

The Winooski Newsletter

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

NOVEMBER 2024



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver: 2025 Vermont Teacher of the Year

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

Photo by Yozna Bardewa, Winooski High School

At the end of September, a special community meeting was held at Winooski High School to celebrate a momentous announcement: Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver has been named the 2025 Vermont Teacher of the Year!

MacLeod-Bluver has been a dedicated educator at Winooski High School for the past six years and has spent 14 years enriching students' lives. As a history teacher, English teacher, and reading specialist, she fosters culturally responsive classrooms where students are respected, valued, and empowered to embrace their full identities.

"Caitlin exemplifies exceptional talent and dedication in education," said WMHS Co-Principal Jean Berthiaume. "Her genuine care for students, combined with her deep knowledge of best practices and the critical importance of literacy, makes her an outstanding educator and a true asset to our community."



6th Grade Circus Performance

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

Photo by Rahmah Alchaderchi, Winooski School District Communications Intern

The 6th grade's autumn expedition culminated in an impressive hour-long circus performance in front of JFK Elementary School and Middle High School students, teachers, staff, and families. Under the direction of artist-in-residence Josh Shack from Circus Smirkus, the 6th-grade students spent three weeks of dedicated learning, practice, and, of course, persistence!

The circus is not just an activity, but a testament to the students' hard work and dedication. It requires the same level

of commitment as any sport, but it emphasizes collaboration over competition. The students set and achieved goals together, learning cooperation and camaraderie. They then transferred their newfound excitement for the circus directly into their studies, incorporating it into art, music, science, history, math, and language. A big thank you to Josh and bravo to all the performers for their impressive achievements!



From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Winooski Community,

I want to congratulate our own **Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver**, who has just been named **2025 Vermont Teacher of the Year**. Caitlin exemplifies the high caliber of professionals working with our Winooski students and joins other recent laureates from our district. Winooski had two finalists for the title just this past year, and our middle high school's Co-principal, Jean Berthiaume, was named Vermont's Secondary Principal of the Year. At the end of September, Caitlin was notified through a beautiful ceremony in our Performing Arts Center, where she received kind and grateful words from students and our educational community.

On another note, we have officially kicked off our "budget season" with a first presentation to the board during our regularly scheduled October meeting. If you missed it, you are always welcome to watch the recordings of our meetings on our website, wsdvt.org, which we post expediently immediately after every meeting. While you are at it, you may also consider following our social media on Instagram (@winooskilearns) and Facebook. As you can hear during the meeting, some changes are coming to the way the tax rate is calculated in the state (again), but we do not foresee this change negatively affecting your taxes. What we do foresee is a better ability for us in Winooski to forecast the potential tax impacts in a much better way than we could last

year for several reasons, but specifically for two big ones. First, Winooski will not be going through a city-wide reappraisal, which last year made it impossible for us to forecast city-wide tax changes because the reappraisal meant that different changes in property values would translate into different tax changes for every homeowner who does not qualify for income-based property tax credits. Second, while reappraisal made it harder for us in Winooski, at the state level, a major change was also taking place: Act 127 implementation. The rollout of the act was messy at best, and changes to the way we calculated our revenue capacity from the Education fund continued to be debated up until the last minute. The legislative uncertainty made it so that we also could not know just exactly how much money Winooski could count on for the next fiscal year for most of the budgeting timeline. In short, the two major factors that diminished our ability to forecast tax impact locally are not at play this year, and we should be able to provide you with our best estimates once we receive the Yield forecast letter from the state on December 1, and the CLA information in January. Please stay tuned.

Happy November, Winooski

By Robert Millar, Winooski Board of School Trustees

Autumn in Vermont has always been my favorite season. It's a time for picking apples and leaf peeping by day and spending evenings cuddled with a blanket, a good book, and some hot apple cider. To my mind, there's no nicer time of year!

Of course, close to the heels of autumn comes winter, and for the school board, that means budget season. In fact, we've already had some very preliminary discussions with administrators about our expectations for the FY26 budget. We have asked them to present three budget scenarios as we begin the process:

- A budget that doesn't increase at all (which would likely require significant cuts).
- A budget that increases only by the inflation rate (currently estimated at 2.4%).
- A "level funded" budget that maintains all current services and programs with no additions.

At this point, we are not considering any additional positions or programs. We recognize that though voters have been very supportive of the district in recent years, this year, in particular, was very difficult for many taxpayers in our city due to many factors, most outside the Board's control.

