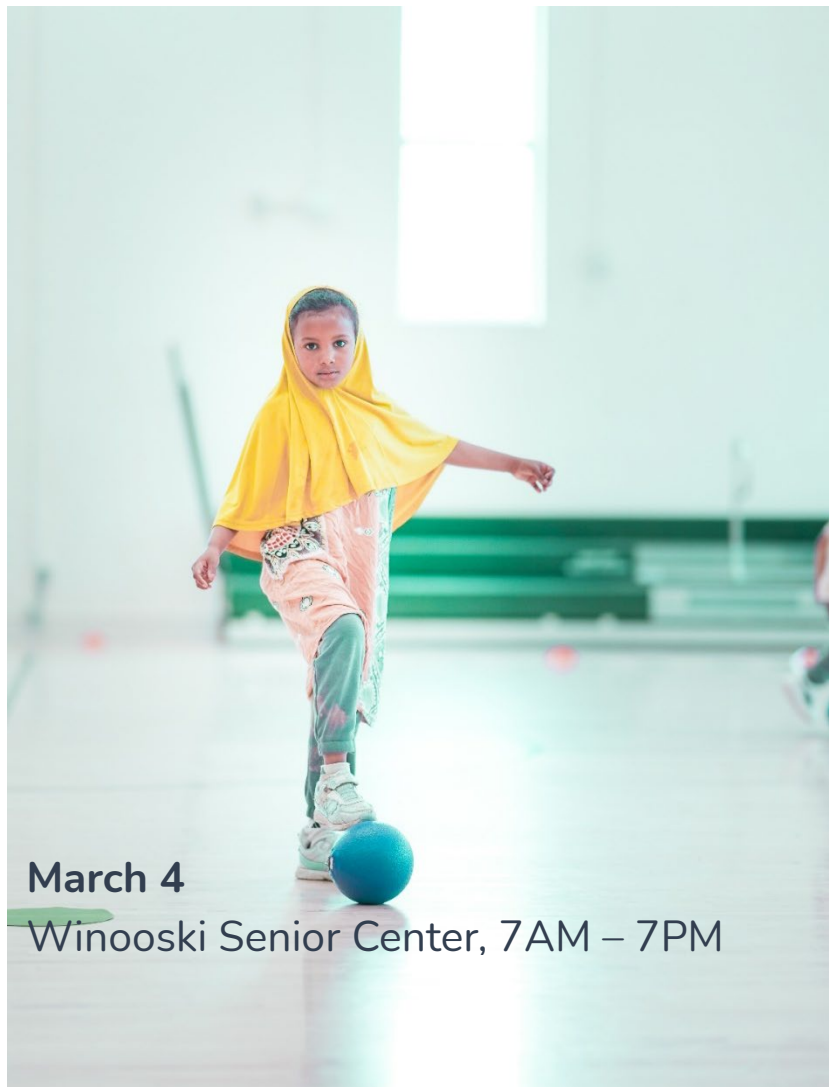
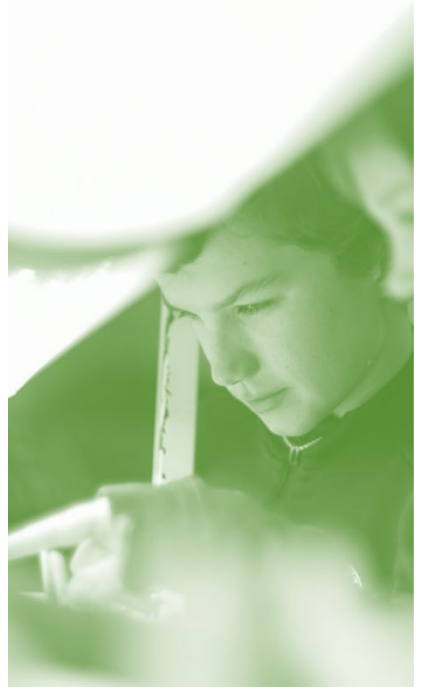


