center (BTC) or Center for Technology, Essex (CTE) for the 2012-2013 school year. Applications are available in Ms. Charron's office and are due back to her by the date given below. *Applications for CTE are due **Friday, March 9th*** CTE offers the following, full day programs for Juniors and Seniors:

- Dental Assisting
- Childhood Education/Human Services
- Professional Food Services
- Cosmetology
- Ophthalmic Medical Assisting
- Computer Animation/Web Page Design
- Graphic Design & Digital Publishing
- Health Informatics
- Automotive Technology
- Natural Resources and Agriscience Technology
- Building Technology
- Engineering and Architectural Design

CTE offers the following, full day programs for Sophomores: Pre-Tech

BTC offers 2 year, half day programs for Juniors. Seniors may also apply.

*Applications for BTC are due Friday, March 16th*

- Auto Body Repair
- Automotive Science & Technology
- Aviation Technology
- Computer Systems
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary/Professional Foods
- Design & Illustration
- Electronic Recording Arts
- Human Services/Early Childhood Education
- Medical & Sports Sciences
- Principles of Engineering, Architecture & Construction
- Welding/Metal Fabrication

**VSAC News:** Seniors: VSAC Scholarship applications are due by **Friday, March 9th**.

These applications are a great opportunity to earn some much needed money for college. These applications are labor intensive so DO NOT wait to the last minute to apply!!! Heidi or Emmy can help if you have any questions! If your family would like individual help filling out the FAFSA and VSAC Grant Application please contact Heidi McLaughlin at [McLaughlin@vsac.org](mailto:McLaughlin@vsac.org) or have your student make an appointment (her 'office' is in the library).

**College Pathways:** Is a free college planning event for high school sophomores, juniors, and parents held at St. Michael's College on **Saturday, March 17th**. Please register at [VSAC.org](http://VSAC.org) for this great crash course in college planning and preparation.

**ACT's:** Juniors interested in taking the ACT's should register for the April 14th ACT's need to see Heidi or Emmy to register by **Friday, March 9th**.

**Scheduling:** The high school is in the midst of creating a re-vamped master schedule for next year. We hope to have all the kinks ironed out by March and will be contacting you all regarding your students schedule for next year. Please stay tuned.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Update from your City Council

By Sarah Robinson

Greetings Neighbors! On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the Council approved a municipal budget for fiscal year (FY) 2013 to be presented to the voters of Winooski on Town Meeting Day. This approval came after several months of hard work by the Council and City staff, and represents both difficult decisions and thoughtful consideration of the needs of the City.

We began our budget conversations with several revenue and expense assumptions, including:

- Reduction in revenue from grants and reimbursements that had previously funded some Police Department positions.
- Increase in both revenues and expenses in the rental registry program to improve rental-housing stock.
- Small increase in revenue from taxes and other miscellaneous sources (such as parking tickets).
- Contractual salary obligations for represented employees.
- Two years of deferred salary increases for non-represented staff.

At the Council's request, the City Manager presented us with a budget that assumed no tax increase. This budget represented only the expenses necessary for the City to meet its legal obligations, keep the roads clear and public safety functions intact. **Because of the revenue losses listed above, and obligated increases in salaries, a 1.33% (\$77,000) increase in expenses**



was needed to allow us to continue to fund the services that the City currently provides. These include opening the pool, providing for preventative youth services in the PD, and assisting the Winooski Community Partnership (who sponsor the Farmer's Market and other downtown activities).

In addition to managing cuts and expenses, the Council worked hard to take every opportunity to rethink the way in which resources are currently spent, and to ensure that our expenditures reflect our strategic priorities. **As part of these conversations, we decided to make strategic changes and investments in several areas of the City budget. These investments include:**

- Elimination of the Community Development Department, and re-organization of the City Clerk's office.
- Addition of part-time business manager to upgrade the human resources and financial systems in the City. This position represents an immediate need in the City to ensure that our financial and human resources practices are consistent with best practices, and limits our legal liabilities.
- Addition of 1.5 employees to the Community Center and increase the Senior Center Director by 5 hours per week. This addition is designed to help the city understand citizen needs, address key issues in various communities, and help support the school's improvement effort.
- Continued contractual agreement

with the YMCA to provide recreation programs and manage the rental space in the O'Brien Community Center.

- Add "on call" stipend for firefighters of \$25 per weekend. This investment was made to recognize the role and commitment of our volunteer fire protection service, and the fact that volunteers who are "on-call" over the weekend are not allowed to leave the City.

