

The Winooski Newsletter

A newsletter created in partnership by the City of Winooski and the Winooski School District.

OCTOBER 2021



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



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Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott

Hello Neighbors,
As I write this, we are very close to hiring our next City Manager and by the time you read this, they may already be starting in the role. This is a good time for our new manager to start since staff are beginning planning for the next fiscal year budget for residents to vote on at Town Meeting Day in March. They are also planning for supporting our next Town Meeting Day elections with All Resident Voting in place, thinking about how we will manage two voter lists, separate ballots, and support for new voters including translation and interpretation needs.

As a reminder, all legal residents of the City of Winooski will be able to vote on local ballot items at our next Town Meeting Day.

Also coming up next March is the City of Winooski's 100th birthday on March 7, 2022. We have begun to celebrate this milestone by highlighting our people, places, and traditions. Visit the Winooski Legacy campaign site to learn more at legacy.winooskivt.gov.

Looking further into the future, we have received the first installment of Federal funding from the American Rescue Plan. Winooski will receive a total of \$2.3 million dollars over the next two years, which we can allocate



to recovery efforts and infrastructure projects. We have until 2024 to allocate these funds, so will be taking time to consider how the money can best be used. I would love to hear from you – let me know what you would prioritize, and where you see needs in our community. We want to have robust public input before deciding how to spend these funds. Email me at klott@winooskivt.gov

or call 802-766-1988.

In more recent news, we were joined last month by members of the Vermont Air National Guard at a City Council meeting. We heard about the important work they do in our community including testing and vaccine clinics and

backup emergency fire services right here in Winooski. We also heard from them about efforts they make to reduce noise during F-35 landings and takeoffs and they listened to members of our community share how F-35 operations impact their lives. While they weren't able to answer every question raised at the meeting, we will receive a written response which we

will post to our website at winooskivt.gov/1392/Learn-About-Airport-Sound-Mitigation.

Thank you, and look forward to hearing from you.





WSD Plan for Use of COVID Federal Funds

By Nicole Mace, Finance Manager and Michael Eppolito, Curriculum Director

Vermont’s education system has received significant funding as part of the federal COVID-19 response, distributed through four separate grant programs, the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III. Here are the WSD allocations and funding timelines for each grant program.

COVID GRANT	AMOUNT	DEADLINE TO SPEND
CRF	\$1,044,460	December 31, 2020
ESSER I	\$844,370	Sept. 30, 2022
ESSER II	\$3,314,005	Sept. 30, 2023
ESSER III	\$7,442,526	Sept. 30, 2024

CRF and ESSER I Funds were used last school year to pay for the costs of additional personal protective equipment (PPE), portable HEPA air filters, cleaning/disinfecting supplies, new laptops/Chromebooks and other supplies to support remote learning, renovating the health office and repurposing staff funded by other grants in order to conform to health and safety guidelines.

The WSD Plan for use of ESSER II and III funds is guided by the Education Recovery Plan developed by the WSD’s Learning Recovery Team, which is composed of teachers, students, guidance counselors, multilingual liaisons, parents, and community partners. The Agency of Education requires every district to develop an Education Recovery Plan that centers on the following pillars: Socioemotional, Mental Health and Wellbeing; Student Engagement; Academic Achievement; and Safe & Healthy Operations.

The following chart lays out the investments the WSD has made in the current school year using ESSER II funds:

	SAFE & HEALTHY OPERATIONS	MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING	ENGAGEMENT & TRUANCY	ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SUCCESS
Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One additional Health Office Assistant to support implementation of health and safety guidelines and contact tracing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two additional school social workers through a contract with Howard Mental Health Services One additional Behavior Interventionist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multilingual (ML) Intake & Family Engagement Coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Literacy Coordinator Learning Recovery Coordinator Five additional teachers in the areas of literacy, math, & ML Three additional ML Liaisons to support our Somali/Mai Mai, Swahili & Nepali populations Two additional Technology Technicians to provide technology support to student and staff users
Programs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Afterschool & summer programming through partnerships with the City of Winooski, Shelburne Farms, and ShaderCroft Expansion of summer meals program to include distribution of meal kits with 7 days/week of breakfast and lunch for any child under age 18 in Winooski 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract to integrate our student information system & learning management system to better track student attendance and performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K-12 tutoring services that focus on maintaining & improving literacy & math skills Support services audit to address the learning loss that many special education students experienced during the last year Data consultant to improve how we organize and look at student performance data
Professional Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restorative Practices & how to build strong classroom communities and manage conflict 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence-based strategies to address learning loss in the areas of math, science, reading, & writing skills
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal protective equipment for students & staff 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New technology equipment that will aid in regular & substantive educational interaction b/t students & their classroom instructors Bilingual books for classrooms

NOTES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

The ESSER III grant program, also known as ARP-ESSER, includes several requirements that the WSD must follow. The first requirement is to include investments to implement strategies that enable schools to safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. The second is to reserve at least 20% of our allocation to address the academic impact of lost instructional time using evidence-based strategies. The third is to have meaningful consultation with stakeholders regarding the use of these funds.

The WSD is proposing to use ESSER III funds in the following ways:

STRATEGY	EDUCATION RECOVERY PILLAR	RATIONALE	ESSER III AMOUNT
Maintaining Additional Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Achievement & Success, Mental Health & Well-Being, Engagement & Truancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two additional years of increased staffing - interventionists and teachers in literacy, math, ML, and behavior will ensure all WSD students continue to make academic gains* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2,800,000
Replacing WSD HVAC Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe & Healthy Operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using ESSER III funds to ensure our new construction has a high quality ventilation system is a CDC-approved mitigation strategy to ensure our schools will be able to stay open as much as possible during COVID 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4,400,000
Afterschool & Summer Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health & Well-Being 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free afterschool and summer programming ensures all students in WSD can access enrichment and physical activity for at least four years* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$150,000
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Achievement & Success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two additional years of professional development in evidence-based strategies to address learning loss in the areas of math, science, reading, & writing skills to ensure broad implementation and alignment across grades* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$92,526

**Indicates evidence-based strategy to address academic impact of lost instructional time*

Using ESSER III funds to pay for all new HVAC systems will also allow us to lower the total cost of the capital project, which could allow the district to sustain some of the additional positions we have added using ESSER funds. For every \$1m we do not borrow to pay for the capital project, we save \$120,000/year in operating budget expenses. Using \$4.4m in ESSER funds to pay for HVAC upgrades will save us roughly \$528,000 a year, or \$15,800,000 over the life of the capital project loan.

If you have any questions or comments about the WSD’s plan for use of ESSER-III funds, please do not hesitate to contact us. Kelley Freeman, Learning Recovery Coordinator (kfreeman@wsdvt.org), will collect all input and feedback and share it with the WSD Learning Recovery and Leadership Teams prior to finalizing our application to the Agency of Education.


SUMMER 2021 in WINOOSKI!

254

Individual Youth Served
by ESSER Funded Programs

98

Winooski youth received
free swim lessons



675


FREE Enrollments Provided

80

Unique Programs Offered

17

Summer Camps




ESSER Funds and Summer Learning

By Michael Eppolito, Director of Curriculum

This summer we used grant funds through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER) to provide free individual and small group tutoring through the Education Annex.

The Education Annex was founded by a former JFK teacher Sarah Legault and is located in Williston. The Annex’s tutors all have backgrounds in education and many are certified and working teachers. This summer the Annex provided free tutoring (in-person and remote) to 23 students over 196 sessions. We will continue to use ESSER funds to provide tutoring services this year and next.

If you are interested in free tutoring for your child please contact or Tutoring Coordinator Stephanie Hackett.





Meet the Newest School Board Member

By Allison Burlock, Board of School Trustees

My name is Allison Burlock. I am a newly appointed member of the Winooski School Board, joining just two months ago. I grew up in Vermont, just 45 minutes south of Winooski in Vergennes. I attended high school in Vergennes, college and graduate school in the midwest, but moved back to Vermont—Winooski specifically—four years ago to be closer to my family.

My education is a combination of health policy and statistics, and I put both to good use each day working in healthcare analytics. My coworkers and leader can attest to the fact that I am a critical thinker and quick learner. I excel at identifying how policy decisions may impact systems and bring that perspective and skill to the Winooski School Board.

