



WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

ALSO INCLUDES 6 PAGES OF **Community News!** STARTING ON PAGE 13

JUNE 2020

Celebrating Our Achievements!



CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2020!

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL'S FIRST EVER *Mobile Graduation Procession*

Saturday, June 13th from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Our mobile procession will deliver diplomas to every graduate in Winooski.

Please join us in front of your home on this day to cheer on Winooski students with a green balloon, heart or flag!



See page 3 for full details.

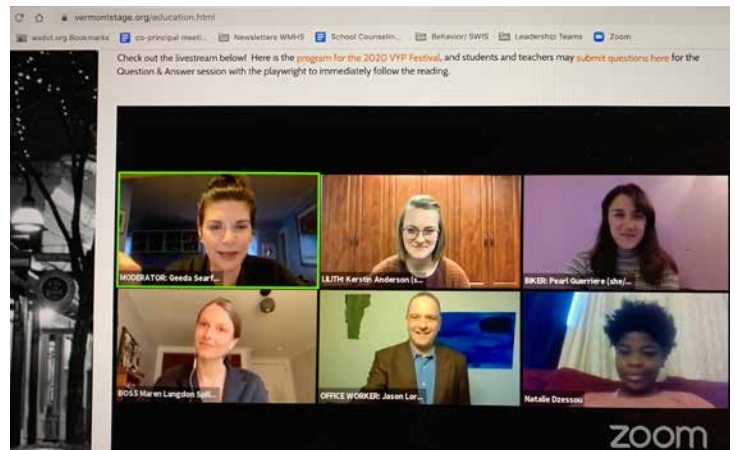


Winooski Students Honored at Vermont Young Playwrights Festival

By Heather Win, Theatre Arts Teacher and Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

Bravo to the six WSD students honored at the (Virtual) Vermont Young Playwrights Festival on May 11th and 12th. Groups of middle and high school students worked together during two full-day workshops with a professional playwright this fall, in an amazing program funded through the Artist in Schools grant from the Vermont Arts Council.

During the festival, first-time playwrights were able to see their work brought to life by theatre professionals in front of an audience of their friends, peers, and members of their community. Featured plays from Winooski middle school: "New Start" by Natalie Dzessou and "No Place like Prison for the Holidays" by Same Galle. Honorable Mention: "Siblings and Food" by Razan Alrubaii. Featured plays from Winooski High School: "Middle Lane" by Rahmah Alchaderchi and "Untitled" by Rowyn Abbott-Smith. Honorable Mention: "Untitled" by Hussein Amuri.



The virtual playwriting festival in action.

WE DID IT!

Join us to cheer on our students, families, community, and each other because we've conquered this unique school year!



Make some noise

(with pots & pans, music etc.) on Wednesday, June 10th at 11am for 5 minutes outside your home!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Notes from the Central Office	2-7
District and Contact Information	3
Announcements	7
School Matters: K-12	8-12
Community News	13-18
Health Corner	18-19
Summer Menus	19



Superintendent's Message

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent

Final Week of School: We have shifted the last student day to Wednesday, June 10th with a 11:00am "dismissal" and we will do a last day "Hoorah" by inviting all students to come out of their homes safely for five minutes to bang pots and pans, and cheer for the last day!

Summer Learning and Enrichment Programs

We are working on a plan to offer modified summer programs to a reduced number of Winooski students. We are carefully considering every aspect of our plan to ensure proper health procedures are in place. Programming will primarily be conducted outside to mitigate person-to-person contact and improve ventilation.

We are hoping to offer:

- [IFK Summer School](#) for incoming 1st through 5th graders. Due to social distancing requirements we will not be able to serve as many students as normal.
- [IFK Newcomer Academy](#)
- [Shader Croft programming](#) for ELL middle and high school students
- [THRIVE](#) with a focus on childcare, and priority for younger children and

children of Essential Workers
Participants should expect changes to the format, structure and scheduling of all programs.

All programs are contingent on our ability to access sufficient Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and safely staff all programs. We will share details regarding registration as soon as we have more information.

Next School Year: Many of you have questions about the reopening of school in the fall. We are carefully balancing the need to plan with waiting to use the most current public health data. Our school leadership team is working closely with the Agency of Education (AOE) and the Department of Health (DOH) to keep our entire school community safe as we prepare for a return to in-person learning.

We Still Need to Stay Home, Stay Safe: Governor Scott relaxed the "Stay at Home" rules to allow group gatherings limited to 10 people or less, with careful physical distancing and hygiene requirements. Vermonters participating in outdoor recreation and fitness activities should "arrive, play and leave."

All playgrounds on the school grounds and across the city of Winooski are still closed until further notice. Groups may not congregate before, during, or after activities. Please remind your students to follow all safety precautions.

Find more information on our website www.wsdvt.org/covid19 - and remember, we are here to support each other, so if you need help, reach out!



Watch School Board Meetings Online!

Did you know you can watch Winooski School Board meetings on the internet on your own schedule? Visit www.retn.org and click on "Meetings" under the "Watch" heading. You will find Winooski School Board listed alphabetically at the bottom of the list of area schools.

June School Board Update

By Margaret Bass, School Board Member

Happy Spring? We want to express our gratitude to faculty, staff, and administrators of our school district. You've continued to deliver rigorous academic enrichment and education. You've also made sure that our students receive nutritious meals. Thank you for your tireless commitment, hard work, and dedication to our students and our community.

If you've not viewed the PTO's Staff Appreciation Video, you're in for a treat. Thanks PTO! We'd also like to give a huge thanks to the volunteers, many of whom are parents, who assist our staff daily.

Our students have been doing great work. If you check the WSD Facebook page, you'll see information about our award-winning student playwrights, student composed music videos, and student interviews with state officials and other prominent figures in Vermont. WSD gets the work done, even during a pandemic. Search "Winooski School District" or "@winooskilearns" to find us.

The Capitol Project Committee continues to work on the creation of a new timetable for our building and renovation project. See page 5 for details. As you know, the governor has lifted

some of the COVID 19 restrictions for construction crews and others. The requirements for masks and social distancing remain in place.

Board members have been closely following the information regarding the public health crisis, particularly as it pertains to our children, youth, and their families. WSD has done an incredible job of communicating with all families in our multilingual community.

Did you see a hippo dancing around town recently? See page 9 for the full story!

Graduation Details

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent

End of Year Activities: We wanted to provide an update regarding the most recent guidelines and information shared by the Agency of Education regarding end of year activities and summer programs.

Schools may only plan in-person end of school year gatherings and graduations consistent with the State's limitations on the size of such gatherings; any other such events shall occur virtually or by means other than in-person gatherings.

What this means for WSD students and families celebrating the Class of 2020:

Following the guidance provided, 12th grade graduation will not be celebrated traditionally with an in-person ceremony. While we are mourning this loss for our students and their families, we understand that this decision was made for the health and safety of all Vermonters. The Senior Graduation Planning Committee, which includes Principal Jean, Karen Greene, Heidi McLaughlin, and a dozen members of the class of 2020, are committed to celebrating this important milestone in a way students will always remember.

On June 13 from 10am-12pm we will be holding WSD's first-ever mobile graduation procession. I will be joined by WSD School Board President Michael Decarreau and WMHS Principal Jean Berthiaume, and we will be riding behind a mobile float, safely delivering diplomas to each graduate in Winooski. Students and their families will be assigned a time to wait in front of their homes wearing their cap and gown. An online radio channel will be announcing each students' name and the commencement address. More details to follow by direct communication with students and families!

Watch for the class of 2020 on local television channels as well - WCAX and NBC5 will be sharing photos and names of our seniors throughout the month of June. We'll share the dates and times those programs will air in the coming weeks directly with students and families, and you can find more information online at wsdvt.org.

To show our graduating seniors that their community celebrates their achievement especially during these uncertain times, we invite you to consider displaying a green flag, balloon, or hearts in honor of our graduates on June 13. These small symbols make clear to all of our youth that we value them and the importance of education.

Kudos to Robert Millar!

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent

I would like to thank Robert for his outstanding service as the WSD Treasurer. Robert has diligently and skillfully served WSD and the Winooski community for the past three years as Treasurer. And during these past few months he has been exceptionally patient and flexible as we had to pivot to new ways of getting this important financial work completed. Many of you know Robert and share in my appreciation for all of his civic contributions to our fair City. From City Councillor to Housing Commission Chair to District Treasurer to all around great guy, Robert truly exemplifies what it means to live a locally engaged life! THANKS Robert!