**These account for 3.1% increase (\$180,000) in the expenses.**

**The proposed budget results in a \$257,000 (4.4%) increase in expenses and has to make up for lost revenue. Total increase in the amount to be raised by taxes is 5.97%. This means a 5.5¢ increase in taxes or about \$125 for a home appraised at \$250,000.**

The budget passed by the City Council represent difficult decisions, but we think that it is responsible and will create a framework for improved services for Winooski residents.

We look forward to speaking with you in more depth about the City's budget. There are several upcoming opportunities to ask questions about the budget. There will be a live call-in program on the Winooski budget on CCTV Channel 17 at 5:35 on February 15<sup>th</sup>. There will also be school and city budget presentations on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the JFK auditorium. The Council and Manager are also printing an informational flyer with more detailed financial information about the budget, cuts and expenses which will be distributed at various locations in the city and available on the City website. As always, please feel free to contact any of your City Councilors with questions or feedback.

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

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

**\* DO YOUR PART \***  
**VOTE!**  
**MARCH 6, 2012**



## Environmental Board Seeks Your Input

The Winooski Environmental Board wants to hear what environmental concerns YOU have for Winooski. Please visit the following link to take a quick (5 minute) survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2GPFVVLB>

If you provide your email address you will be entered to win a Burton Snowboard!

For more information on our efforts, please follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/WinooskiEnvBoard>

## Fish Fry!

By Nicole Grohoski

The Winooski Firefighters Association will be hosting a Fish Fry on Friday, March 16th from 5-8 PM. The dinner will be at the Fire Station and is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and children under 12. Please join us or call for take-out orders, 655.6420.

## Community Potluck

The March Community Dinner / Potluck will be held on Wednesday, March 21 at the O'Brien Community Center starting at 5:30. Dinners are FREE. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

The WSCPC is currently looking for a group or agency to sponsor and or host the March dinner. The cost can vary, and we can help you with the details. This is a great way to get the word out about what you do and provide a nice neighborly experience for Winooski residents.

Contact Kate at 802-655-4565 for more information.

## Men's Sunday Basketball League Continues Through April!

From January 8 thru April 29<sup>th</sup> this year, from 2:00 to 5:00, the City of Winooski sponsors the Men's Sunday Basketball League at the Winooski School. There is a \$3.00 fee per day. Players do not need to pre-register. For more information, call Mr. J. Ladd at 655 6410.

## Meet The Candidates for City Offices

There are two candidates running for public office. Current City Councilors John Little and Sarah Robinson are running unopposed for re-election.

### JOHN LITTLE

**Running for:** 2-year seat  
81 River Street; 802-655-0106  
email: [jlittle@winooski.vt.org](mailto:jlittle@winooski.vt.org)  
**Work:** Transportation Engineer  
**Education:** Vermont Technical College, Associates in Applied Science in Architecture, 1980  
Rutland High School, 1978  
**Hobbies:** Reading, Fishing  
**Community Service:** City Council; Winooski Board of Civil Authority  
**Reason for Running:** I have been honored to represent this great, diverse community on the City Council for the past two years. This has been a humbling experience and one that involved a steep learning curve. With the background I've learned, I am better prepared to serve our citizens and look forward to continuing to help move our City forward. Winooski is becoming more and more an exciting community in which to live. We have rich history and many life-long residents, along with many new residents from all different backgrounds and cultures. I will continue to strive for what is best for the City overall with transparency and accountability.

\* DO YOUR PART \*

# VOTE!

MARCH 6, 2012

### SARAH KUNZ ROBINSON

**Running for:** 2-year seat  
80 Union Street; 802-734-6422  
email: [srobinson@winooski.vt.org](mailto:srobinson@winooski.vt.org)  
**Work:** Non-Profit Policy Analyst; Graduate Student; Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Social Work, UVM  
**Education:** University of Vermont, Masters in Social Work (M.S.W.), anticipated May 2012  
Skidmore College, B.A. in Government and Women's Studies, 2006  
Brattleboro Union High School, 2002  
**Hobbies:** Cooking, Reading  
**Community Service:** City Council; Justice of the Peace; Winooski Board of Civil Authority; Board of Directors, National Association of Social Work - Vermont Chapter  
**Reason for Running:** For the past two years, I have been privileged to represent our dynamic community on the City Council. My priorities for the next two years include:

- Enhancing Winooski's identity as a vibrant and livable urban community while honoring our history.
- Focus on quality of life related issues for the residents of Winooski, including the improvement of housing stock, effective program offerings and community building.
- Transparency, accountability, and responsiveness of City government.