My interest in the school board lies in ensuring that local students have the same sort of opportunities I was lucky enough to take advantage of. As youth are our future, I believe it is important we invest in them and nurture them into becoming the kind of grown ups the world needs. I look forward to giving back to Winooski in this highly engaged way and becoming more connected to the Winooski community.

Building a Better School: The New Cafeteria

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications Director

The new cafeteria was open to middle and high school students in September. Elementary students will continue to eat in their classrooms due to COVID-19 precautions. Furniture deliveries, including booths and bistro tables, will arrive mid-September.

The district's meal service providers, the Abbey Group, were happy to settle into the new space after preparing meals over the summer in donated kitchen space at Global Foundries. They were able to expand meal options for students and include a cold and hot meal, salad bar, and customized sandwiches for the first time in more than 18 months.

The first few days were bustling with students settling into the new space, and enjoying the natural light, calming surroundings,

and of course, the more exciting food options. Melissa of the Abbey Group said she was looking forward to better-serving students and staff in the new space.



WSD Antiracism Committee

By Lindsey Halman, Executive Director UP for Learning

The WSD Antiracism Committee held their September meeting on September 13th at the WSD library and on Zoom. As always, this group shows up with full hearts, curiosity and tenacity.

The goals of the meeting were to:

1. Organize the membership of the Demand Action Groups
2. Create a plan for an Action Group member orientation
3. Develop a communications plan for WSD and the Winooski community

The Steering Committee will be communicating with all members of the Action Groups to invite them to the Action Group Orientation on October 4th at 6 pm. The Steering Committee still needs more youth on each of the 6 Demand Action Groups! Please email wdsarsc@gmail.com if you are a youth interested in joining an Action Group. More information about the Action Groups can be found at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zuRMRz_nKjoCAawUxGzVhYbFQhs4QE5BMbb0rH6ds4/edit or on the school website.



Meal Kits with Meaning

By Emily Hecker, WSD Director of Communications

The WSD Summer Meals Program was an incredible success. **In the month of July alone over 15,000 free meals were served to students in Winooski!** The team behind the meal program worked tirelessly all summer to provide around 170 kits per week, which contained seven days worth of breakfast and lunch for one child. They also provided meals to students who were enrolled in summer programming across the city.



The Summer Meal Program team was led by Winooski School District (WSD) Behavior Interventionist Mohamed Diop (pronounced “Jobe”). During the school year, Mohamed works as a Behavior Interventionist with middle and high school students. He helps students replace disruptive or negative behaviors with positive actions. (Read more about his work here: wsdvt.org/mohamed-diop-behavior-interventionist/)

But when Mohamed saw the Summer Meals Coordinator job posting, he knew he had to apply right away. He says he has always been driven by a desire to help others and to do as much good as possible through his work. “I don’t put money first. I go with my passion for what I can bring to the table, and make sure my team is open to me as a leader.”

For Mohamed, that meant showing up early at the weekly distribution sites to make sure everything was ready for his team. With the construction happening at two of the three sites conditions could change from week to week. Mohamed would scope out the site and make sure cones were set up for the delivery truck. “I would set things up and then send a photo to the team so they could feel well prepared for that morning’s distribution,” Mohamed said.

While the Meal Coordinator position was very different from his work as a Behavior Interventionist, Mohamed said that knowing the Winooski community helped him be more effective. “I knew the people we were serving, so I was able to navigate ways to better serve them. Their needs were not only due to the pandemic but also the additional hardships it brought to our refugee population and low-income families.”

Parents and staff affirm that the meal kits filled a huge gap for struggling families. Reliably receiving meals for their children allowed parents to focus on other priorities like paying utility bills or filling their gas tanks, etc. “People were very



grateful and humbled. There was excitement when they came to pick up their meal kits because they knew it would help them get by a little easier. It felt good that our school would be part of their lives during the next week.”

The meal kits also provided ways for neighbors to come together while they needed to stay apart. “One parent, Amina, carried boxes door to door for neighbors who were home in quarantine or who lacked transportation. It was beautiful to see how parents cared about other parents in their neighborhood, it was like: *‘my struggle is your struggle’*. Kids would help older community members carry the heavy boxes home. And it made me feel grateful that we could provide this service to our community.”

Mohamed credits the work of his team for making the summer meal program so successful. “I was so grateful to the school leadership for their trust in me. I established a great team and we did great work. I would like to thank the WSD summer meal team Nicole, Cathy and Judith, and the Abbey Group meal service team, Nina, Mark, Melissa, Bonnie, Linda, and Zack. Because the district kitchen was under construction the Abbey Group worked at Global Foundries to prepare the meal kits. I would like to thank Mark, the general manager of Global Foundries Cafe, and the driver Scott. I am also very grateful to WSD facilities supervisor Cheyne and his team for their support in helping us set up the sites at the WSD despite all the chaos of construction.”

Mohamed says he’s the kind of person who wakes up and hopes he can help at least three people that day. Through his work as Summer Meals Coordinator, he easily met his quota and then some. We’re so grateful for his continued leadership and all the goodness he brings to our learning community every day!

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN THE WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Winooski Restorative Justice for Multicultural Youth Project, launched in 2020, is a collaboration between the Winooski School District, Spectrum Youth and Family Services, UP for Learning, and the City of Winooski with funding from the Vermont Department of Children and Families and an anonymous donor. This monthly column will highlight the Restorative Justice work happening across the district among different groups. For more information please scan the QR code to visit our website.



Restorative Justice Professional Learning in Pre-service

By Kayla Loving

Before students return to school, educators and staff return to do some learning and planning of their own. One of the focuses of learning for this school year is restorative justice. Late last school year, the Restorative Justice Coordinator, Kayla Loving formed an RJ Training Team that would plan and facilitate all professional learning around restorative justice for district-staff. The team is made up of current school staff who are keyed into the learning needs of their co-workers. The members are 3rd Grade Teacher Kari Bohlen, iLab Teacher & Advisory Coordinator Lindsey Cox, Behavior Interventionist Mohamed Diop, Middle High School Co-Principal Kate Grodin, 6th Grade Teacher Nancy Keller, Wellness Coordinator Jaycie Puttlitz, and Multilingual Learner Teacher Annie Schneider.

The RJ Training Team organized five workshops and a restorative justice circle for all district staff to close their time of learning and preparation. New teachers received an introduction to restorative justice in WSD. JFK teachers learned about the similarities and differences between PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) and restorative justice. They also thought about how to bring community building circles into their classrooms. Middle school teachers compared restorative justice with Developmental Designs and other commitments the school has made such as anti-racism and the Capitol Project. High school teachers learned about different types of circles and practiced writing their own circle scripts. There was a district-wide workshop where each member of the RJ Training Team hosted a station and participants chose what they wanted to focus on for the hour. Station options were: introduction to restorative justice, participating in a check-in circle, participating in a circle about anti-racism in WSD, adapting and writing circle scripts, mindfulness, RJ Q&A, and community building activities.

Pre-service ended with a closing circle that was written by the students who attended the Restorative Justice Youth



Leadership workshop over the summer. The students were asked: What do you want teachers and school staff to contemplate before the first day of school? They came up with some incredible questions to help guide their educators into the new school year embracing one of the group's agreements: "We are all teachers and learners."



Student Advocacy Inspired \$25,000 Grant for Inclusive Play Area

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications Director

The Heart of Winooski (HOW) Foundation was awarded \$25,000 for a new inclusive play area and outdoor learning space through a Building Communities Grants Award. The grant is overseen by Governor Scott, the Vermont General Assembly, and the Recreational Facilities Grants Committee. The grant, matched by funds raised by the HOW Foundation, will ensure that a high-quality, thoughtfully designed play space can be created on the Winooski School District campus.