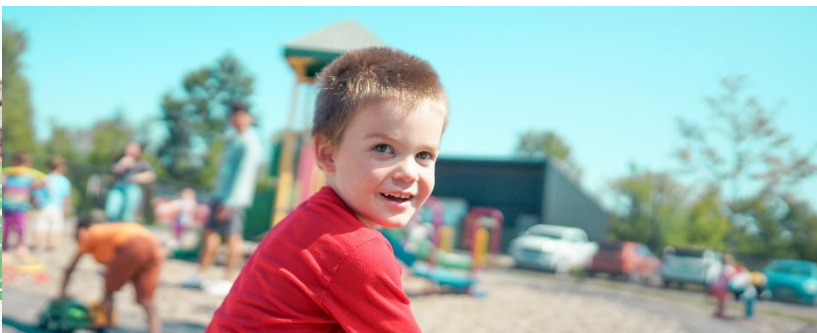


Winooski School District
Budget 2026



DO YOUR PART
VOTE!

March 4
Winooski Senior Center, 7AM – 7PM



Over the past year, our district has continued to invest heavily in its curricular strength and the push for improved and innovative ways to foster higher levels of literacy in our students.

In our lower grades, we are now in the third year of implementing our new ELA and math programs, and we are thrilled to see measurable growth in both student achievement and engagement. These research-based programs foster not only academic success but also the development of critical thinking and transferable skills. They empower students to think deeply, analyze critically, and grow into ethical and conscientious individuals. In our higher grades, we have continued to push our students to achieve here and beyond and have seen the percentage of graduates who enrolled in a 2 or 4-year college program after high school rise by 11% over one year. The Winooski Early Childhood Program in JFK has expanded the number of classrooms and extended the hours to support a school day schedule, which is at full capacity. Preschoolers with access to quality early childhood education experiences are more prepared to be successful in school which can shape a child's future success to become college and career ready.

One encouraging metric came from the VTCAP, the state's yearly standardized assessments in ELA, Math, and Science. Except for a single grade, the district saw improvements in percentages of proficiency across all levels, some by a significant margin. Despite our demographic composition, which predisposes our students to face additional barriers, we are glad to see improvement rather than stagnation. While we have a ways to go to catching up with communities without some of those barriers, we know that we are on the right track and that our community investments have not been in vain.

Our services to our community beyond our educational offerings are as robust as ever and continue to grow. Our offices continue to connect families to the support they require, whether it is housing, food, health, transportation, wellbeing, clothing, and so on. Although we may not be able to provide everything a child or family needs, we help you by being a partner as you navigate in search of solutions.

Our district is a leader in the state when it comes to authentically connecting our students to their communities both locally and globally. We capitalize on the assets our students bring and match their innate interest in connecting their learning to their real world. This has led to many achievements both for students and staff alike, from students receiving local, state and even national recognitions to making Winooski the rare recipient of the State's "Teacher of the Year" award and the Vermont's "Secondary Principal of the Year" simultaneously.



FISCAL YEAR 2026 ADOPTED BUDGET

Our operational budget is increasing by 4.13% which counts for only a little other than inflation. We made reductions in our staffing and services to avoid a higher increase, and we hope that these reductions are strategic so to not substantially impact the quality of the education our students receive. The Homestead Tax Rate is projected to slightly decrease. Because of a lower number in weighted pupils, our spending per weighted pupil is inflated to 13%, despite a much lower actual increase in budget.

	FY 25	FY 26	Difference	%
Operational Budget	\$31,970,907	\$33,289,732	+\$1,318,825	+4.13%
Weighted Pupils	2167	2005	-162	-7.5%
Spending per Weighted Pupil	\$13,462	\$15,262	+\$1,801	+13%
Homestead Tax Rate	1.26	1.25	-0.01	-1%
Income Sensitized Property Tax Rate	2.66%	2.49%	-6.50%	-2%

Impact of Proposed Tax Rates Without Tax Credits

Contingent upon legislative action later in the session, Winooski's Homestead Education Tax Rate is projected to see a slight decrease of 1%. The chart on the right reflects the projected tax amount changes according to the home price.