However, the real work will begin in earnest in November, starting at our next regular Board meeting on November 13th. We'll then have a second special budget meeting later in November (date to be determined) and then we will meet three weeks in a row in December, on the 4th, 11th, and 18th. We have also tentatively scheduled a special meeting on January

2nd if needed before we ideally pass a final budget at our regular January meeting on the 8th. That's the budget that will go to voters in March. As always, all these meetings will be at 6pm in the District's Library, and virtual options will be available.

We are very aware that the two most important things a School Board does are hire a Superintendent and assemble a fair and appropriate Budget to present to you, the voters of Winooski. And both take time and work to do well.

All these meetings are, as ever, open to the public, and we would love to have you join us for any or all of them. We will also explore other ways to reach out and meet residents where they are, such as events or surveys. Find our contact info on the back page of this newsletter. Our job is not to make these decisions in a vacuum – we NEED to hear from you!

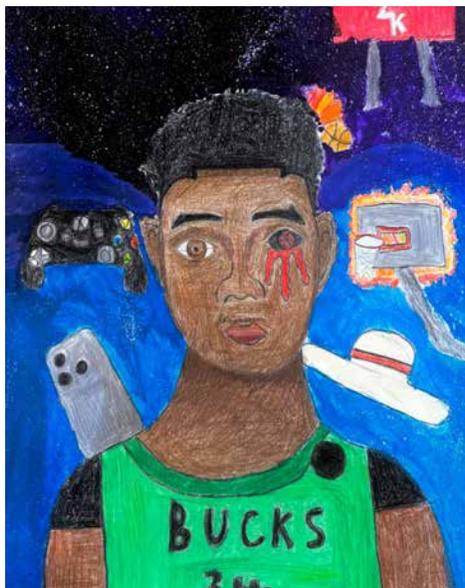
Have you ever thought you'd like to be even more directly involved in the budget process? In Winooski, we have a tradition going back many years of inviting members of the public to join us as "Budget Buddies" during the budget-building process, something fairly unique among School Boards in Vermont. Budget Buddies are asked to attend as many budget-related meetings as possible, sit at the table with us, and participate just like Board Members. We know we are just five people in a city of over 8000, and we want to involve as many voices and viewpoints as possible in these discussions. Interested in being a Budget Buddy this year? Email me today!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Surrealist Self Portraits

By Emily Jacobs, Winooski Middle School Art Teacher

Over the past few weeks, our 7th and 8th grade art students have put incredible care, effort, and thoughtfulness into their symbolic, surrealist self portraits. Each student considered aspects of their identity and personality to embed into their portrait in creative ways. Students also practiced observational drawing to carefully recreate their own facial features; shading to create a three-dimensional appearance; and creating a sense of depth in their compositions.





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Amanda Babcock receives the “Sherry Schoenberg PBIS Champion of the Year” Award

The Winooski School District is thrilled to announce that Amanda Babcock received the “Sherry Schoenberg PBIS Champion of the Year” Award at the VT PBIS Conference in Killington! This award honors someone who has made a significant impact in bringing, sustaining, or enhancing PBIS efforts, and Amanda truly embodies this spirit.

Since 2016, Amanda has led at JFK Elementary as our Behavior Coach and PBIS coordinator. Her dedication to our students, families, and staff is unmatched. She always goes above and beyond, even bringing her work home to support our community.

Congratulations, Amanda!

Health Office News

By Emily Gallina

We are enjoying the change of weather here in the health office, but know that it comes with an increase in respiratory illnesses. Please be aware that we no longer have masks in the office or offer COVID-19 testing kits. COVID-19 should be treated as any other illness. Your child should stay home from school if they have a temperature over 100.4F, are vomiting, or have diarrhea. They may return once they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication. There are no longer specific guidelines for return to school regarding COVID-19. We encourage you to follow up with your child’s primary provider if you are concerned about their illness.

We will be continuing our student-only Flu Shot Clinic in the Health office in November. The dates for this are:

- Friday, November 8th
- Tuesday, November 12th

For your child to receive a flu shot, you must complete a flu shot consent form. These were sent home with students in early October, or you can come by the health office during school hours to complete the form.

Join us for the PTO’s Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair at the Winooski School District on Saturday, November 23rd, from 9am to 4pm! Explore over 100 talented artists, makers, and food vendors offering a variety of unique creations.

Admission is free, and plenty of parking is available. Don’t miss this festive event!