The grant application was inspired by elementary students, who advocated for a better playground space a few years ago. In 2019, 3rd-grade classes completed an extended project about change-making. Each class identified an area about their school experience that they wanted to help change and improve. Teacher Kari Bohlen's class decided to focus their efforts on improving recess. 3rd graders collected information about students' recess experience from almost half the classes at school. Of the classes interviewed, 123 students believed that our existing playground structures were not sufficient to allow everyone to play and have fun at recess. They sent a letter to Principal Sara Raabe, Facilities Supervisor Cheyne Racine, and Superintendent Sean McMannon, stating:

"Our class thinks that recess is important because you can have fun and get your energy out. We need more equipment options on the playground to play on at recess. We need more swings on the playground because then people won't have to wait. We also want more ropes on the playground because we can swing on them and swinging on them is fun, right? One time I almost fell because people were pushing me on the ladder. If we had more ropes, people would not be pushing as much. We do not have any ropes and that is why we think we should have some. We need more slides on the playground, too, because everybody clumps on the slides at the same time. Mrs. Bohlen's class took a survey and found that 123 students said that the playground equipment was a problem. We think adding ropes and swings would help solve the problem. In conclusion, we hope that you will consider our ideas by having more equipment. This will make recess more spectacular and safer."

While plans to create a new play area were previously discussed as part of the Capital Project, due to the current costs

Students on the current playground in August, 2021



SAVE THE DATE!

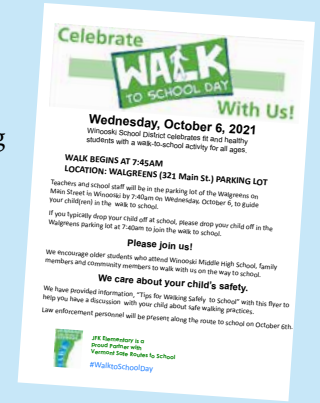
Winooski students celebrate walking to school

By Jaycie Puttlitz

On **Wednesday, October 6th**, students in the Winooski school district will be celebrating **Walk to School day**.

At 7:40am, students can be dropped off in the Walgreens parking lot located at 321 Main Street in Winooski. Elementary and district-wide staff will be waiting to greet students, then at 7:45am, they will proceed up the sidewalk to school.

Our local law enforcement will be on hand to help us travel safely together, and the Winooski high school band will play music to entertain us while we walk. See you there!



of the construction project, the district was not able to include it in the budget. Now, thanks to the grant to the HOW Foundation, the new play area will be possible.

PTO President Laura Lee was thrilled about the grant award and matching funds from the HOW Foundation. "The opportunity to build a new play area allows the school district to create an inclusive outdoor learning space will allow the school to design an ADA compliant, creative learning space which includes ample gross motor opportunities for students with a wide range of needs, a musical feature that will be both fun for students and beneficial for enhancing early literacy skills, and an adventure space that helps improve the confidence of students and provides opportunities for learning necessary social skills."

The play area construction project will be completed by August 2022.

WELCOME NEW SCHOOL STAFF



New JFK Staff

Top row left to right: **Timothy Berger**, Teacher; **Lindsay Day**, Teacher; **Monique Hanson**, Instructional Assistant; **Erin Hurley**, Multi-lingual Teacher

Second row left to right: **Luke Lampugnale**, Special Education Teacher; **Nayeon Mass**, Instructional Assistant; **Laura Niedecker**, Teacher; **Lisa Niquette**, Instructional Assistant

Third row: **Emma Walsh**, Teacher



New WMHS Staff

left to right: **Caitlin Briggs**, Instructional Assistant; **Madeline Gemme**, Program Assistant; **Sean Pagal**, School Registrar; **Maeve Poleman**, Teacher

Second row: **Camilla Thomassen-Tai**, Teacher



New Staff District-Wide

Top row left to right: **Mukhtar Abdulahi**, Multi-lingual Liaison; **Larkin Brown**, Teacher; **Kelley Freeman**, Administrative Assistant; **Jessica Riley**, Headstart Teacher

Second row left to right: **Birk Rivait**, IT Support Staff; **Padam Thepa**, Multi-lingual Liaison



MISSING:

Caitlyn Batche, Teacher, JFK; **Lauren Brough**, Instructional Assistant, WMHS; **Jeffrey Duggan**, Teacher, WMHS; **Emily Merrill**, Support Staff, WMHS; **Hannah Pace**, Teacher, WMHS; **Victor Toman**, Teacher, WMHS



Meet New High School Teacher Julie Galati



Born and raised in New York City, I was pulled to Vermont by my love of skiing and my need for a more natural world. I am proud of my urban roots and find a healthy balance between large city stimulation and meditation in the woods. I have been in education for over 25 years. I started in outdoor education and environmental science in Colorado, then collaborated with mental health agencies and public schools in Vermont as a Behavior Specialist. I love working with students to help them find their

passions and develop flexible pathways so learning is meaningful and relevant. I created and founded an off campus High School Alternative Program in Central Vermont, and found my way to become a Special Education teacher.

I am now in the High School Therapeutic classroom, called the Lotus Program. I am very excited to join the Winooski community and get to know students and families.

When I'm not at school, I enjoy exercising our 10 month old rescue puppy, cooking and baking with my daughter, and planning adventures around the world.

Learning for Justice

By Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

During preservice, the entire JFK staff spent time looking at the Learning for Justice Social Justice Standards. The Social Justice standards are divided into four domains - identity, diversity, justice, and action (IDJA). These four domains organize the standards and address the need for students and adults to gain knowledge and skills related to both prejudice reduction and collective action. Together, these domains represent a continuum of engagement in anti-bias, multicultural and social justice education. The IDJA domains are based on Louise Derman-Sparks' four goals for anti-bias education in early childhood.

The Social Justice Standards are a road map for incorporating anti-bias education into school in a thoughtful and meaningful ways. Comprised of anchor standards and age-appropriate

learning outcomes, the Standards provide a common language and structure for students at different age levels, and adults.

During preservice, the JFK staff looked at the Social Justice Standards in relation to their own identity and learning. An example of that work is the work we did with Anchor Standard: Identity 3: Individuals will recognize that people's multiple identities interact and create unique and complex individuals. For K-2 students the outcome for this standard is "I know that all my group identities are part of me—but that I am always ALL me". For students in grades 3-5, the outcome for this standard is "I know that all my group identities are part of who I am, but none of them fully describes me and this is true for other people too." For JFK adults, the outcome for this standard for themselves is "I know that all my

group identities and the intersection of those identities create unique aspects of who I am and that this is true for other people too". For JFK adults, the outcome for this standard for their work with students is "I actively seek to identify my student's multiple identities and what that means for their school experiences". During preservice, all of the JFK adults participated in identity and culture work. This work pushed people to name their own multiple identities and culture, and name how that affects how they move through the world.

Throughout the year, the adults at JFK will be identifying and including the social justice standards in their teaching and learning. Our goal is to continue to make JFK and WSD more just, equitable and safe for all of our students and families.

Student Learning During Quarantine

Co-Principal Jean Berthiaume & Co-Principal Kate Grodin

The school year is off to a strong start and we are so pleased to have students back five days a week and in person! We do not take this for granted and are committed to working hard to ensure that our students are safe and remain here at school to learn and remain connected to their peers. With that said, there may be times when quarantining is necessary and when your child should stay home because they have COVID related symptoms. This is an important responsibility that we ask parents to take to protect the health of our learning community.

WMHS recognizes that quarantine will be a necessary part of our lives, particularly with the highly contagious Delta variant of COVID-19. We are committed to making decisions with safety and health as our two top priorities, using safety protocols to try to avoid sending a whole school into quarantine.

It will be our practice that if students need to quarantine, they will be provided with work in the same way we have when students have missed multiple

days of classes in the past; instructors will provide work, as soon as possible, to support students' continued learning and connection to the class. Given that teachers will still be teaching in-person students, this work will be asynchronous (not live) and may not be available the first day a student is absent.

In settings where students spend the bulk of their day with one teacher, should an entire class need to quarantine for more than a few days, we will pivot to provide remote learning. To accommodate such a switch, the first day will be spent establishing and deploying systems with work beginning on the second day of quarantine.

At this time, the Vermont Agency of Education has indicated that if an entire school needs to be closed due to COVID-19, all school days would need to be made up at a later date. As such, we will not be providing remote learning on a "no school" day. Should this state policy change, as we hope it will, we will update our practices to provide remote learning in the event of a whole-school quarantine.

SAVE THE DATE Student/Family Conferences Coming Up

Teachers in Winooski Middle/ High School look forward to meeting with students and their families on Thursday and Friday October 21 and 22 to review learning and progress in classes this year.