As Robert finishes his term, WSD will be looking for a new District Treasurer. This is an elected position so a Consent Form needs to be filed at City Hall by July 6th by the person running for office for the Tuesday, August 11th election. This Consent Form can be emailed or picked up in person. Please contact City Clerk Carol Barrett at cbarrett@winooski.vt.gov or (802) 655-6410. If you have any questions about the position please contact me at smcmannon@wsdvt.org or (802) 383-6120. The job description for the District Treasurer is at wsdvt.org.

WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wsdvt.org

Superintendent of Schools

Sean McMannon: 655-0485
smcmannon@wsdvt.org

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Principal: Sara Raabe
802-655-0411
sraabe@wsdvt.org

Winooski Middle and High School

Co-Principals:
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802-655-3530
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jberthiaume@wsdvt.org

Board of School Trustees

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Dr. Alex Yin, 516-423-9601
ayin@wsdvt.org

WSD ENDS STATEMENT

All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community.

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 490 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5) and 396 attending Winooski Middle/High School (grades 6-12).

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

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

Summer Food Service Program

The Winooski School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. **Meals will be provided to all children without charge** and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. In order to provide seamless access to meals, the WSD will be continuing to offer three meal pick up sites throughout the community at the same dates and times that we have been doing so during the school closure period.

Meals will be provided, at a first come, first serve basis, at the sites and times on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am – 10:00am** at the following locations:

- Winooski Family Center, 87 Elm St.
- O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Ave.
- Winooski School District, 60 Normand St.

More information about the meal menus and social distancing requirements at meal pick-up sites can be found on the school district's website at www.wsdvt.org/meal-distribution.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to the USDA by:
Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Fax: (202) 690-7442 or Email: program.intake@usda.gov
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Act 166 Publicly Funded Prekindergarten For Children Between The Ages of 3 and 5 Who Reside in the City of Winooski, Vermont

By Maybeline Lopez, Preschool Director & Early Learning/Act 166 Coordinator

What is publicly funded prekindergarten education?

Publicly funded prekindergarten education is defined as ten hours per week for 35 weeks in a community private early care and education programs. These pre-approved programs meet specific quality standards and provide developmentally appropriate learning experiences that are based on Vermont's Early Learning Standards. Children who reside in Winooski and are between the ages of three-five are eligible. Prekindergarten education is limited to the academic year (September 2020 – June 2021).

Some of the community early care and education programs that Winooski School District partners with are:

- Ascension Childcare: 658-0212
- Burlington Children's Space: 658-1500 x13
- Burlington Forest Preschool: 310-7028
- Carolyn's Red Balloon: 878-5001
- Children's Preschool and Enrichment Center: 878-1060
- Davis Studio: 425-2700
- E.J.'s Kids Klub: -860-1151
- Freedom Rains: 654-7300
- Frog & Toad Child Care & Learning Center: 871-5309
- Future Einsteins: 288-9035
- Greater Burlington YMCA Preschool: 862-8993 x148
- Green Mountain Montessori School: 879-9114
- Heartworks & Renaissance School (Shelburne): 985-8133
- Kid Logic Learning: 660-3600
- Lund Early Childhood Education Program: 864-7467
- Robin's Nest: 864-8191
- Steamworks Preschool: 871-3376
- The Bellwether School: 863-4839
- The Janet S. Munt Family Room: 862-2121
- Trinity Children's Center: 656-5026
- UVM Campus Children's Center: 656-2091

- Y Early Childhood Program at UVM Medical Center: 338-9208
- As well as many other programs.

Are these 10 hours/week pre-kindergarten programs tuition-free?

The prekindergarten program offered in public school is tuition-free. The prekindergarten program offered through a partner program will charge families for the care and education program the child needs beyond the 10 hours/week during the academic year. Your child's preschool must deduct these public funds from your annual tuition bill.

Is my child eligible for publicly funded prekindergarten?

If your child is 3 years old by September 1, 2020, and resides in Winooski, then your child is eligible to participate.

How much will Winooski School District pay?

The statewide rate of \$3,445.00 per child was established by the Agency of Education for the 2020/21 school year. This covers 10 hours per week of high-quality prekindergarten education for 35 weeks.

How do I apply?

Contact Maybeline Lopez at mlopez@wsdvt.org for an application. Families interested in participating need to fill out a new application each year and provide a copy of their child's birth certificate and proof of residency (a utility bill or mortgage/lease).

Please return applications to Lauren Coppola-Dyer at the Winooski School District support services office at 60 Normand St. Winooski VT, 05404.

Please contact Maybeline Lopez at mlopez@wsdvt.org or (802) 655-0485 with any questions.

Capital Project Updates, June 2020 —

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

COVID-19 Impact on the Winooski School District Construction Project

All construction has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including school construction. In March, the Winooski School District (WSD) Capital Project Executive Committee quickly shifted gears, exploring the possibility of being able to take advantage of the building being empty this spring to start construction. The plan was soon restructured due to the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Safe Order.

Our Capital Project Executive Committee carefully considered current opportunities such as a favorable economic market (people are eager to get back to work) as well as low interest rates, and decided against postponing construction. Our Committee was pleased to realize that we are able to borrow at a lower rate than our previous projection - potentially saving Winooski taxpayers somewhere between \$500-700K.

Our Construction Management team, ReArch, is moving forward on current bid packages and, at the date this article

was written, planned to start construction May 18th as outlined below. The plan is contingent upon approval of Act 250 permits, loan approval, and the State of Vermont fully reopening for construction.

We are currently not forecasting additional construction costs due to the projected change in construction scheduling, and the Executive Committee is working closely with ReArch to ensure that work continues safely so that we can deliver this incredibly important project for the future of Winooski.

Questions regarding the WSD Capital Project can be sent to Emily Hecker: ehecker@wsdvt.org

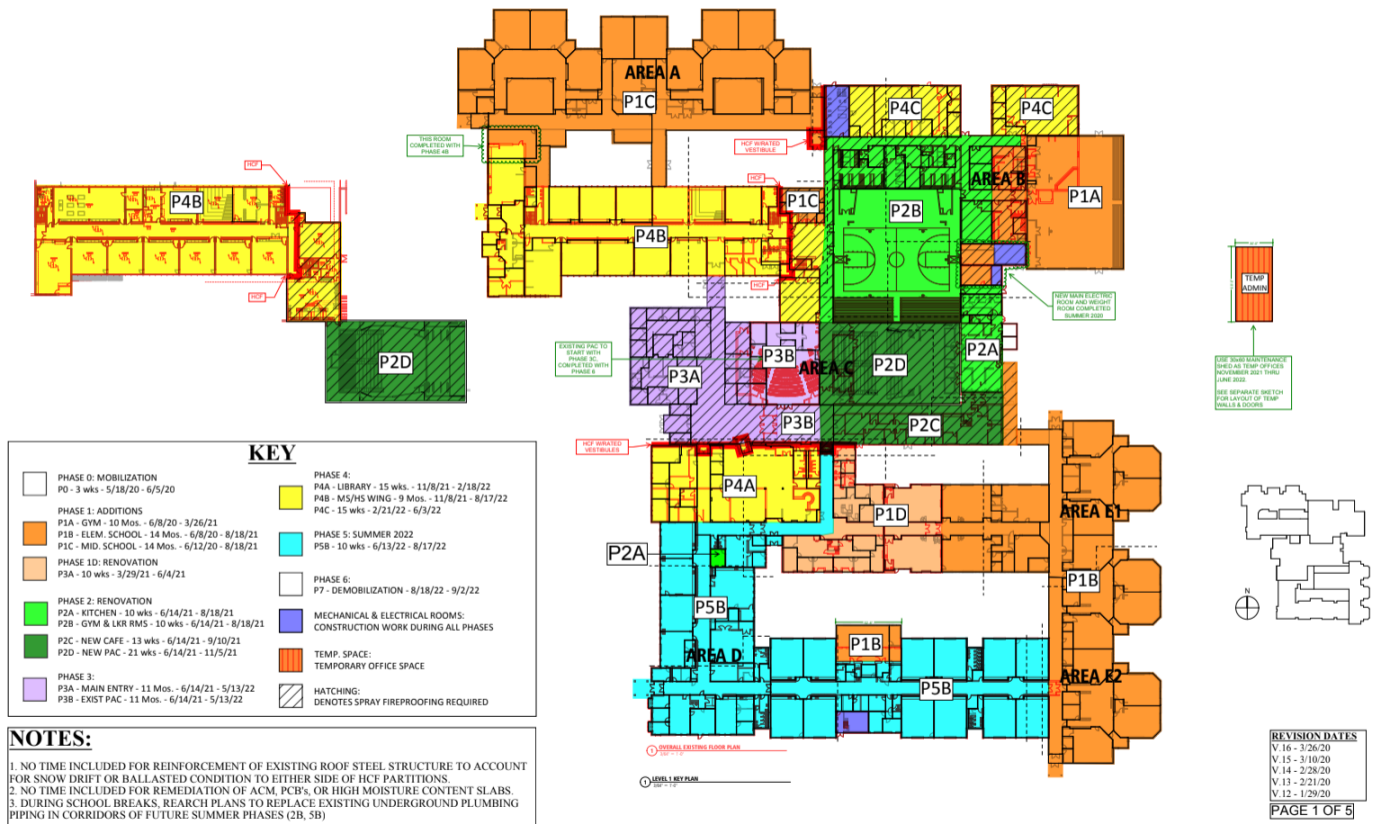
All information can be found on our website at cp.winooski.org/

If you would like to make a gift to support the WSD Capital Project visit: www.wsdvt.org/give/

Project schedule: bit.ly/WSDCPschedule

Logistics plan: bit.ly/WSDCPlogistics

Overall phasing plan: bit.ly/WSDCPphasing



WSD: PHASING PLAN
MAY 18, 2020 THRU AUGUST 17, 2022

WSD Welcomes Nicole Mace as Finance Manager

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

Nicole Mace joined the Winooski School District (WSD) as Finance Manager in May.