## March at the Winooski Senior Center

By Lori L. Pinard, MS, Director

There's still plenty of time to have your taxes done. The AARP tax preparers are at the Center M-W-F mornings, and offer free tax preparation for adults 55 and older. Call 655-6425 to schedule an appointment.

Tuesday, March 6 is voting day. With the exception of Meals on Wheels, all programs will be suspended that day.

Our next monthly meeting is March 13 at 11:30.

Want to get outta-town? Join us March 12 for a trip to the Montreal Casino. Then on March 15, we'll go to the Boston Flower Show. For more information, call 655-6425, or email [seniorcenter@winooski.vt.org](mailto:seniorcenter@winooski.vt.org).

Lunch 'N Stuff returns March 20<sup>th</sup>, with lunch at 12:00, followed by Dr. Marion Fraser of Onion River Chiropractic presenting on Low Back Health. Call to reserve your spot.

## March Update

By Kate Nugent, Director, WCSPC

The WCSPC is changing its meeting date again! Apologies for the inconvenience. We have been working out the kinks in our ongoing efforts to increase community participation.



**Meetings will now be on the FIRST Wednesday of the month, from 6-7 PM.** We will make an effort to change other online calendars where the meetings are listed as soon as possible, but please know that this District News and our website, [www.WCSPC.org](http://www.WCSPC.org), are the most up-to-date and accurate information. We are also working on making the meetings as productive and useful as possible, and always looking for suggestions. One the ways we are doing this already is by hosting presentations on important and timely topics. The next meeting, March 7, will feature someone from the Vermont Department of Health and Fletcher Allen talking about the “Blueprint for Health” initiative.

AND, remember that great fundraiser the Winooski School District helped us run so successfully last year? Well, this year, thanks to the kindness and generosity of part Winooski-resident-owned restaurant Leunig’s, no one has to volunteer to cook! All you have to do to participate in this year’s annual WCSPC fundraising event is to eat at Leunig’s on Sunday, March 11. Leunig’s food is all amazing, they just opened an upstairs, and 10% of the day’s earnings will be donated to the WCSPC. Go for brunch, lunch, or dinner! Try their poutine--it’s incredible--and help raise funds for your local coalition. If you like to eat there a lot, you can also buy a “partner card” for \$50 any time in March, and half of that card’s cost will be donated to the WCSPC. This card gets you a great discount any time you eat at Leunig’s for a year! The organization will also accept your donation by check in lieu of going out to eat. Please help us raise money and thank Bob and Betsy Conlon of Winooski if you see them!

### WCSPC contact information:

802-655-4565 | [kate.winooskicoalition@gmail.com](mailto:kate.winooskicoalition@gmail.com) | [www.WCSPC.org](http://www.WCSPC.org)

## Girls Only! Report

By Donna Kohut, Community Development Department

Girls Only! is thriving this year, and our numbers grow each week! We have many amazing female tutors and mentors to support Winooski girls in their academic and personal endeavors. We meet every Wednesday from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in Room 211.

We will be offering a Special Event on Wednesday, March 21! We will be hosting a movie, crafts, and snacks at Saint Michael’s College from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. A van will pick up participants at the school at 11:30 to take them to Saint Michael’s. That same van will drop them off at home between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m. **Girls must provide a signed permission slip to participate!** We can provide them on request.

As always, Girls Only! is committed to providing both academic and social support for local high school girls. In order to offer appropriate and interesting programming, we would like to hear from you. For questions, concerns, or permission slips, please contact Donna Kohut at [vista@winooski.vt.org](mailto:vista@winooski.vt.org) or (802)655-6410.

If you are interested in donating money to Girls Only!, you can send checks to Donna in City Hall: 27 West Allen Street, Winooski, VT 05404. As little as \$10 can make a huge difference in the services we provide!

## Winooski YMCA Programs for March

By Kevin Hatin, Branch Director, Winooski YMCA

Here are program offerings for March. As always, membership is free to all middle and high school students in Winooski. Parents must sign off on the application, and forms are available on our website at [www.gbmyca.org](http://www.gbmyca.org).