Notices will be coming home with students, or you can call the WMHS office 655-3530 for more information.

Those will be half days for JFK Elementary students, with dismissal at 11am.

Art in Middle School

By Emily Jacobs, WMS Visual Art Teacher

To kick off the 2021 school year, Winooski's middle school artists flexed their creative muscles and showed off their personal artistic styles. Students were given the freedom to draw anything they chose, in their personal favorite drawing style, so long as they included a great deal of detail, filled the page completely, and demonstrated high quality craftsmanship through careful outlines and coloring. Across all of these artistic modes, our students' creativity and craftsmanship shines through brightly.



Hue V.



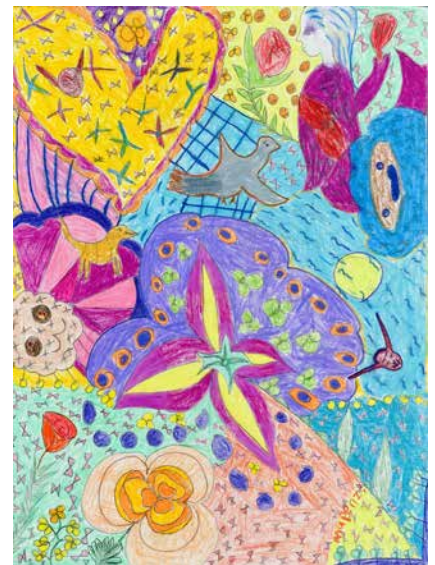
Jesse M.



Eliza W.



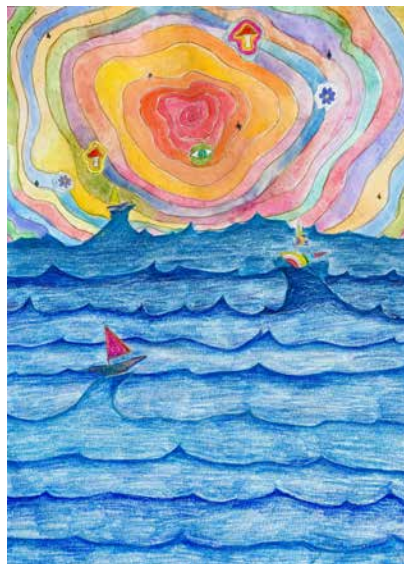
Asheera T.



Mapenzi S.



Destin E.



Iris P.



Issahia C.

Health Information

By Elizabeth Parris, BSN, RN, NCSN

1. If you have not already done so, please fill out the health information section in Powerschool. We check this section to see if your child can have over the counter medications as needed.
2. If you have a student K-2 we highly recommend that you place an extra set of clothes in their backpack in case of an accident. We have limited items in the health office.
3. We will begin hearing and vision screenings in the health office this month. We are required to screen students in Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th,

7th, 9th and 12th grade. You will only be notified if your child's results are outside of normal limits.

4. It's never too early to start thinking about flu shots! Call your doctor to make your appointment today!
5. It is extremely important to make sure that our office has the most up to date phone number on file in case of an emergency. If your phone number changes throughout the school year please make sure to update the main office and health office.

Have a great month!!

Tooth Tutor

By Tracy Towers RDH, WSD Tooth Tutor Dental Hygienist

The WSD Dental Transportation Program is continuing this year. Would you like your child to receive full access to dental care while at school? Would you like to stop missing work to take your child to dental appointments? Sign up for our Tooth Tutor program! This program is for students who don't currently have a dentist or students who would like to transfer to Vermont Dental in Winooski. If your child has any dental concerns please contact Nurse Katharine (kmonje@wsdvt.org) or Tooth Tutor Tracy Towers (ttowers@wsdvt.org).

A Doctor's Office Inside the School

Do you want your child to see the doctor but you're having trouble getting an appointment? Are you worried about your child missing school for their doctor's appointment? Good news: the doctor can now see your child while they are at school.

The WSD School-Based Health Center (SBHC) has three providers who see many of our students off campus already at UVM Medical Center Primary Pediatrics or at the Community Health Centers of Burlington (CHCB). Our SBHC providers accept most types of insurance, including Green Mountain Care's Dr. Dynosaur. They can see your children during the school day for any acute or chronic illness, including sports injuries, medication management, strep throat, upper respiratory infections, ear infections, urinary tract infections, rashes, and concussion management.

The only service they don't provide is your child's annual Well Child visit unless they are already their primary care provider (PCP).

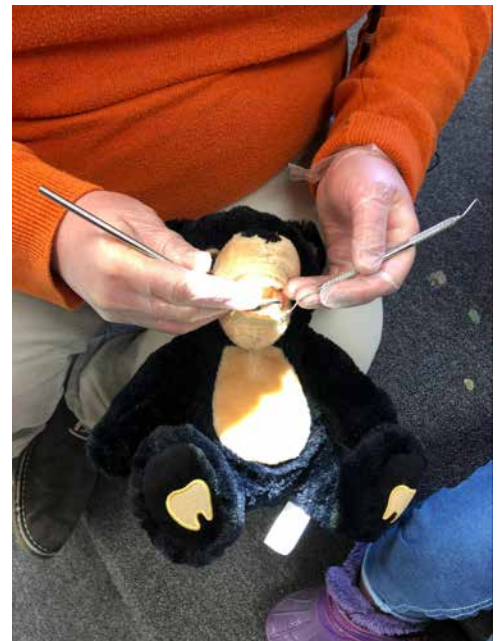
- **Dr. Heather Link** from UVM Medical Center Primary Pediatrics will be at the SBHC on Tuesday mornings.




- **Libby McDonald NP** from UVM Medical Center Primary Pediatrics will be at the SBHC on Friday mornings.
- **Sherry Larose PA** from Community Health Center of Burlington (CHCB) will be at the SBHC on Thursday mornings beginning in October.

Forms to sign up for the WSD SBHC are available in PowerSchool or you can request a paper copy from the Winooski School District Health Office.

If you have questions, contact Nurse Liz Parris at eparris@wsdvt.org or call 802-383-6040.



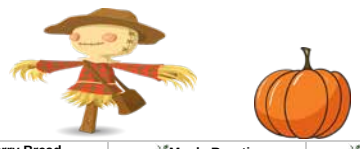
WINOOSKI SCHOOL MENUS



Winooski Elementary School Breakfast

October 2021

V =Vegetarian Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				
<p>Please advise us if special meal accommodations are required for allergens or other special dietary needs.</p>				
<p>4 W/G Iced Honey Bun Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>5 Blueberry Bread Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>6 W/Maple Burstn Pancakes Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>7 W/Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>1 Fruit Filled Muffin w/Cheese Stick Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>
<p>11 W/G Iced Honey Bun Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>12 Blueberry Bread Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>13 W/Maple Burstn Pancakes Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>14 W/Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>No School</p>
<p>18 W/G Iced Honey Bun Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>19 Blueberry Bread Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>20 W/Maple Burstn Pancakes Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>21 W/Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>22 Fruit Filled Muffin w/Cheese Stick Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety Graham Crackers</p>
<p>25 W/G Iced Honey Bun Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>26 Blueberry Bread Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>27 W/Maple Burstn Pancakes Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>28 W/Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>29 Fruit Filled Muffin w/Cheese Stick Or W/G Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.


Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$1.85
Adult Lunch \$3.85
Milk \$0.50


Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:
Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All Meals.