Nicole worked for eight years at the Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA), first as the General Counsel and then as Executive Director. Last year she left her position with the VSBA to practice law with a private firm that represents school districts in Vermont. While she was looking forward to practicing law, when the finance manager position opened up, she felt she had to apply.

Nicole is a long-time Winooski resident, and her daughter, Olive, attends JFK Elementary. Nicole served on the Winooski City Council for four years and was briefly mayor. Throughout her career she has proved herself as a tireless advocate for equity through sound public policy.

“We are very excited and fortunate to welcome Nicole into the WSD team! She brings proven leadership, vision and financial skills to our organization combined with a deep understanding of the Winooski schools and the broader community,” said WSD Superintendent Sean McMannon. “I have known Nicole for several years and admired her ability to analyze complex educational challenges in a clear, collaborative manner with an eye on student-centered results.”

Nicole will be filling the vacant position left by Rebecca Goulet, who served the WSD with integrity and persistence for more than two decades.

What did you do before you came to the Winooski School District?

I have spent my career dedicated to the firm belief that all Vermont students should have access to high quality educational opportunities that will equip them with the knowledge and skills they need for success in career, citizenship, and life. I started out as an Instructional Assistant at Essex High School in 1999, and since then have worked in a variety of different roles in public education and human services.



Nicole Mace

Most recently, I had the pleasure of serving the Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA). I oversaw all aspects of the organization – finance, policy, personnel, member services, and advocacy - while reporting to a 23-member board of directors and managing a staff of four and more than a dozen consultants serving approximately 1,400 school board members across Vermont.

Providing strong fiscal oversight and budget management was a key focus of my work as Executive Director. Understanding Vermont’s education funding and finance system was also a big piece of my job at the VSBA. In my work delivering training and support to school board members, I developed an ability to translate Vermont’s extremely complicated system to school board members and communities, so that they understood how decisions at the local level regarding budgets and investments translate into statewide and local tax rate impacts. I also developed substantial technical expertise in special education funding, and familiarity with the various state and federal grant programs that school districts are accountable to.

You clearly have impressive leadership experience understanding and explaining Vermont’s education funding system but this will be the first time you manage day-to-day school district financial operations. How are you handling the transition?

While I believe my experience at the state level regarding education finance and policy will be useful in terms of understanding the fiscal pressures and policies that WSD will have to navigate, I am most excited about developing and applying my skills “in the real world” of a school district. Thanks to Rebecca Goulet’s years of dedicated service and leadership at WSD, I know there are strong systems and procedures in place to ensure WSD’s resources are protected and well-managed. I am excited to learn those systems, and to work with the other members of the finance and leadership teams to identify opportunities to strengthen and improve them. While I do not have prior work history as a school finance manager, I am fortunate to have a

substantial network of colleagues around the state whom I could call upon for support if needed.

Transitions are always challenging, but I honestly feel like coming to work at WSD is a bit like coming home. I have been very involved with the community and WSD for many years, and have built friendships with many folks who I will now be proud to call colleagues. Plus, the commute is going to be awesome!

Support a Winooski Family in Need

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

The pandemic has resulted in significant financial distress for some Winooski families, many of whom were already struggling to meet their basic needs. As a district, we are committed to supporting all of our families through this time.

Every school year we are incredibly fortunate to receive \$10,000 from an anonymous donor, to help support our students’ basic needs. Recently, the remainder of these funds were quickly spent on groceries, household goods, cleaning supplies, menstrual products and diapers for families in need.

In April, we began a fundraiser with school staff and community members who wanted to contribute to the Emergency Fund. Together, they have donated close to \$7,000. The families we have been able to help are so incredibly grateful - and we are too.

However, as financial distress from the pandemic continues to deeply impact many of our families, their needs again outweigh our current funds.

If you are interested in making a contribution to the emergency fund, please send a check made out to: Winooski School District c/o Krista Parisi, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404

If you know of families in need, please reach out directly to Krista Parisi (kparisi@wsdvt.org) with their information.

“What Do We Do With Our ChromeBooks and iPads When School Gets Out?”

Currently, all students in grades K-12 have a ChromeBook or iPad to support their work during the dismissal of schools. All students planning to return to Winooski School in the fall should hold on to their current ChromeBook or iPad for the summer months, and be ready to continue using it during the 2020-2021 school year. This will allow our students to access learning opportunities during the summer. It will also help students get back into the fall’s school schedule more easily. We do not have a safe way to collect, clean, and process all these machines - only to then redistribute them to new student-owners in August as we normally do annually. In our opinion, having students keep their iPad/ChromeBook for the summer is the safest and least disruptive way to end the current school year, and begin again in the fall, with these devices.

When things return to normal, there will be an organized system to redistribute some of these machines: students moving from grade 2 to grade 3 will swap their iPads for ChromeBooks. Students moving from the middle school to the high school will receive new ChromeBooks, which will become theirs for their duration of high school; their old machines will go back into the middle school. Other changes will need to be made, but, again, this will only be possible when we can have a clear, safe, and organized way to reorganize these machines.

We will send more detailed information at a later date. For now, though, we ask students to hold on to their current machines, and keep them safe, for the summer. Please know, devices which need to be repaired over the summer might not be returned until

the fall. The IT department will need to focus on many other, big projects during the summer months, and unless the ChromeBook or iPad is needed for summer-school work, it will be repaired and kept at school for the student-owner until school resumes in August.

Any students or families leaving Winooski for another school district this summer must return their ChromeBook/iPad. Contact your teacher(s) or principal(s) for help. Students will not be able to register at their new school, or have their Winooski school records transferred, until the ChromeBook or iPad is returned.

Questions? Please contact your child’s teacher, Principal, or Drew Blanchard (Technology Integration Specialist for the district) at dblanchard@wsdvt.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 Time Capsule Free Download

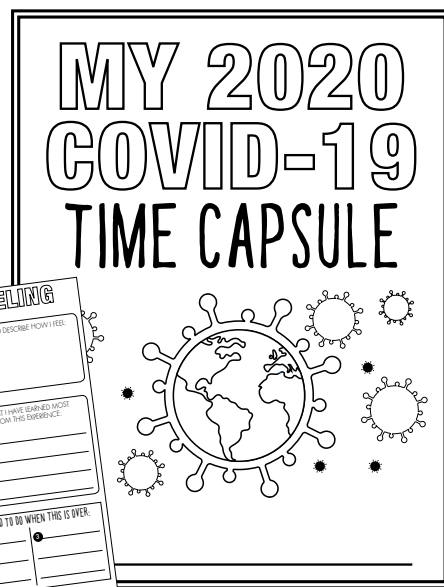
By Natalie Long of LONG Creations

We are all living through history and something I have wanted to do from the beginning is to make a keepsake of this moment for us to look back on. I have saved newspapers and art work done by my kids, taken photos of all our days and kept a diary. But I have also been working on a “time capsule” work sheet for my daughter, son and me to fill out. This will be available as a free resource.

Includes:

- Page To Draw Family Picture
- All About Me
- How I’m Feeling
- My Community
- What I Am Doing At Home
- Handprint Page
- Special Occasion Page
- Letter To Myself Sheet
- Interview For The Parents
- Letter From The Parent

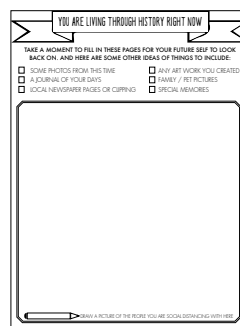
These workbook files are saved in PDF format. To use them you can download and open with a PDF program, and then



print them. Some web browsers will let you do this directly from the browser.