Home Price	FY 2025 tax (Current Year)	FY 2026 tax (Upcoming)
\$ 250,000	\$ 3,150	\$ 3,125
\$ 300,000	\$ 3,780	\$ 3,750
\$ 350,000	\$ 4,410	\$ 4,375
\$ 400,000	\$ 5,040	\$ 5,000
\$ 450,000	\$ 5,670	\$ 5,625
\$ 500,000	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,250
\$ 550,000	\$ 6,930	\$ 6,875
\$ 600,000	\$ 7,560	\$ 7,500
\$ 650,000	\$ 8,190	\$ 8,125
\$ 700,000	\$ 8,820	\$ 8,750
\$ 750,000	\$ 9,450	\$ 9,375
\$ 800,000	\$ 10,080	\$ 10,000

Property Tax Credit

- If your adjusted gross household income is **less than \$128,000** you may be eligible for a reduction of your education property taxes. Please file Form HS-122/Schedule HI-144.
- Eligibility for property tax relief/credit is based on your household income, home value, and school tax rate, and will be applied to your 2025-26 tax bill. Renters may also be eligible.
- Residents with household income less than \$90,000 will see a credit calculated based solely on income.

Impact of Proposed Tax Rates After Tax Credits

For Residents with Less than \$90,000 in Household Income:

Household Income	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026 (Proposed)	2025-2026 Change	2025 - 2026 Monthly Change
\$ 40,000	\$ 996	\$ 1,048	\$ 1,064	\$ 996	\$ (68)	\$ (5.7)
\$ 50,000	\$ 1,245	\$ 1,310	\$ 1,330	\$ 1,245	\$ (85)	\$ (7.1)
\$ 60,000	\$ 1,494	\$ 1,572	\$ 1,596	\$ 1,494	\$ (102)	\$ (8.5)
\$ 70,000	\$ 1,743	\$ 1,834	\$ 1,862	\$ 1,743	\$ (119)	\$ (9.9)
\$ 80,000	\$ 1,992	\$ 2,096	\$ 2,128	\$ 1,992	\$ (136)	\$ (11.3)
\$ 90,000	\$ 2,241	\$ 2,358	\$ 2,394	\$ 2,241	\$ (153)	\$ (12.8)

Publication of the Winooski School District

60 Normand Street
Winooski, VT 05404

Voting Information for Winooski Residents

- **You can vote early beginning February 17** at Winooski City Hall (27 West Allen St), from 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday-Friday.
- **Call 802-655-6410 with questions** about voting in Winooski.
- **Vote Tuesday March 4, 2025** at the Senior Center at 123 Barlow Street, between 7 am and 7pm. You can also register to vote at the polls on the day of the vote.
- **All legal residents**, regardless of citizenship status, may vote on local, municipal, and school (Winooski only) ballot items. To vote on a state and federal ballot items, you must be a citizen of the US.
- **To find information** about voting in Winooski, available in multiple languages, visit this website: bit.ly/voteWinooski

COMPROMISES WE MADE:

- 2 staff reductions at the elementary level
- 2 staff reductions at the Middle High School
- Reduction of Special Education contracted services and one Special Educator
- 2 staff reductions in Operations and IT
- Some reduction in time for multilingual services
- Reduction of \$600K previously earmarked for IT infrastructure

THIS BUDGET STILL ALLOWS US:

- 300K in debt reserve funds
- \$300K in personnel from IDEA B (making up for shrinking Special Education funds)
- 12% Increase in Health Insurance (\$473K)
- Already-Negotiated Salary Increases for Support Staff: 3.5%
- Adapting to building operations cost increase \$180K
- \$75K Additional Reserve Funds to aim toward recommended levels



DO YOUR PART
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