Milk Condiments
Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit

Pay for meals on-line. Click on Link Below:



Click Image Below for employment opportunities






Winooski Elementary School Lunch

October 2021

V =Vegetarian Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				
<p>Please advise us if special meal accommodations are required for allergens or other special dietary needs.</p>				
<p>4 French Toast Sticks Real Maple Syrup Scrambled Eggs Sweet & White Homofries Fresh Green Pepper Strips Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety Meatless Monday</p>	<p>5 Tater Tot Nachos Garden Salsa Steamed Corn Rice Pilaf Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>6 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Veggie Pizza Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Celery Sticks Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>7 Chicken Patty Sandwich Hand Cut French Fries Maple Baked Beans Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>1 Layered Chicken Bowl Homemade Dinner Roll Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>
<p>11 Macaroni and Cheese Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Carrot Sticks Homemade Cornbread Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>12 Taco Bar w/ The Works Garden Salsa Seasoned Black Beans Rice Pilaf Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>13 Cheesy Breadsticks W/ Marinara Dipping Sauce Fresh Celery Sticks Chicken Noodle Soup Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>14 Dress Your Own Burger on a Bun Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges Kale Apple Salad Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>No School</p>
<p>18 W/Cheesy Goulash Kale Chips Steamed Corn Garlic Breadstick Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>19 Street Tacos (Corn Tortilla, Ground Beef, Salsa, Sour Cream) Garden Salsa Seasoned Black Beans Rice Pilaf Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>20 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Veggie Pizza Caesar Salad Fresh Cucumber Sticks Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>21 Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges Maple Baked Beans Homemade Dinner Roll Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>22 Hot Turkey Sandwich Chef's Mashed Potato Steamed Green Peas Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>
<p>25 Buttermilk Pancakes Real Maple Syrup Scrambled Eggs Sweet & White Homofries Fresh Green Pepper Strips Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety Meatless Monday</p>	<p>26 Beef Nachos Garden Salsa Mexicali Corn Rice Pilaf Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>27 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Veggie Pizza Fresh Broccoli Salad Braised Kale & Beans Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety Taste Test Event HOM-Kale</p>	<p>28 Chicken Alfredo Steamed Green Peas Caesar Salad Garlic Breadstick Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>	<p>29 Thai Noodle Salad w/Chicken Steamed Broccoli Homemade Zucchini Bread Square Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety</p>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$1.85
Adult Lunch \$3.85
Milk \$0.50


Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:
Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola, Deli Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich w/Cheese Stick
Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All Meals.

Deli Options K-8
Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola
Milk Condiments
Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit

Pay for meals on-line. Click Image Below:



Harvest of the Month:
Kale



Click on the image above for more info on the Harvest of the Month!

Harvest of the Month Veggie Served



From Your Local Representatives

By Representative Hal Colston

The upcoming second session of the biennium promises to be a busy one. In addition to the routine bills that will be introduced, the Government Operations Committee (GovOps) I serve on is tasked to pass out the pension bill as well as engaging in the redistricting (reapportionment) process. I will be personally pushing forward a bill that I have sponsored, H.96, an act to create a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) development task force.

For the past 20 years the legislature has not acted to deal with the unfunded liabilities of the state pension program that serves teachers and state employees. There is no more can left to kick down the road so we must act now to preserve the viability of the system. Essentially, there is not enough incoming revenues to cover the pension payout expense. GovOps held two statewide hearings through Zoom last session, and we heard loud and clear to take more time to handle this complex issue. A summer study committee was formed with all stakeholders represented to generate their recommendations to be reported to the legislature. This will inform GovOps to craft a bill that will make the pension program sustainable going forward.

Redistricting occurs every ten years following the U.S. Census report. The Vermont census data report will be available this September while it is normally offered in May. The Legislative Apportionment Board led by former legislator Tom Little will be developing an analysis of which districts that will likely need adjusting due to population deficits or excesses. GovOps will then conduct

hearings around the state to gather input so we can make final recommendations for the bill to reapportion voting districts.

I feel H.96 is an important bill that will provide an opportunity for Vermonters who have experienced institutional, structural, and systemic discrimination to share their truths. TRC allows for the healing of broken relationships and the opportunity to reconcile the harms. This is a process for the oppressed as well as the oppressors. I believe reparations will be on the horizon so the disadvantaged and the disenfranchised can be made whole. A TRC is foundational for making our Vermont community a beloved community.



Community Vision

This new section of the Winooski Newsletter is designed to keep our residents and visitors informed of the progress being made in the City's Strategic Vision areas – or “community vision”. To learn more, visit winooskivt.gov/about.

Economic Vitality

The Winooski Finance Commission met with the Safe, Healthy, Connected People Commission last month to discuss updates on the City's Grant, Fundraising, and Scholarship policies. To view the updated policies and meeting minutes, visit winooskivt.gov/agendacenter (see ‘Finance Commission’). The Finance Commission also received applications for a new alternate member - many thanks to all who applied!



Municipal Infrastructure

Work continues on the US-7 Concrete Repair project through the circulator and is expected to be completed in the fall. For full project details and updates, please sign up for our news updates at winooskivt.gov.



The Main Street Revitalization Project is targeting a construction start in the spring of 2022. Maintaining clear communication with residents and property owners during the project is a priority for the City. The Department of Public Works will be leaving door hangers with a request for contact information - you can receive future updates about the project by doing one of the following:

- If you have internet access, please complete the online info intake form at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet.
- If you do not have internet access, please call 802 734 0022 leave a voicemail with your name, street address, and daytime phone number.

Housing

The Housing Commission met in August to approve its final work plan for the year and dive into city-wide opportunities for promoting multi-bedroom unit construction. After approving the work plan, Housing

WINOOSKI MUNICIPAL UPDATES

Commission members reviewed data about the redevelopment of property in the City and the net gains or losses in units by bedroom count. Based on permitted or active construction, there is a net gain in all categories of bedroom counts (studios, 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom and 3+ bedrooms), with larger gains in studios and 1-bedroom units. The Housing Commission also recruited two new members – join us in welcoming Stevya Mukuzo and Jack Commo! Councilor Jim Duncan's latest Housing Liaison Update is available at winooskivt.gov.



Safe, Healthy, Connected People

The Winooski Police Department welcomed Alexandra Jackson-Smurthwaite and Ahmed Sharif-Shoble to the first day of their careers last month and were sworn-in by the City Clerk's Office. Both Alexandra and Ahmed will attend the PT and FT academy programs. Please join us in welcoming them to the team!



The final 'Winooski Wednesdays' summer concert and outdoor market event happened in September and was a huge success. Many thanks to Downtown

Winooski and to everyone involved for organizing such an incredible summer opportunity.



COVID-19 Information

Masks and 6' social distancing are required by our staff and the public for all City of Winooski buildings, regardless of vaccination status, including:

- Winooski City Hall (27 West Allen Street)
- Winooski Police Department (27 West Allen Street)
- Winooski Fire Department (120 Main Street)
- Winooski Senior Center (123 Barlow Street)
- Winooski Public Works (Gilbrook Road)
- Winooski Memorial Library (32 Malletts Bay Ave)
- O'Brien Community Center (32 Malletts Bay Ave)

City staff and members of the public are not required to wear a mask outside in the course of work or during City-sponsored events or gatherings, unless it is not possible to maintain physical distancing, in which case masks must be worn regardless of vaccination status.

COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 testing is available at the O'Brien Community Center (32 Malletts Bay Ave). Please note the new time slots available. Please visit winooskivt.gov/covid-19 for up-to-date hours. Register at <https://vermont.force.com/events/selfregistration> (walk-ups are also welcome).

COVID-19 Vaccines

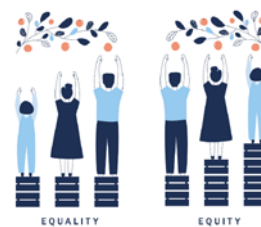
COVID-19 vaccination clinics remain open for people ages 12 and up. Please visit healthvermont.gov/myvaccine to schedule your appointment or find the next available pop-up opportunity.

For current updates, resources, and municipal service information please visit winooskivt.gov/covid-19



Reminders from the City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk's Office will be closed on Monday, October 11, 2021 in observance of Indigenous People's Day. Feel free to use either drop box at City Hall for payments and documents as needed. Winooski City Council will hold their regular meetings on Monday October 4 and Monday October 18



Equity Update

By Yasamin Gordon, Equity Director

Community-focused Equity Audit

The City of Winooski and Winooski School District are excited to announce that we will be conducting an equity audit in partnership with the IBG Consulting Group! IBG is a woman and minority-owned business committed to helping public service organizations build initiatives, conditions, and competencies to improve outcomes and opportunities for those whom our institutions and systems have historically underserved.

IBG specializes in equity audits,

anti-racism training, bias interruption, and equity/inclusion strategic planning. Their unique and community-centered approach is focused on outcomes, rather than intentions, and is grounded in decades of research on the potential drivers of inequality in public systems.



Please join us in welcoming **Iris Bond-Gil** and **Etai Mizrav** who will assist us in the effort to increase inclusion for our most under-represented community members.