US Version: <https://s3.letsembark.ca/long-creations/2020-COVID-19-Time-Capsule-EN-US.pdf>

You can visit and follow LONG Creations on Facebook and Instagram.



Farmers Market Cancelled For 2020

The Winooski Farmers Market may not be hosted as usual this year but we will continue to connect the community to vendor offerings. Please check our social media pages @winooskifarmersmarket and our website for more information: <http://downtownwinooski.org/winooski-farmers-market/>

Friday Night Movie Nights Move Online!

By Heather Fromkin

2C’s Friday Night Films continue every other Friday evening on Facebook Live! Find us at 2Creative Community Inc. Our Facebook page will go live at 7pm on movie nights and we will be showcasing award winning films.

Our website can be found at 2creativecommunityinc.org. Visit for more details and to see our schedule of workshops and events. If you have any questions, reach out to me at 718-415-7135.



JFK Big Change Roundup

By Katharine Monje, RN, Winooski School Nurse



Each year, JFK Elementary participates in the Big Change Roundup through WOKO. The money raised goes to the UVM Children's Hospital, which supports the children in our community. This year we had a competition among 12 adult volunteers at school. The ones who raised the most money got to be a dancing hippo for the day.

The competition was fierce this year, and the adults went all out campaigning. Our students were very invested in this competition. The school dismissal ended our contest earlier than we planned, but we still raised more money than any of our previous years.

Here are the final standings:

- 12th Sarah Murphy, 6.34
- 11th Amanda Babcock, 6.98
- 10th Katie Letourneau, 7.18
- 9th Sara Raabe, 9.52
- 8th Jacie Knapp, 12.87
- 7th Courtney Bryan, 20.2
- 6th Angela Moulton, 38.93
- 5th Grace Holcomb, 50.54
- 4th Andy Schlatter, 63.84
- 3rd Sally Bisonette, 122.61
- 2nd Kari Bohlen, 255.46
- 1st Liz Parris, 1268.05

Total: 1862.52

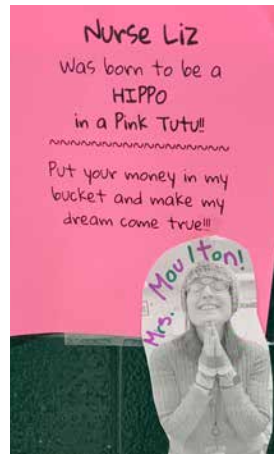
Nurse Liz worked very hard and won the competition! Although we could not do a big reveal at school this year, Nurse Liz managed to wear the hippo costume all over the place. I created a video of all of her hippo excursions here <https://youtu.be/gIWIG0MZQRU>. You can also

find the link on our JFK Facebook page.

Thank you to all of our students, staff, and community members who helped us raise money for the UVM Children's Hospital!



WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT
We are the future.



Afterschool Virtual Violin

By Suzanne Skaflestad, 21C Director

As JFK Elementary shifted to distance learning due to COVID-19, the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association (VYOYA), offered virtual violin lessons for the students enrolled in the 21C afterschool program. Attendance rate remained high with over 80% of students in the Advanced Violin class participating in weekly lessons. Prior to school closing, the students in the advanced class have been taking lessons twice a week for the school year. "I think it's so wonderful and invaluable that despite the quarantine, these students are able to connect with me and their peers on a weekly basis to share music together and to continue to improve their violin playing," remarked Patricia Jancova, VYOYA instructor.

I had the pleasure of seeing a recent violin class. "Can we continue with more lessons when our class ends next week?" asked one participant. It is evident that the students are enjoying their violin lessons and staying engaged.

Here is what the students are saying about their violin class:

- "I have a lot of fun because I get to see my friends and my teacher. I am still learning the violin and practicing my songs." (Zayd, 3rd grader)
- "It is the best thing I ever had. It is a very fun thing to do. You have to work really, really hard and it takes practice to get it right." (Natalie, 3rd grader)
- "I enjoy it because I get to learn how to play songs on the violin." (Aya, 3rd grader)
- "I really enjoyed doing the violin afterschool. It's something I looked forward to every week!
- I'm very glad I had the opportunity to participate in the afterschool program, If I had the chance to do it again, I would. I am also very glad I was able to do virtual violin class. I hope to continue learning how to play violin in the future. (Lilly, 3rd grader)

We are so grateful for our partnership with the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association!

JFK End-of-year Information

By Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

As we approach the end of the school year, I wanted to share some information with our JFK Elementary families.

Report Cards: The WSD staff has been working hard on our continuity of learning plan during school dismissal. The work has been thoughtful — designed to keep our students engaged, learning, and connected to the school community. This work is different for everyone and this change will be reflected in our trimester 3 report cards. Students will receive their final report card via mail mid-June. The report card will be completed for trimesters 1 and 2. For trimester 3, the academic sections will have NA (Not Applicable). Rather than standards based reporting, there will be an additional page with general information about the learning that happened during school dismissal and

an overview of each individual students' growth during the 2019-20 school year.

Move Up Day: Each year, we have a Move Up day for current K-4th grade students to meet their new teacher and classmates. We will still have a Move Up day, however it will be done virtually via Zoom. Families will receive their Zoom invitation and find out who their student's teacher is for next year as we get closer to the date.

5th Grade Celebration: Each year we celebrate our 5th graders with a 5th grade BBQ. We are unable to do that this year, but we still want to celebrate them! The 5th grade team and I are developing a plan to celebrate the students and create a sense of closure as they move onto middle school. We will continue to flush out this plan to ensure that our students feel acknowledged and celebrated. Stay tuned!

Kindergarten Registration and Screening: We are continuing to work on our plan for Kindergarten Registration and Screening, with guidance from the Vermont Agency of Education. If you have a student that will be 5 years old by September 1st, please call 802-655-0485 or email Linda Casier lcasier@wsdvt.org to share your contact information. We will share the information with families directly when we know more.

As I work on bringing this unique school year to a close, I want to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their flexibility and support during this time. Our students and families are at the center of what we do every day, and I am incredibly proud of all the work we have done during this unprecedented time.

Congratulations on your Retirement, Lois Thompson!

By JFK Staff

Lois Thompson started working at JFK Elementary in 1995 as an instructional assistant. She became a first grade teacher a year later. Before working at JFK she took a few years off when her son Michael was born. Before that she taught in Milton.

We asked her colleagues to share their fondest memories of working with Lois over the past two decades.

Lois will always be remembered for:

- Her genuine smile and warm nature.
- Her pet turtle, which she brought in to visit students at the end of the year.
- Being a good listener.
- Her exuberant personality and genuine care and concern for her colleagues.
- Peanut butter pie!

Lois's favorite saying is:

"I'll hold you up, you hold me up." and "Let's go Thompson team!"

Lois's students like this about her:

- Keeping our student's best interest at heart and advocating for them and their needs. Showing compassion and love for both students and their families.

Lois's hobbies include:

Gardening, taking care of her dog, exercise, walking, and being a grandma.



Why is Lois such a great teacher?

- Because she is patient, kind and works hard to connect with each of her students on an individual level. She cares deeply about each and every one of them!
- She's not afraid to try new things, and is a good teammate.
- Lois sees the good in every student and celebrates these parts of her students, to develop their sense of belonging and self-confidence.
- She teaches with relationships at the forefront of her interactions. She builds incredible connections with students which allows her to push them to

succeed and be proud of themselves.

- She has just the right balance of caring and tough love in her teaching style.

What is Lois going to do with her time now that she's retired?

- Work in her garden, house projects, and organize her pictures!
- Spend time with family.
- Spoil her dog rotten!
- Not stop moving...that is for sure!

Why does Lois heart Winooski School District?

- Seeing the smiles of her students each morning brings her joy.
- The district is part of her family.

From her student David Klinker:

"I had her as my 1st grade teacher for the 2011-2012 school year. I used to visit her at least once every other week after school as I walked home. She has shaped who I am as a young man. My work ethic, positive attitude, ability to think outside the box and much more has stemmed from her. That school year was the first full school year in Vermont since my parents divorce. She immediately made me feel at home. She will always be one of my favorite teachers. I wish her the best of the best during her retirement!"