- **Princess Tea Party:** (For ages 3-8 with parent) Calling all Princesses, you are cordially invited to the Y for a Royal Tea Party. Wear your favorite dress up clothes and prepare for a morning of crafts, fun activities with refreshments. Sunday, March 18th 10am --- noon...\$10 per princess, parent is free.
- **Free Family Gym for Winooski Residents:** ( For ages up to 7 with parent) Come play on our active “Indoor Playground” geared for safe and creative play for all children up to age 7. Cost is FREE!
- **Adult Co-ed Drop-In Dodgeball!** Be a kid again and relieve stress while having fun playing this comeback sport for everyone. We’ll make new teams each week to ensure even and competitive play. A great way to have fun with friends, co-workers and meet others. Fridays 6-7pm, fee \$3.00 per person.
- **Senior Strength and Conditioning Program:** Get fit, strong and energized in this program that can accommodate all levels of ability. Our certified trainer will help you increase your flexibility, posture, balance and overall daily functions by using a variety of equipment and gentle dance exercises. Tuesday and Friday mornings 9-10am... cost \$5 per class or free for Y members. ( Senior Membership is \$20 per month )
- **Zumba Fitness:** ( For ages 12 & up) A afterschool program for teens who want to have fun and get fit with this fast paced class. No experience necessary, anyone can dance. Join the party on Mondays from 4-5pm, Free!

Congrats to the boys 7 & 8th grade team for going undefeated in the Chittenden County Youth Basketball League. Coaches Geri Guillory and Colin McIntosh say players: Edward, Jabril, Abdi, Isiah, Yassim, Ali-Omar, Musa and Shpetim played outstanding and showed good sportsmanship.

Need a place for a birthday party, family dinner, staff meeting or training? The O’Brien Community Center has fantastic meeting space for up to 70 with complete commercial kitchen access. Plenty of parking, no stairs and reasonable prices. Contact Monica at: [momelia@gbymca.org](mailto:momelia@gbymca.org) or 655.YMCA (9622) We are located at 32 Malletts Bay Avenue in Winooski, Vermont.

## HEALTH CORNER

### Health Office News

By Liz Parris, RN BSN, Coordinator

Recently our head lice procedures have been revised to include no active head lice in JFK Elementary School and the Middle School.

If a student is found to have active head lice, then the parent would be notified and the student would be picked up from school.

We have sent out letters with a full explanation and helpful hints on how to remove the lice to the parents of all the students in JFK and the Middle School. If you did not receive a letter, please contact our office at 383-6094 and we would be happy to send you one.

We appreciate the support.

### Little League and Babe Ruth Signups

By Jeffrey Brosseau

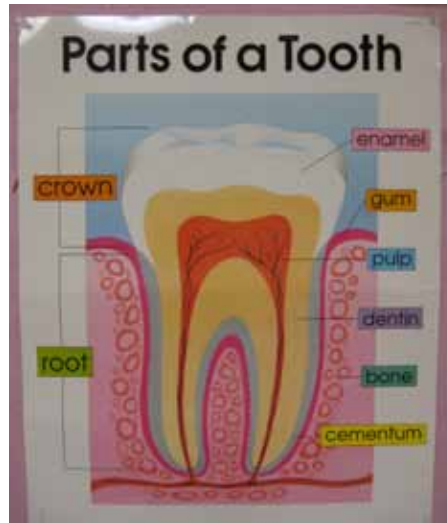
Winooski Little League Baseball/ Softball & Babe Ruth are holding registrations on Monday March 5th & Tuesday March 6th 6:30 pm -8:30 pm High School Cafeteria & Friday March 16th 3:00 pm – 5:00 in the school library. Registrations fees are: One Child \$40.00, Family \$70.00. Late fee is \$10.00 per player after March 31st. Children must be between the ages 4 and 12 prior to April 30 (baseball), December 31st (softball). Proof of age is required for new players; bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. Babe Ruth fee is \$50.00 per player, ages 13-18. For more information and to register early, contact Jeff Brosseau at 655-3556. A registration form can be obtained on the Little League website. <http://www.littleleague.org>

Click on forms & publications, scroll down to League & District Administrators, player registration form.

\* DO YOUR PART \*

# VOTE!

MARCH 6, 2012



### Tooth Tutor Update

By Diane Polson, RDH, Tooth Tutor

DON'T  
WAIT, IT  
MAY BE TOO  
LATE!!!



Once you turn 18 you may lose your parent's dental insurance coverage. Only your insurance company knows for sure. FLOSS, Brush and see your Favorite Dentist regularly!