We are excited to join the Winooski School District for this important initiative. There will be opportunities for residents to engage in the audit by joining targeted focus groups that will be led in-person (dependent on COVID-19 guidelines) by the consultants. The City of Winooski and the Winooski School District will share project and meeting information as we progress, please keep an eye out for our news updates to learn more!

Upcoming Community Centered Opportunities

Your voice matters! Join us for the following equity-focused initiatives:

1. **Community Engagement / City Council Meetings Survey**

The City of Winooski will be distributing a survey to discover new ways to get BIPOC community members engaged in the local government process and to attend Winooski City Council meetings. We are partnering with a local BIPOC owned business so that participants will be compensated for your involvement – please stay tuned for additional information and sign up for our news updates at winooski.vt.gov.

2. **Meet the Equity Director**

Meet Yasamin Gordon, Equity Director at the O'Brien Community Center for an evening of refreshment and a special opportunity to get to know her and the important work Winooski will be engaging in. Specific details TBA, please sign up for our news updates at winooski.vt.gov for additional information!



Community Services Updates

Recreation and Parks

winooski.vt.gov/rec

  @winooskirec

Our fall programs are now available for registration! Learn more and sign up today at winooski.vt.gov/recprograms.



Halloween in Winooski 2021

Keep an eye out for our annual Halloween in Winooski announcement and details! Visit winooski.vt.gov/halloween for information soon!

Friday Night Outings

Winooski Recreation and the Winooski Library are teaming up to bring you Friday Night Outings! Youth grades K - 8 can stop by the library to complete a challenge to gain sign-up access for one outing of their choosing, including:

- Metro Rock Climbing & High Ropes
- Get Air Trampoline Park
- Flynn Theatre: Ayodele Casel
- UVM Men's Hockey vs Providence

• Burlington City Arts Intro to Pottery
Take the challenge and sign up! Visit the Winooski Library with a parent or guardian and ask the librarian to help you complete a Friday Night Outing Challenge. You can pick from one of the following:

- Sign up for a library card
- Read a book aloud to a sibling or parent/guardian
- Read a book and give the librarian a summary
- Learn 3 other things than a book you can check out from the library
- Draw a picture of your favorite book character

Once you complete the challenge the librarian will help you sign up for one of the available spots (a parent or guardian is required to be present for this). We'll send an email with details on where to meet for your Friday Night Outing!

Pickle Ball

Join the Winooski Recreation and Parks Pickle Ball team on the newly renovated Landry Park Courts! Pickleball is a fun and engaging paddleball sport that combines elements of badminton, table tennis, and tennis. Two or four players use solid paddles to hit a perforated ball, much like a wiffle ball, over the net. The sport shares features of other racket sports: the dimensions and layout of a badminton court, and a net and rules somewhat similar to tennis, with several modifications. Partners and matchups will be assigned based on experience, or come with your own partner. Staff will be on-site to hand out gear, explain the rules, and help facilitate the games.

- Adults (16+)/Youth with adult supervision
- September 14th - October 19th
- Tuesdays, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM @ Landry Park Tennis Courts

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Board Game Club

Join Winooski Recreation and Parks on a weekly visit to the Boardgame Cafe! Explore the diverse board game world - teens will have the opportunity to play classic games such as Monopoly and Battleship or explore complex games such as Root and Wingspan.

- Grades 6 - 8
- October 7 - November 18
- Thursdays, 5 - 7 PM @ Boardroom Cafe - 3 Mill Street, Burlington, VT

Hiking Club

Join Winooski Recreation and Parks for local exploration outings on Saturdays! Youth will participate in various hikes in the area, with plenty of opportunities for creek splashing, rock scrambling, and critter spotting. Each week staff will teach youth a new wilderness survival skill while out on the trail.

- Grades 4 - 8 Saturdays 9 AM - various end times
- October 9 - 30, 2021

Outdoor Yoga at Richards Park

We've partnered with local instructors to provide an amazing Outdoor Yoga Program! This new series offers an opportunity for exercise and relaxation in one of Winooski's best parks with different classes and instructors every week - there's something for everyone, and all skill levels are welcome.

- September 18 - October 16, 2021 Saturdays @ Richards Park (Park & LaFountain, Winooski)
- 10:30 - 11:30 AM Free and open to all
- Sign up ahead of time below or just drop by.
- Be sure to bring your own yoga mat, water bottle, and mask! Click here to learn more about our amazing instructors.

October 2 - Gentle Yoga Flow for Healthy Hips with Lucy B. D'Aponte

October 9 - Breathwork Through Movement with Johnny Powell

October 16 - Vinyasa Yoga with Emily Fixx

Youth Pickup Basketball

Join Winooski Recreation and Parks for some pickup basketball at the O'Brien Community Center! Youth will be divided into teams and provided all equipment necessary to play. Games will be referred by recreation staff.

- September 25 - October 23, 2021
- Division I Grades K - 2 Saturdays 2:30 - 3:30 PM
- Division II Grades 3 - 5 Saturdays 3:30 - 4:30 PM
- Division III Grades 6 - 8 Saturdays 4:30 - 5:30 PM



Thrive After School

winooski.vt.gov/thrive

[f @thrivewinooski](https://www.facebook.com/thrivewinooski)

Thrive After School is a state-licensed, 3 STAR childcare/enrichment program that runs from 3-5:30pm Monday - Friday. We partner with WSD to provide a community where children in grades K-5 explore, learn, and grow during their after school hours. During Thrive, students engage with creative arts, STEM and Makerspace activities, literacy skills, cooperative and socio-emotional learning, outdoor play, and more.

Thrive costs \$19 per day enrollment or \$90 for full week. We accept state childcare subsidy as well as offer scholarships to families in need.

For full details and to sign up, visit winooski.vt.gov/thrive.



Winooski Memorial Library

winooski.vt.gov/library

[f](https://www.facebook.com/winooskilibrary) [i](https://www.instagram.com/winooskilibrary) @winooskilibrary

Audiobooks, Ebooks, & More

Did you know that all Winooski Memorial Library cardholders have access to FREE online resources including audiobooks, ebooks, film streaming, language learning, educational and professional development courses, and more? Visit our website at winooski.vt.gov/library or stop by the library for questions about access and/or additional information.

English Conversation Group

We're excited to announce our partnership with USCRI Vermont to offer their "English Conversation Group" program! Join a weekly conversation group to practice English skills. Each week will have a different theme and new vocabulary to practice. Do you have a topic you would like to talk about? Join the conversation!

- Tuesdays 11am-12pm @ the Winooski Memorial Library
- Free to join, open to adults 18+

Free Veggie Distribution

We've partnered with the Intervale Center to provide FREE local produce to our community members! Looking to add color and vibrancy to your next meal? Want to enjoy something fresh and amazing from a local Vermont farm?

This amazing opportunity is made possible by Intervale's Gleaning & Food Rescue Program, an initiative that gleans and rescues fresh vegetables from Intervale farms and farms in Chittenden County. Drop by and say hello!

WINOOSKI MUNICIPAL UPDATES

- Wednesdays from 4 - 6 PM @ the O'Brien Community Center (Parking Lot)
- Please bring your own reusable grocery bags.
- Seasonal item availability on a first-served basis

Library of Things

Did you know the library has a collection of nontraditional items available for loan to Winooski cardholders? We call this our "Library of Things" and it includes such items as birding backpacks, local museum and VT State Park passes, home and yard tools, board games, blood pressure kits, a telescope, and more! Stop by today and check-out something new.

Money Matters

The Winooski Memorial Library is excited to announce our partnership with Opportunities Credit Union to offer their two-part Money Matters financial literacy series about budgeting and credit building basics!

Introduction to Credit & Debt will demystify and discuss the importance of credit and provide some tips to improve yours! The workshop will also cover credit reports and credit scores as well as what happens when you can't afford your payments. Saturday, October 2, from 11 AM - 12 PM

- Free; no registration required - just stop by.

Introduction to Budgeting & Savings will introduce participants to basic budgeting concepts and discuss the importance of having a budget or spending plan. The workshop will also cover different methods of creating a budget and share some important money-saving tips. Saturday, October 9th, from 11 AM - 12 PM.

- Free; no registration required - just stop by.

Outdoor Storytime

Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am for outdoor storytime. We'll be reading our favorite books, singing songs, doing a little dancing, and sharing in

fun! Weather permitting. No registration required. Find us behind the library on the lawn!