Celebrating Our Graduating Seniors As One Community

By Jean Berthiaume & Kate Grodin, WMHS Co-Principals

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced schools to shift quickly to distance learning across the country and canceled large group gatherings, including graduations. It has thrust new responsibilities onto teens during a pivotal time in their lives and made their futures more uncertain. Now, instead of packing auditoriums, gymnasiums and football fields with graduates and their families, schools have shifted to virtual ceremonies or socially distant celebrations at drive-in movie theaters, and school parking lots. Here at Winooski High School we have been meeting with and listening to our graduates. We are committed to ensure that this important milestone is both honored and celebrated.



to remember their high school graduation. Hillary has provided these photos at cost and with the generous support of VSAC Gear Up these keepsakes will be free to our graduating seniors.

Continuing to work closely with our graduates, Karen Greene (our graduation coordinator), Heidi McLaughlin (our school counselor), and Emily Hecker (our Communication Director) we began planning and preparing for a non-traditional graduation day.

On June 13th at 10:00 to around 12:00 we will celebrate and honor our WHS graduates. Our vision for graduation will start by sharing a broadcast of our graduation speaker, former WMHS Co-principal Leon Wheeler. We will then start a graduation procession that includes one float and our school vans, led by police escorts. The route of this graduation procession will reach graduating seniors in front of their homes with the tune of Pomp and Circumstance playing as the procession approaches each home and neighborhood. In front of each student's home we will meet our graduates — dressed in their cap and gown and accompanied by their families, and they will safely receive their diploma and turn their tassels.

We know that Winooski will show its heart and support of our youth on this ever important day in their lives. Graduation represents the achievement that one works towards from kindergarten forward. A child faces many obstacles, challenges, and advancements in working towards this goal. It is an honor and should be celebrated and acknowledged. It is the stepping stone into the military, working world or higher education.

Zooming Afterschool with Art

By Nancy Keller, MEd, CAS, WMS Teacher

“During each [21 C] afterschool Zoom class,” Art Teacher, Emily Jacobs writes, “students watch a demonstration related to portraiture technique, and discuss ideas for imbuing their portrait with Surrealist, fanatical qualities. Following the demonstration and discussion, students and the teacher all spend time drawing, intermittently sharing their work with the class, and receiving real-time feedback from each other and from me as the instructor.”

For Angela Sweet, a 7th grader at Winooski Middle School, this means logging into her Chromebook at 3:00pm on Tuesdays, listening to the art instruction, drawing a portrait of the Goddess of Winter, and then “trying to make her hair into something else,” as a way to incorporate elements of Surrealism.

“It’s kind of hard to do,” she comments, “but I like doing art and Ms. Jacobs is a good art teacher.”

When asked how she likes taking classes at home instead of in



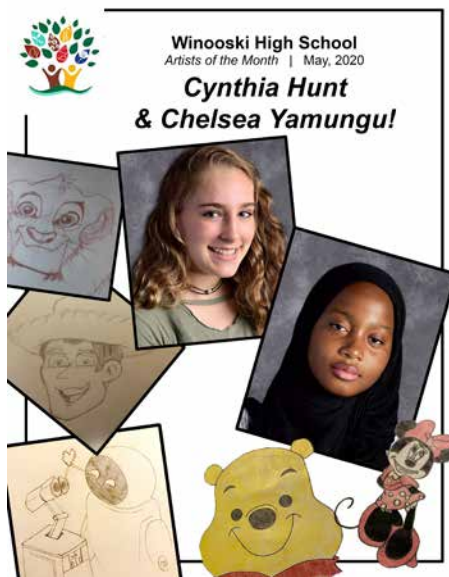
the afterschool program at school, Angela replies, “It’s not that different; just not a lot of people, but that’s OK. I can concentrate better at home.” She enjoys making art together via Zoom, listening to music, and then talking about what she and others are drawing. “It’s great,” she exclaims, “and when we are back in school, I will probably join the afterschool art class, again!”

Jacobs indicates that the afterschool Zoom art class supports the Art Elective currently offered as a remote learning course for middle school students. “Ideally, students will gain both skills and inspiration from the afterschool art program to support their long-term art projects,” she explains.

Interested in learning more about taking an art class on Tuesday afternoon? Please contact the 21C Afterschool Director, Suzanne Skaflestad at sskaflestad@wsdvt.org. Angela plans to invite some of her friends, too, “Ms. Jacobs said she’d love to have more people join, and it’s fun.”

May Artists of the Month

By Jessica Bruce, Visual Arts Teacher



Please join me in congratulating May Artists of the Month: **Cynthia Hunt & Chelsea Yamungu!**

During our unique remote learning thus far, these ladies have been learning to draw Disney characters along with Disney Animation Studios and in collaboration with this year's yearbook theme of Cartoons. They both have done a marvelous job at capturing the characters and submitted them in a timely manner. They must be commended for their commitment to education in the arts during this challenging time! Congrats, you two! <3

Artist of the Year

By Jessica Bruce, Visual Arts Teacher



Alisha Rai is the 2020 Winooski High School Visual Artist of the Year, being recognized for her commitment to the arts through varied avenues.

Alisha was enrolled in classes in the visual arts and performing arts this year, she participated in festivals, showed her Artworks during January Expo, volunteered her time to create a painting for a district fundraiser, helped with various tasks in the art studio, and worked with lots of different media including: plaster, acrylic paint, oil paint, watercolor paint, colored pencil, pens, fabric/sewing, photography, digital art, and much of this as self-directed!

Alisha's motivation and hard work are commendable and she is very worthy of this award. Congrats, Alisha!



May Business Student of the Month

By Courtney Poquette, WHS Business Teacher

Congratulations to **Charlotte Puztai-Renold** who is excelling in our distance learning environment. She is pushing herself to work at college levels in her dual enrollment Personal Finance class. She continues to dig deep into research and puts a deep level of thought into the analysis of her findings.

Soccer Update

By Stephen E. Feiss

Lek Nath Luitel was selected for the Vermont Lions Club Twin-State Soccer Team.

This is a tremendous honor as it is a selection of the best seniors from the State. Each summer the team competes



against a similarly selected team from New Hampshire. Unfortunately the game will not be played this year due to the uncertainty surrounding the Stay Home rules and how they may impact summer events.

This marks the third year in a row the Winooski boys' soccer team has had a senior selected for the team.

It is a big accomplishment for the program and unprecedented for a Division 3 school.

VSAC Is Here To Help

By Liam Danaher, Jr., M.Ed.,
Outreach and GUIDE Counselor

If you need or want help understanding your career and college options, planning for or applying for financial aid during these uncertain times, please email me with any questions you may have. You can reach me at Danaher@vsac.org or call 802-234-8205. VSAC is here to help light the pathway forward!

Other information is also available online:

- College and Career Pathways: <https://www.vsac.org/plan/college-career-pathways>
- Postsecondary resources: <https://www.vsac.org/college-decision-process>



GX Capstone Celebrations

By Luke Dorfman, High School Math Teacher and 2019 Rowland Foundation Fellow

During our remote learning period this spring, while confronting many challenges surfaced by the COVID-19 crisis, WSD students and staff have continued to do amazing work together. Over the remainder of the semester, many students at Winooski High School will be completing capstone experiences

in Winooski's Graduate Expectations (GXs) from home. Normally, there would be an opportunity for the community to acknowledge and celebrate these extraordinary student accomplishments at June Expo. In light of the current circumstances, we still want to create a space to do the same - albeit virtually.

As students complete their capstone projects this spring, they will have the option to share their capstone experiences with the community on this website: bit.ly/2020CAPSTONES. We encourage you to explore and admire their capstones and join us in celebrating their accomplishments.

Visual Art Class Turns In Cover Art Projects

By Emily Jacobs, Visual Arts Teacher

Even while remote, students have been working hard on and engaging enthusiastically with their studies in Visual Art. Personalized, high quality art supplies were recently packaged and distributed to students to ensure they had all they needed to produce high quality art at home. Since then, students have also participated in virtual art classes via Zoom, and one-on-one video calls to receive individualized instruction and

feedback related to their artwork.

For their first long-term remote art project, students were asked to create original Cover Art for a favorite book, magazine, or comic book. This assignment and the corresponding virtual instruction drew on students' imaginations, and exercised portraiture skills they had learned in-person at school, prior to going remote. 8th Grade student Hawa Mayange chose to reflect on

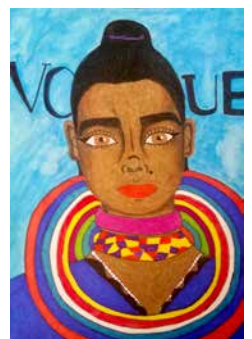
current events through her artwork—an imagined cover for Vogue magazine titled “2020” and featuring a woman wearing a face mask from which a rose blooms. Others chose to simply share something beautiful through their artwork, whether by portraying a celebrity they admire, or a glimpse into their favorite story or comic book series.