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU — MARCH

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

### AVAILABLE DAILY

\*Hoagieville 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 \$1.75  
**Lunch**  
Regular \$1.75  
Reduced \$0.40  
Adult \$3.25  
**Beverages**  
Milk \$0.50  
Juice \$0.50

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

### 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

National School Breakfast Week March 5-9, 2012 "School Breakfast-Go for the Gold" Please look for fun things going on all week!!		MEATLESS OPTIONS ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT		Thurs., March 1	Friday, March 2
NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN SERVICE		NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN SERVICE		WINTER BREAK	WINTER BREAK
PLEASE NOTE: Lunch is available for all students on early dismissal days! Pick up yours at either door on your way out.					
Mon., March 5	Tues., March 6	Wed., March 7	Thurs., March 8	Friday, March 9	
NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN SERVICE	NO SCHOOL TEACHER IN SERVICE	Brunch For Lunch Whole Grain Pancakes w/Warm Syrup or Strawberry Topping Fresh Sweet & White Home Fries Sausage Links Farm Fresh Milk	Dr. Seuss BDay Celebration Horton Hears a Who Goulash (Baked Pasta w/Meat Sauce) Twenty Four Feet Dark Green Garden Salad Sam I Am Oatmeal Dinner Roll One Fish, Two Fish Blue Jell-o w/Swedish Fish Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Itza Pizza Homemade Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Meatless Option Available Fresh Carrot Sticks w/ Hummus Dip Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	
Mon., March 12	Tues., March 13	Wed., March 14	Thurs., March 15	Friday, March 16	
Chicken Mania Grilled Chicken Sandwich on Wheat Roll Lettuce & Tomato Seasoned Couscous Lemon Carrots & Rutabaga Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Buon Appetito Wheat Spaghetti or Spaghetti Squash w/ Meat or Garden Marinara Sauce Chopped Green Salad w/Herb Dressing Homemade Garlic Breadsticks Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Taste Test Event Squash Smiles w/ Orange Glaze Fiesta Taco Bar w/ The Works Seasoned Taco Meat, Shredded Cheese, Lettuce, Onions, Salsa, & Soft Flour Tortilla Black Beans & Rice Steamed Green Peas Low-Fat Dessert Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	St. Patrick's Day Luncheon Luck of the Irish Shepherd's Pie Pot of Gold Glazed Carrots Shamrock Cornbread Mint Chocolate Chip Ice Cream Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Itza Pizza Homemade Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Meatless Option Available Dark Green Garden Salad w/Dressings Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	
Mon., March 19	Tues., March 20	Wed., March 21	Thurs., March 22	Friday, March 23	
Dog Days Oven Baked Corn Dog Garden Pasta Salad Baked Beans Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Soup & Sandwich Grilled Cheese Sandwich on Wheat Bread Hearty Country Vegetable Barley Soup Chilled Fruit Cup Happy Birthday Cake Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Early Dismissal Grades 6-12 Oven Baked Chicken Patty Sandwich on Wheat Roll Fresh Baby Carrots Chocolate Chip Cookie Fresh VT. Apple Farm Fresh Milk	Localvore Day Harvest Macaroni & Cheese Oven Roasted Root Vegetables (Rutabaga, Parsnips, Red Potatoes & Carrots) Local Zucchini Muffins Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Itza Pizza Homemade Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Meatless Option Available Side Caesar Salad Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	
Mon., March 26	Tues., March 27	Wed., March 28	Thurs., March 29	Friday, March 30	
Hot Oven Fresh Crispy Chicken Tenders w/Dipping Sauce Oven Baked French Fries Dark Green Garden Salad Goldfish Crackers Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Sweet & Sour Sweet & Sour Meatballs Brown Rice Pilaf Steamed Green Beans Wheat Dinner Roll Low-Fat Dessert Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Delayed Start Grades K-5 Brunch For Lunch Waffles w/Warm Syrup or Strawberry Topping Fresh Sweet & White Home Fries Sausage Links Farm Fresh Milk	Fiesta Nachos Supreme Seasoned Taco Meat, Nacho Cheese Sauce, Lettuce, Salsa & Corn Tortilla Chips Brown Rice Pilaf Broccoli/Carrot Salad Low-Fat Dessert Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	Itza Pizza Homemade Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Meatless Option Available Fresh Broccoli Sprigs w/ Ranch Dip Fresh Fruit Farm Fresh Milk	

PLEASE NOTE: Middle and High school menu information is available at [www.abbeygroup.net/schoolmenus](http://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

**Board of School Trustees**

Robert Millar, President: 238-0089  
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 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 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  
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Winooski, VT 05404

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