Playgroup and Family Support

Join the Winooski Memorial Library and Howard Center for a fun playgroup for parents, caregivers, and young children ages 0-5. Every Tuesday we will meet at the Library from 12 - 1 PM for activities such as reading stories, movement exercises, and sing-alongs. Adults will also have the opportunity to talk about child development or just chat. Come connect with your child and meet other families within your community!

For more information, please reach out to Kirsten Wilson, Children's Engagement Specialist: kwilson@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424

STEAM Ahead Saturdays

Find us on Saturdays from 10 - 11 AM for our STEAM Activity hour. Each week will feature a new project for young learners that will engage the mind and introduce participants to science, technology, engineering, art and math-based concepts!

This program is intended for youth ages 5 and up, however parents are encouraged to partake! Youth should attend in clothing appropriate for art projects.

Virtual Dungeons & Dragons

Welcome to the world of cooperative narrative role play where the story is told by participant players! Build amazing worlds and learn all about collaborative storytelling through our series of information and gaming sessions. This program is designed for youth ages 10 - 18 and parents are welcome to participate. Join us via Zoom on Mondays 4 - 6 PM (elementary) and 6 - 8 PM (middle/high school). To sign up, call or email Josh Neilson, Youth Services Coordinator, at jneilson@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424

Winooski Reads Book Club

The Winooski Library is excited to offer a chance to participate in our new Winooski Reads Book Club for adult readers (18+)! Join your friends and neighbors for a lively discussion of each

month's selected title and share your thoughts, insights, and reactions to the book. Free to take part, email or call Nate Eddy, Library Director, at neddy@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424

Winooski Writes!

Calling all Winooski writers: Join the Winooski Memorial Library and Writer/Professor Mary Hussman in ongoing, monthly writing workshops. Winooski Writes! seeks to provide an encouraging, supportive, and inclusive safe space for writers of all levels to practice and grow their craft. Through peer review, regular writing practice, and craft talk, we'll learn to find and hone our voices on the page. Writers of all genres over 18 are welcome to join. No huge time commitment, though regular attendance is highly recommended. Free to take part, email or call Nate Eddy, Library Director, at neddy@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424



Winooski Senior Center

winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter

 @winooskiseniorcenter

We are now open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 9:30 AM - 1 PM. Join us for events and programs!

Shine Time - NEW!

Our new Shine Time programming will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 AM to 1 PM. Join us for fun and games, educational programming and good old-fashioned conversation! Snacks are always provided. Call or email us for details. FREE!

TUESDAYS

Community Coffee Chat

Everyone is welcome to join us on Tuesdays from 10 - 11am as we gather and converse with community members. Coffee Tea, treats and great conversation

WINOOSKI MUNICIPAL UPDATES

will be served. FREE!

NOTE: No program on Tuesday, 10/12.

WEDNESDAYS

Vintage Cafe - NEW!

We'll be hosting our Vintage Cafe every Wednesday from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Join us for coffee, tea, treats and great music. FREE!

More than a Meal

In partnership with Age Well, we are offering Older Vermonters (60+) a free nutritious meal every Wednesday. 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! We offer contactless delivery to your Winooski home or apartment building entrance. Pick up between 10:30am and 12:30pm at the Center. Reservations must be made by Noon the Friday before the scheduled Wednesday meal. Please call us at 802 655 6425 or email us at seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov for the weekly menu and to register for this program.

THURSDAYS

Small Dog Socials - NEW!

Join us on Thursdays from 10am - 11am for a great opportunity to socialize with folks who own small dogs! We'll have treats for everyone and will have fun games and toys for all to play along. Bring your small dog or just come and enjoy being in the company of furry friends! FREE!

Fun & Games - NEW TIME

Do you like to play Cribbage, Scrabble, Card Games, Wii Bowling, or Ping Pong? We've got it all and more! Join us from 11am - 1pm for tons of fun, conversation and snacks. FREE!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Luncheon Cruise

• 11:30am Thursday, October 7th
Join us as we meet at the Spirit of Ethan Allen for a lunch and narrated cruise. \$21 all inclusive. Advance tickets required. Call Pat Long at: 802 557 5484. Presented by Age Well.

Mt Philo Meet Up

• 11am on Tuesday October 12th
Join us at the summit of Mt. Philo for a BYO Lunch date! We'll provide desserts and fun. Call us for a reservation. Carpooling encouraged. FREE!

Halloween Party

• 10 am - 12:30 pm on Wednesday, October 27th
Join us as we celebrate with a fun and spooky party. Pumpkin carving, treats and great music! Come in costume or not! FREE!

Bone Builders

• Mondays and Wednesdays at 3pm
RSVP Bone Builders is an exercise program designed to prevent (and even reverse) the negative effects of osteoporosis. The program is based on research conducted and published by Tufts University which shows that strength training just twice a week dramatically reduces the risk of fractures due to the disease. Bone Builders classes fill a vital need for regular physical exercise as well as increased social interaction, both well-known components of healthy aging.

Meals on Wheels

If you know of an older Vermonter who has special nutrition requirements or is having difficulty with meal preparation, please call Age Well at 802 863 0360 to find out the eligibility requirements. No one is denied meals due to an inability to donate. Volunteer drivers are always needed.



Meals on Wheels Volunteers Urgently Needed in Winooski!

You can help your older neighbors when you deliver Meals on Wheels in Winooski with Age Well. The time you donate will be repaid many times over by the relationships and memories created and the knowledge that you've made a difference. Volunteers are assigned a weekly or bi-weekly route in their community. Meals are delivered between 9-11am so the client has the meal for lunchtime. Our nutritious meals include protein, vegetables, milk, juice, bread, and fruit. Special diets (such as low-sodium) are accommodated.

Age Well is proud to partner with the Winooski Senior Center. Contact the Volunteer Department: 802-662 5249 or volunteer@agewellvt.org

Learn more about volunteering: agewellvt.org/giving-back/volunteer



What's up around Winooski?

By Meredith Bay-Tyack, Executive Director, Downtown Winooski

As the weather turns cooler, Winooski is still buzzing with events, specials at our local bars and restaurants and opportunities to come together as a community.

Winooski Farmers Market

The Winooski Farmers Market will be open until October 10! Come out every Sunday 10am - 2pm rain or shine on Winooski Falls Way in downtown Winooski. Each week vendors offer incredible fresh local produce, maple syrup, honey, homemade soaps, maple popcorn, jewelry, baked goods, mini pies, unique specialty food and body care, bespoke clothing, candles, mead and much more. Plus, free music! We look forward to seeing you! Visit www.downtownwinooski.org/winooski-farmers-market and @winooskifarmersmarket on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date.



Halloween in Winooski 2021

Mark your calendars for October 29, 30 and 31! We are looking forward to hosting activities and music each day in downtown Winooski to celebrate Halloween in Winooski and enhance the already-captivating jack-o-lantern display in Rotary Park. Keep an eye out for the schedule, coming soon!

As always, we need your help!

Please consider donating funds or volunteering your time to help make Halloween in Winooski events possible. Visit www.downtownwinooski.org for more information, or reach out to info@downtownwinooski.org.



Holiday Pop Up Shop Save the Date!

The Holiday Pop Up Shop is a decades-long tradition in Winooski that brings businesses, local artists and shoppers together for a fun night to “Party while you shop and shop while you party!” This year we will be hosting the event on **Thursday December 2, 2021!** Vendor applications will be opening soon, follow @downtownwinooski on social media or email info@downtownwinooski.org to find out more.

Share the love on social media!

Tag @downtownwinooski in your photos on social media so we can share! We love when you share what you're exploring in Winooski whether it's a sunset or a new favorite menu item at a local restaurant.



YOUR LOCAL MEDIA

Watch local programs, regional events, and municipal meetings on cable TV and online. Learn how to make your own community media.



- MEDIAFACTORY.ORG + CREATE Channel 15 (BT), HD 215 (BT), 1074 (Comcast), LEARN Channel 16 (BT), HD 216 (BT), 1094 (Comcast)
- CH17.TV + Channels 17 (BT), HD 217 (BT), HD 317 (BT), 1087 (Comcast)



Staying Safe & Healthy!