More artwork on the back cover of this newsletter!



Top row, left to right:

- “The Little Matcha Girl” by Carol, grade 7
- “The Darkness Underneath” by Ivy, grade 6
- “Vogue” by Ciara, grade 8
- “Untitled” by Sherihan, grade 8



Middle row, left to right:

- “The Giver” by Thera, grade 8
- “Koro-Sensei” by Sebastian, Grade 6
- “Billie” by Samantha, Grade 6
- “Nandy” by Nadine I, Grade 8



Bottom row, left to right:

- “2020” by Hawa M, grade 8
- “Untitled” by Fatuma, Grade 8
- “Cherry Blossoms” by Santu, Grade 8



COMMUNITY NEWS

Municipal Update June 2020

By Paul Sarne, Communications Coordinator



**COVID-19
Information
& Updates**

City of Winooski Continues to Provide Essential Services

During the COVID-19 pandemic, essential City services continue. While municipal buildings may be closed, rest assured that staff is here to support you.

- Our Public Safety and Municipal Infrastructure service continues - Police, Fire, and Public Works staff are providing these essential services every day.
- The City Clerk's Office is available by appointment only. Please call 802 655 6410 to schedule an appointment for time-sensitive, non-electronic needs. If you need to make a tax or utility payment, pay a fee or fine, or register for a program, please use our online services available at winooski.vt.gov. Members of the public must wear a mask or face covering when entering the building while adhering to the 6 Ft. physical distancing guidance.
- City Council Meetings will be held on schedule, remotely – via Zoom. Public participation information will be provided when these meetings are warned.
- Policy Commissions will meet remotely on an as-needed basis and will be publicly warned before each meeting.

COVID-19 Updates and Information

For current updates, resources, and municipal service information please visit winooski.vt.gov/covid-19 or dial 802 655 3908. At this site, you'll find many links and resources organized by topic, including:

- Businesses and Employees
- Families and Childcare Federal/State/Local Support

- Food Security
- Health and Safety
- Multilingual/Translation
- Seniors & Older Vermonters
- Volunteering
- Winooski School District

Seniors and older Vermonters can call our dedicated support line: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10am - 2pm / 802 655 6425 / Voice Mail 24/7.

Our Community Services Department has provided remote resources for community members during this difficult time. They include everything from health and safety resources to education and entertainment offerings. We've got a little something for everyone, organized by department:

- Children and Family Programs
- Recreation and Parks
- Senior Programs
- Winooski Memorial Library

To view our remote resources, visit winooski.vt.gov/remoteresources

We also encourage you to go to the Vermont Department of Health for regular state-wide updates, data, and resources: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19>

Winooski Business Resources



We are proud and grateful to our business community in Winooski for taking good care of their customers and employees during this

challenging time. Please continue to support our small business community if you are able! Downtown Winooski has created a "support Winooski businesses page" where you can find out how to help and support our business community: downtownwinooski.org/support-winooski-businesses-during-covid-19

Business owners can also access their Winooski Business Portal for an extensive list of resources for businesses: downtownwinooski.org/covid-19-winooski-business-portal

In response to the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Winooski business community, the City of Winooski has adapted the Winooski Small Business Loan (WSBL) Program to provide businesses with emergency loans to assist them in bridging this difficult time. The new Tier 4 COVID-19 Relief Loan through the Winooski Small Business Loan Program offers businesses a 0% interest rate for the first 24 months of the loan term through a City interest rate buy-down and defers the principal payments for the first four months of the loan. This proposed loan structure will allow businesses leeway while they remain under mandatory closure orders and is serviced by Opportunities Credit Union.

To learn more about this program and to apply, visit winooski.vt.gov/332/Small-Business-Loan-Program

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Kristine Lott	klott@winooski.vt.gov	802-766-1988
Councilor Hal Colston	hcolston@winooski.vt.gov	802-922-2908
Councilor James Duncan	jduncan@winooski.vt.gov	802-310-7103
Councilor Amy Lafayette	alafayette@winooski.vt.gov	802-598-7704
Councilor Mike Myers	mmyers@winooski.vt.gov	802-355-5348
City Manager Jessie Baker	jbaker@winooski.vt.gov	802-655-6410

Visit the city website at winooski.vt.gov or call 802-655-6410.

Keep up to date with announcements and news:



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK We are "City of Winooski - Government"
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER We are @winooski



Message from Mayor Kristine Lott

Hello Winooski, I am pleased with the Governor’s weekly announcements as we continue to look ahead at re-opening the State – “a quarter-turn of the spigot” at a time. Please continue to maintain distance, wear a mask/facial covering while out, protect the vulnerable, etc. — we’re not out of the woods yet.

City Council continues to meet remotely to address the evolving response to the pandemic. We recently approved a resolution that enacted a new ordinance (Chapter 30 - Emergency Ordinances) to ease the financial burden for residents and businesses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Taxpayers and utility payers who cannot pay their property tax and utility payments due to COVID-19 may find relief in the adopted provisions. We’ve also awarded multiple emergency small business loans to support our small business community and keep Winooski thriving. All of these details can be found at winooski.vt.gov/covid-19.

We also reviewed projections of the pandemic’s impact on our fiscal year 20 budget. In response to the pandemic, the City Manager and staff immediately put actions into place that would help buffer the impact of lost local revenues (including parking fees, local options taxes, program fees, and potentially property taxes.) These actions included halting all non-essential expenditures and furloughing non-essential staff and those not able to perform their jobs remotely. This has had a significant impact on the 21 staff furloughed from the City and we thank them for their sacrifice. As a result of these mitigation steps, I’m glad to see that we have financial models that show an ability to ride out lost and delayed

revenue and anticipate for the remainder of the fiscal year, which ends June 30. This assumes that our neighbors who can pay their property taxes and water/sewer bills on time will continue to maintain essential services. In June, the Council will receive updates on planning for the next fiscal year that begins on July 1.

It is also worth noting we are reconvening some of our policy commissions for remote meetings. The Planning Commission will resume monthly meetings to continue their ongoing discussion of zoning updates and the Municipal Infrastructure Commission will have as-needed meetings to weigh in on ordinance issues. The Charter Change Commission is discussing what individual outreach they can continue until public meetings become viable again. We’re very mindful that public engagement could be limited without in-person meetings. The Finance, Housing, and Safe/Healthy/Connected People Commissions will not resume meetings at this time as the evolving COVID-19 scenario makes planning difficult. As always, meeting details will be shared in advance through our website, Front Porch Forum, social media channels, and at the entrances of City Hall and the O’Brien Community Center.

As always, please take care of yourselves, check on your family, friends, and neighbors, and stay Winooski strong. Feel free to reach out to me directly

with any questions or concerns. Mayor Kristine Lott - klott@winooski.vt.gov

Volunteer Opportunities



Community Mask Making Initiative in Partnership with Vermont Teddy Bear Company

The City of Winooski is partnering with the Vermont Teddy Bear company to support their goal of creating 125,000 cloth masks for Vermonters - we need your help! Volunteer Home Mask Makers are needed to make re-usable fabric masks. Vermont Teddy Bear will supply you with a kit of cut fabric and elastic, at-home makers will only need a sewing machine and thread. Once completed, volunteers can drop their sewn masks off in the book return at the Winooski Memorial Library. A portion of the donated masks will stay in Winooski to support our community! If you are interested in being a Volunteer Home Mask Maker, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Olivia Miller: volunteer@winooski.vt.gov / 802 655 1392 - please leave your name and contact information.

In lieu of the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, we are putting together a Volunteer Appreciation Video thanking all City of Winooski Volunteers. Be on the lookout for this video on the City’s channels at the beginning of June. *Thank you, 2019-2020 Volunteers!*



TOWN MEETING TV IS NOW ON COMCAST CHANNEL 1087

Find Channel 17/
Town Meeting TV on Comcast Channel 1087, BT channel 17/217/317
YouTube & www.ch17.tv

Winooski Senior Center Update

By Barb Pitfido, Senior Programs Manager

Social distancing does not mean social isolation. Now, more than ever, we need to stay connected.

It's been a long journey as we all travel through a very challenging and difficult time. We are currently offering limited services to our community in the form of Meals on Wheels, our Senior Support Line, Winooski Community Gardens, and a new program - More than a Meal. Want to know more? Have ideas for us? You can call us, email us, check our City web page, and catch up on Facebook. We miss being with you all and look forward to actively participating together soon.

Meals on Wheels Program

We remain the hub site for Meals on Wheels processing and delivery. If you know of a senior or disabled individual who has special nutrition requirements or is having difficulty with meal preparation, please call Age Well at 863-0360 to find out the eligibility requirements. No one is denied meals due to an inability to donate. Volunteer drivers are always needed.