By Jane Henderson, Partnership for Prevention Grants Manager

Hi Winooski, we're the Winooski Partnership for Prevention – a non-profit organization that is dedicated to creating a healthy environment that supports young peoples' growth and development through educating and empowering Winooski residents. Throughout the school year we'll be providing resources, tips, and data that can be helpful in keeping your child substance-free. Furthermore, we usually host at least one event per month, including take-out community dinners (highlighting local chefs in our community) and Winooski Clean-Up Days (that clear substance debris from the walkway to school). We also host an after-school program, Above the Influence, that allows students to support one another in their decision to live substance-free, discuss issues around substance use in the community, and organize projects that inform and engage Winooski.

At the WPP, we're happy to assist in finding whatever resources or tools you need when it comes to preventing underage substance use. You can reach out to us at info@winooskiprevention.org with any questions you might have. Our newsletter (sent once a month) is the best place to hear about upcoming events (including community dinners and clean-up days!), new data around substance use, and resources and tips for parents, adults, and youth. If you would like to sign-up, scan the QR code provided.

A note from our Executive Director, Kate Nugent: We're excited--and cautious--entering into more in-person programming, as the youngest among us can't be vaccinated against Covid-19. To that end, our staff is 100% vaccinated against Covid-19, and we are also wearing masks indoors with



the public. I also take hope for our mission from how Vermont has responded and worked hard to keep each other safe from Covid-19. This same

kind of care and concern is what we can use as our guide to keep the most vulnerable among us safe from substance use disorders. We know not everyone who uses a substance as a youth will develop a substance use disorder, and we also know that we can all play a role in making it less likely. The younger a person is when they are first exposed, first or second-hand, to alcohol, tobacco, or Cannabis, the more likely they are to develop a use disorder as an adult. The factors that lead to this early use can be changed by us as a community: we can change social norms that permit and encourage use by youth and young adults under age 21; we can support youth in all the places they live, work, and play, with messages and factual information about health impacts of substances, in case their parents can't; and we can reduce the ubiquitous advertising and availability of substances sold and used in our communities. As with Covid-19, with substances, we can also work to be consistent with our messages, and show youth and young adults how to manage tough situations, how to recreate, and how to unwind in ways that renew our energy and help us process the day's events productively and proactively.

Make Your Voice Heard

By Molly Lawrence

Help shape the health of your community: Over 25 local organizations are working together to conduct a community health needs assessment



(CHNA) to better understand the strengths and health needs of communities within Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties. Please take part and tell us what you think! Visit uvmmmed.hn/chna2022 to take the survey by October 15th and enter a drawing to win one of four \$50 gift cards.

The survey is available in ten written languages plus ASL. If you would like to take the survey with an interpreter, please contact 802-847-8899; to schedule an ASL interpreter, call 318-4040 VP and leave a message.

Commuter Incentive Program

By Phoebe Melchiskey

The Commuter Incentive Program is offering Chittenden County residents incentives to cut your carbon and enjoy a healthier commute each day by switching to biking, walking, public transportation, or carpooling! Once enrolled, we will provide you with \$75 in gift cards to a local business of your choice like City Market or Skirack. If you are currently driving alone to work at least 2 days per week, all you've got to do is increase the number of days per week that you commute sustainably!

Our spots are going fast and we would hate to have this opportunity slip you by. Visit our new website www.sustainablecommute.com for more information and to express interest in joining the program!

Please email the program manager at melchiskeyphoebe@gmail.com if you have any questions or comments.

Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for October

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

Saturday, October 9th	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Veggies, deli, bakery, meat, eggs, diapers
Wednesday, October 13th	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Pantry staples, veggies, eggs, meat, diapers
Saturday, October 23rd	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Veggies, deli, bakery, meat, eggs, diapers
Wednesday, October 27th	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Pantry staples, veggies, eggs, meat, diapers

Well, summer is over and the Winooski Food Shelf Volunteers are already planning for November and December holiday food distributions. We especially need donations of store bought packaged cookies, boxed stuffing you prepare on a stove top, canned pineapple, and turkey gravy in cans or packets. Donations can be dropped off at Commodities Natural Market and J & J's Corner Market.

Schedule changes in November and December: In November, we will be open: Wednesday, November 3rd, Saturday, November 6th, Wednesday, November 10th, and Saturday, November 20th. In December, we will be open: Wednesday, December 1st, Saturday, December 4th, Wednesday, December 8th, and Saturday, December 18th.

Food Shelf Policy: Winooski residents coming for the first time should bring proof that you live in Winooski

such as a utility bill or rental lease. Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. They may also come both Saturdays to stock up on bread, pastry and some fresh fruits and veggies. Shaw's in Colchester and Winooski's own Commodities Natural Market help supply Saturday's food.

Where to find us: The Winooski Food Shelf is located in the United Methodist Church at 24 West Allen Street. 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. You may also donate at winooskifoodshelf.org.

Donation Drop Off Locations:

Please do not leave food on our doorstep when we are closed. Instead, please bring **unexpired and unopened** food donations to: Commodities Natural Market, 65 Winooski Falls Way, phone: 448-3340 or to J & J's Corner Market, 12 Malletts Bay Avenue, phone: 654-8003. **We especially need toiletries: toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, disposable razors and toilet paper.** Thank you for caring about our neighbors!

Food Shelf Volunteers Needed

If you have some free time and would like to do some pickups and deliveries, pack food boxes, set up for food shelves or serve our clients, please reach out to us at our e-mail address: winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com. We especially need help serving clients on Wednesdays. Volunteers should be able to lift 25 pounds.

World Mental Health Awareness in October

FREE SPEAKER SERIES



World Mental Health Day

Throughout October, Howard Center is spotlighting mental health in recognition of World Mental Health Day on October 10.

Please join us for our free and open to the public virtual speaker series. All sessions are followed by a Q & A.

- **October 7, 12:00 to 1:00pm**
Supporting resilience in the face of unrelenting uncertainty with Simha Ravven, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Howard Center.

- **October 13, 4:00 to 5:15pm**
A conversation with best-selling author, host, and educator Ashley C. Ford. Moderated by Jude Smith Rachele, Ph.D.

- **October 19, 3:00 to 4:00pm**
Good beginnings for the youngest among US. How do we as parents and caregivers support the early childhood years? With Liz Mitchell, LICSW, Early Childhood Program Director, Howard Center.

- **October 28, 1:00 to 2:30pm**
Compassion fatigue for the whole community with Beth Goss, LCMHC, Director of Client Care and Coordination, Howard Center.

For more information and to register, please visit howardcenter.org. Registration is free but required.

Howard Center's Access and Intake Team and main number 802-488-6000 is available M-TH from 8:00am – 6:00 pm and Friday from 8am – 5pm. Our crisis line, First Call for Chittenden County is available 24/7/365 at 802-488-7777. Help is here.



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IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT
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:
 Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume
 802-655-3530
kgrodin@wsdvt.org
jberthiaume@wsdvt.org

Board of School Trustees
 Allison Burlock, 802-349-7018, aburlock@wsdvt.org
 Tori Cleiland, *President*, 802-655-7678, tcleiland@wsdvt.org
 Steven Berbeco, 858-376-7269, sberbeco@wsdvt.org
 Kamal Dahal, 802-503-7195, kdahal@wsdvt.org
 Dr. Alex Yin, 516-423-9601, ayin@wsdvt.org

CITY OF WINOOSKI
www.winooski.vt.gov, 802-655-6410

Mayor
 Kristine Lott: 802-766-1988
klott@winooski.vt.gov

Co-Interim City Managers
 Phoebe Townsend, ptownsend@winooski.vt.gov
 Jon Rauscher, jrauscher@winooski.vt.gov
 802-655-6410

City Councilors
 Hal Colston, 802-922-2908, hcolston@winooski.vt.gov,
 James Duncan, 802-310-7103, jduncan@winooski.vt.gov
 Mike Myers, 802-355-5348, mmyers@winooski.vt.gov
 Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, boakleaf@winooski.vt.gov

City Clerk
 Carol Barrett, 802-655-6410, cbarrett@winooski.vt.gov

Winooski Police
 Emergency: Call 9-1-1, Non-emergency: 802-655-0221

Winooski Fire Department
 Emergency: Call 9-1-1, Non-emergency: 802-655-6420

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