Senior Support Line

Want to chat? Got a question? Need a phone number or want to know about resources available to you in the community? Then call us at 802-655-6425. We'd love to talk with you! We are available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am - 2pm or you can leave a message 24/7 and we'll call you back.

Community Gardens

The Senior Center Community Gardens are open and are being prepared for planting. The senior garden plot will be growing veggies and herbs, while our Pollinator Garden and Perennial Flower Farm will be offering up some nature therapy with some amazing texture and color for your visual pleasure. Check our Facebook page for great photos and updates. www.facebook.com/winooskiseniorcenter

More than a Meal Program - NEW!

In partnership with Age Well, we are able to offer Older Vermonters (60+)



a free nutritious meal on Wednesdays. We want to continue to support you being well at home and provide you with an opportunity to stay connected to your community while enjoying a healthy and deliciously prepared meal, and some goodies from us! This is a limited time program that is supported by federal emergency funds. We will offer contactless delivery to your Winooski home or apartment building entrance. Curbside pickup is also available. Reservations must be made by noon the Friday before the scheduled Wednesday meal. Please call us at 802-655-6425 for the weekly menu and all the details.



Daily Routines and Family Life

By Karen Prosciak, Psy.D., Howard Center

We have been at this “Stay Safe, Stay Home” for about two months now, and while families are doing the best that they can, interrupted family routines, and drastic changes in day to day life all have caused stress and anxiety for many. Parents and caregivers pretty much have to possess super-human qualities to simultaneously manage daily routines, get children to focus on and complete their school work, keep younger ones occupied – all while you are keeping up with household routines, cooking, and checking in with loved ones and friends. This is even more challenging if you are working from home. Now that we are more settled in, if you feel that getting through each day feels hectic and stressful, it may be time to do some fine tuning to your routines.

Humans, especially children, do well when there is some level of predictability

in their lives – even more so at a time like now, when most aspects of our lives have changed at such a rapid rate. Some areas that you may want to focus on that will not only decrease feelings of stress for you and your family but will also help build resiliency are a healthy diet, assuring that all family members have consistent night time routines and are getting enough sleep, modelling a positive attitude, and encouraging time each day for family members to participate in an activity that is relaxing and regulating. Examples may be reading, arts, crafts, painting, drawing, coloring, puzzles, and sensory activities. Finally, communicate – ask your children what they are thinking about, how they are feeling, and what their ideas are. Share your thoughts, ideas, and feelings.

With the added predictability of routines and expectations, there will be more time and energy for some



of the positive things like spending time together on common interests or exploring new ones and time to talk, especially with older children. There will be more opportunities to offer support and reassurances, and to share thoughts about hope and dreams for the future.

If you are experiencing heightened anxiety, Howard Center’s Access and Intake Main Number, 802-488-6000, is available Monday-Friday, 8am to 6pm. Our staff will offer support and connect you with services. Also, our First Call for Chittenden County crisis hotline, 802-488-7777, is available 24/7/365. www.howardcenter.org. Help is here.

OLOP Staff Receive Support From Resident Families, Community

Photo and text by Gail Callahan, Communications Manager

Since the COVID-19 virus first struck Vermont, Our Lady of Providence Residential Care Facility staff has tirelessly cared for residents, safeguarding their health.

This effort encompassed the all levels of the staff—from the administration to nursing to dietary to housekeeping to facilities and reception/communications. With a humble attitude and a strong work ethic, staffers rolled with the punches and carried on with their work. The wider community and families noticed and acknowledged this devotion. A steady stream of food, floral arrangements, balloons, and cards have arrived at the facility since mid-March.

There is a trellis boasting cards and



letters outside of the reception office. The messages are from school children, writing to residents, offering encouraging words during the pandemic. Floral

bouquets offer a splash of color and balloons bearing the words, “Thank you” lift the spirits.

“This has been a very challenging time for everyone,” said Our Lady of Providence Residential Executive Director Mary Belanger. “Fortunately, we have at OLP have been blessed with having amazing families. We have received cards, letters, flowers, and food from our families. Their support has encouraged and uplifted the staff during this difficult time.”

Also, administration decided to offer staff free meals while on duty, and a special treat for staff to munch on during their shifts is also offered weekly.

Signed, Sealed Delivered: Vote by Mail in 2020

By Hal Colston, City Councilor, State Representative

Wisconsin held its presidential primary on April 7, 2020. The event drew national attention not because of the outcome — former Vice President Joe Biden beat Sen. Bernie Sanders 63 to 32 percent, and Sanders dropped out the next day — but because of how the election was held. In a state where voting by mail is rare, many Wisconsinites waited in line for hours, standing close to each other at crowded polls, to cast a ballot during the coronavirus pandemic. They were forced to choose between their right to vote and protecting their own health and the health of others. The Wisconsin Health Department has now reported that at least 50 voters and poll workers have tested positive for COVID-19.

Vermonters shouldn't have to make that choice. On March 25, 2020 the Vermont House of Representatives passed H.681, an act that gave the Secretary

of State — in consultation with the Governor — temporary authority to change the way we hold elections during the COVID-19 emergency. After passage by the Senate, Governor Scott signed the bill into law as Act 92 on March 30, 2020.

Secretary of State Jim Condos and his team are now actively exploring options for the August 11th primary and November 3rd general elections so Vermonters can safely participate in democracy. Regardless of what plan they agree upon, the elections will certainly include an expansion of Vermont's existing early and absentee voting system. It's a safe and secure process that allows any registered voter to cast a ballot by mail. In the 2016 and 2018 general elections, about 30 percent of Vermonters voted this way. Either way, the polls will be open on election day in some safe, modified way for people who can't be reached by mail, or for those who need

assistance to vote.

"We have no idea what this pandemic will look like as we approach the August statewide primaries and November general election," wrote Secretary Condos in a late April op-ed, describing the likely "significant" shift to mail-in voting that his office will oversee. "No solution is a silver bullet. But regardless of the steps we take our democracy must continue to thrive. We won't settle for anything less than safe, secure and accessible Vermont elections this year."

I would encourage you to be prepared to vote by mail certainly for the general election in November as most leading medical professionals are predicting that there will be a resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic this fall.

For details you can visit the Winooski City website at www.winooski.vt.gov or call the Winooski City Clerk's Office at 802-655-6410.

Winooski Partnership for Prevention

By Kate Nugent, Executive Director

Building a strong community

Helping each other be healthier can help us meet challenges better in the future. We can ask ourselves, what can I do to help my neighbor right now? Ask them how they're doing. Ask them out for a 6-foot-apart walk. Lend a tool. Have a small gathering with healthy food and seltzer or lemonade. We can all make a difference for others, and we will need each other more than ever to rebuild our communities in the future. Ask for help if you need it, too.

Prevention Facts - What's near you as a youth impacts your health as an adult

According to research, exposure to tobacco sales near home environments may be important for understanding adolescents' past-month smoking. Restricting access to tobacco outlets and limiting the number of them in residential areas show promise as an effective tobacco preventive strategy to

help reduce adolescents' smoking (Finan LJ, Lipperman-Kreda S, Abadi M, et al. Tobacco outlet density and adolescents' cigarette smoking: a meta-analysis. *Tobacco Control* 2019;28:27-33).



Opportunity for youth — help your peers lead healthier lives

The WPP has an opening on its board of directors for a youth board member this fall. Gain experience in organizational development, be an advocate for prevention and health among your peers, and help the future health of students in the community.

To learn more, get in touch with the WPP's executive director, Kate, at katenugent@winooskprevention.org, or visit our website at WinooskiPrevention.org. You can reach us by phone at 802-655-4565.

Stay in the Loop: Join the Winooski Front Porch Forum

It's a free and easy online way to get on the local grapevine, connect with neighbors, and build community.

You can post and read about block parties, neighborhood watches, lost dogs, plumber recommendations, helping neighbors in need, free furniture, and all kinds of good stuff. Check it out at www.frontporchforum.com.

This year we launched our new mobile app, so now you can read your neighborhood forum in the daily email, on the web, or using our new mobile app! Download the FPF mobile app from the Apple® and Google Play® app stores.



front porch forum™
HELPING NEIGHBORS CONNECT

Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for June

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

A Big Thank You to all the volunteers, businesses, and donors helping us provide food to Winooski residents. We could not do this without you! In April, we were able to provide food to triple our usual client numbers — over 1,200 people!

We want everyone experiencing financial difficulty during this pandemic

to feel welcome to come visit us! We are here to help. And we have fabulous food! Skinny Pancake provides prepared meals for Wednesday pantry days and Commodities, Shaws and Hannaford provide wonderful fresh foods on Saturdays and Wednesday. We have expanded the number of days we are

open and are now open every Saturday morning. You may come every single Saturday (but only one Wednesday). Come on down, wear your mask, get some fresh air and some great food! Plenty of free on street parking on Follett, West Allen and Weaver Streets. Our volunteers look forward to serving you.

Saturday, June 6	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread, deli items
Wednesday, June 10	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat, eggs
Saturday, June 13	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread, deli items
Saturday, June 20	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread, deli items
Wednesday, June 24	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat, eggs
Saturday, June 27	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread, deli items

Food Shelf Policy: Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. Folks may come both Saturdays to stock up on bread, pastry and some fresh fruit and veggies. Hannaford's and Winooski's own Commodities Market supply Saturday's food. New clients should bring proof of Winooski residency such as a utility bill. Any Winooski resident in need is welcome. We are here to help support you. For questions call 802-318-0460.

Where to find us: The Winooski Food Shelf is located in the United Methodist Church at the corner of West Allen and Follett Streets at 24 West Allen Street. There is a bus stop on that corner. We do not provide rides so please bring a wheeled cart or suitcase and some bags to lug your food home. The church phone number is 802-655-7371

Cash donations needed: The Food Shelf is growing rapidly. More and more of the food must be purchased since

donations of food items cannot meet demand. Checks can be mailed to: The Winooski Food Shelf, P.O. Box 53, Winooski, VT 05404.

Donation Drop Off Locations: The Winooski Senior Center is currently closed. Please visit our other donation drop off locations: Commodities Natural Market, 65 Winooski Falls Way, phone: 448-3340, or J & J's Corner Market, 12 Malletts Bay Ave., 654-8003. Thank you for caring about your neighbors!

DENTAL CORNER

Keep Smiling Winooski Community!

By Tracy Towers, RDH, WSD Dental Hygienist

Day by day.....So much hope and inspiration in the WSD Community.

I am looking ahead to fall 2020, and planning with Vermont Dental Care as to how we continue to support the dental needs of our WSD students through our school linked dental program. We are committed to this program, and will find a way to proceed



with dental care in the safest possible way. I will keep you posted in the coming months.

If you are a patient at Vermont Dental Care, in Winooski, and you have a true dental emergency, you can call the office and the dentist on call will return your call. The office will be gradually opening up for elective procedures

(cleanings/fillings) in the coming weeks.

This is a great time to update me on the name of your child's dentist and the approximate date of their last dental visit. Collecting this information, and keeping health records up to date is part of my job. If your child DOES NOT have a dentist and would like to sign up for our school linked dental program, please email me at ttowers@wsdvt.org.

Stay safe and healthy.

HEALTH CORNER

Happy Summer from the Health Office!

By Katharine Monje, RN BSN,
WSD School Nurse

Liz, Leanne and I have been in touch with many WSD families about any medical questions, concerns or needs since students were dismissed in March.

As the school year winds down and remote learning finishes up, we're already hoping and planning for when we all can come back to school!

When school resumes it will look different for all of us. Be on the look out for updates about the strategies the school will be using to mitigate the risks of Covid 19.

As usual if your child(ren) take medication at school or have a chronic medical condition please plan on touching base with their provider to schedule an appointment for new prescriptions, doctor's orders, and action plans in case of a medical emergency at school.

Slowly but surely Vermont is opening up again. Some people are returning to work, and folks can gather in small groups outside. Enjoy the beautiful summer weather! Socializing with friends, family and loved ones is more important than ever.

Don't forget the importance of limiting group sizes outside, physical distancing, masks covering your nose and mouth, frequent hand washing and disinfecting touch surfaces like your phone, counter tops, door handles and sink faucets.

Take care everyone!



JUNE MENUS

Breakfast

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Banana Bread 100% Fruit Juice Milk 8 oz.	Assorted Cereal Raisins Milk 8 oz.	Bagel with Cream Cheese Pineapple Fruit Cup Milk 8 oz.	Breakfast Round Apple Milk 8 oz.	Assorted Cereal Strawberries Milk 8 oz.
Saturday	Sunday			
WG Muffin Pear Fruit Cup Milk 8 oz.	Pumpkin Bread Orange Milk 8 oz.			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Banana Bread 100% Fruit Juice Milk 8 oz.	Assorted Cereal Orange Milk 8 oz.	Bagel with Cream Cheese Pineapple Fruit Cup Milk 8 oz.	Breakfast Round Apple Milk 8 oz.	Assorted Cereal Strawberries Milk 8 oz.
Saturday	Sunday			
WG Muffin Pear Fruit Cup Milk 8 oz.	Pumpkin Bread 100% Fruit Juice Milk 8 oz.			



Lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Chicken Nuggets Rice Baby Carrots Apple Milk 8 oz.	Turkey Taco On Soft Shell Salsa Black Beans & Corn Milk 8 oz.	3 French Toast Sticks & Turkey Sausage Patty Tater Tots Raisins Milk 8 oz.	Tuna Salad Fresh Roll Celery Sticks Pear Milk 8 oz.	Roasted Spice Chicken Rice Peas & Corn Milk 8 oz.
Saturday	Sunday			
Turkey Corn Dog Fruit Cup Broccoli Florets Milk 8 oz.	Cheese Bread Sticks Marina Sauce Orange Milk 8 oz.			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Salad with Mixed Greens WG Crackers Craisins Apple Milk 8 oz.	Turkey & Cheese Roll Celery Sticks Strawberries Milk 8 oz.	Chicken & Bean Chili with Tomatoes and Rice Corn Milk 8 oz.	Roasted Spice Chicken Rice Peas Milk 8 oz.	3 French Toast Sticks & Turkey Sausage Patty 100% Juice Strawberries Milk 8 oz.
Saturday	Sunday			
Chicken Patty Sandwich on Fresh Roll Tater Tots Coleslaw Milk 8 oz.	Macaroni & Cheese Broccoli Orange Milk 8 oz.			



Winooski School District
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

1 Week Rotating Menu
Meals are intended for students age 18 and under
Keep cold food at 41F
Keep hot food at 135F

SFSP Daily Meal Pattern
1 oz. Grain
1/2 Cup Fruit
8 oz. Milk

Menus subject to change

Winooski School District
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

2 Week Rotating Menu
Meals are intended for students age 18 and under
Keep cold food at 41F
Keep hot food at 135F

SFSP Daily Meal Pattern
1 oz. Grain
2 oz. M/MA
3/4 Cup Fruit & Vegetable
Or 3/4 cup of 2 different vegetables
8 oz. Milk

Menus subject to change

Staff at the Abbey Group practice social distancing when preparing meals in the Winooski kitchen.



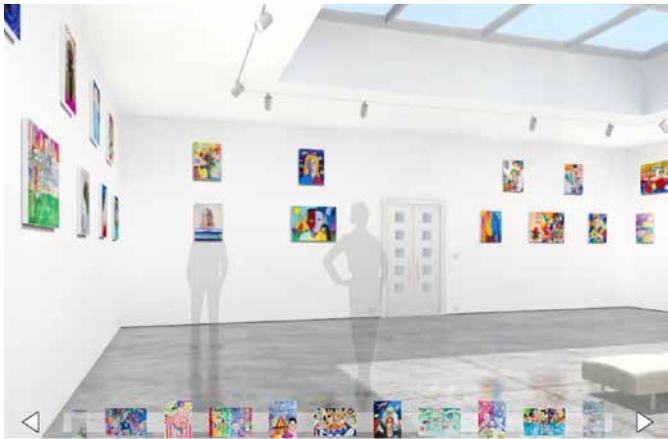
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Virtual Art Exhibition

By Emily Jacobs, WMS Art Teacher

Our Winooski Middle School students have worked hard in Visual Arts this year to produce artwork of incredible quality and depth. During this strange period of remote learning and social distancing, we are unable to gather in a physical space to view and celebrate their artistic accomplishments. However, in lieu of an in-person art exhibition, I am thrilled to present a virtual exhibition featuring over 120 works of student art! We hope you will take some time to move through the virtual gallery spaces and view the wide array of artworks created this year by our extremely talented Winooski middle-schoolers. You can find links for the virtual galleries on the Winooski School District website, and on our social media channels.

Thank you to Exhibit for the generous donation of this virtual gallery space, and their support of our young artists! Here are the hyperlinks to the galleries:

Self-Portrait Gallery:
bit.ly/WMSselfportraits

Assorted Projects Gallery:
bit.ly/WMSassortedworks

Small Gallery featuring Remote Artwork:
bit.ly/WMSremoteworks