**WINOOSKI COMMUNITY
HOLIDAY CRAFT
& VENDOR FAIR**

**SAT. NOV 23
9AM-4PM**

**OVER 100 ARTISTS, MAKERS
& FOOD VENDORS**

free admission & parking
Winooski School District
Normand St

vendor applications:
WinooskiPTOcraftFair@gmail.com

other inquiries pto@wsdvt.org

WinooskiPTO

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | | | No School 01 |
| 04 Lunch Entree Beef Cheeseburger Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Roasted Potato Lettuce & Tomato Daily Salad Bar | 05 Lunch Entree Loaded Baked Potato Chipotle Chicken Soft Tacos Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Fresh Roasted Broccoli with Garlic Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar Grains Whole Wheat Dinner Roll | 06 Lunch Entree Curry Chicken Curry Chick'n Cheese Pizza Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Green Beans Daily Salad Bar Grains Brown Rice | 07 Lunch Entree Spaghetti with Meatballs Meatless Meatball Marinara w/ Spaghetti Chicken Caesar Salad Buffalo Ranch Chicken Sandwich (Scratch) Vegetables Calabacitas con Elote (Squash with Corn) Daily Salad Bar | 08 Lunch Entree Hot Honey Glazed Chicken Thigh Roasted Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Vegetarian Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar Grains Rice Pilaf |
| 11 Lunch Entree BBQ Chicken Roasted Chicken Vegetarian Chef Salad Vegetables Steamed Corn Daily Salad Bar Grains Mac & Cheese | 12 Lunch Entree Chicken Quesadilla Taco Cheese Quesadilla Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Fire Roasted Black Beans Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar | 13 Lunch Entree Hot Dog Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Grilled Cheese Sandwich Chicken Caesar Wrap Vegetables Chili Roasted Sweet Potatoes Daily Salad Bar | 14 Lunch Entree Chickpea Masala Cheese and Turkey Pepperoni Pizza Cheese Pizza Vegetables Kale Roasted Red Peppers Daily Salad Bar Grains Brown Rice | 15 Lunch Entree Oven Fried Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Hawaiian Chicken Wrap Vegetables Garlic Roasted Green Beans Daily Salad Bar Grains Cilantro Lime Brown Rice |
| 18 Lunch Entree Chicken & Andouille Jambalaya Red Beans & Rice Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Seasoned/Roasted Carrots Daily Salad Bar | 19 Lunch Entree Chicken Al Pastor Tacos Chicken Quesadilla Chef Salad with Turkey Ham Black Bean Soft Tacos Vegetables Creamy Pinto Beans Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar | 20 Lunch Entree Beef Cheeseburger Gardenburger® Veggie Burger Creamy Buffalo Chicken Salad Wrap Garden Salad with Cheese & Egg Vegetables Roasted Potato Daily Salad Bar | 21 Lunch Entree Piri Piri Chicken Greek Chicken Wrap Chicken Caesar Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Collard Greens Daily Salad Bar Grains Jollof Rice | 22 Lunch Entree Chicken Aioli Sandwich Pasta Bar Vegetables Italian Herbed Sauteed Zucchini Broccoli Daily Salad Bar |
| 25 No School | 26 No School | 27 No School | 28 No School | 29 No School |



Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott | klott@winooskivt.gov / 802 766 1988

Hello, Neighbors.

Depending on when you receive this newsletter, the 2024 General Election may be right around the corner, or you may have already voted. Whether you submitted your mailed ballot or voted in person - thank you for making your voices heard! And thanks as always to the Secretary of State's Office, the Winooski City Clerk's Office, and all of our election workers and volunteers. Next up, we're preparing for the budget season and the lead-up to the Town Meeting Day election in March 2025. Here is our tentative schedule - residents are encouraged to participate in as many meetings as possible:

- **Dec. 2:** Overall budget presentation (general government)
- **Dec. 9:** Public Works & Capital Improvement Plan (sidewalks, water, wastewater, city assets, facilities, projects)
- **Jan. 6:** Community Services (Recreation & Parks, Winooski Memorial Library, Winooski Senior Center, Thrive Afterschool, Myers Memorial Pool)
- **Jan. 13:** Public Safety (Police, Fire, Code)
- **Jan. 21:** Final budget approval for Town Meeting Day ballot



The City Council uses these meetings for an in-depth review of the budget with the general public so that the final proposed version is ready for the Town Meeting Day election ballot. We know that affordability is a community concern and with the rising costs of healthcare and inflation, it's become more expensive to provide the same level of City services. It also leaves less room to tackle infrastructure projects. In the coming weeks, the annual budget page and meeting information will be available on the City's website. In the meantime, please take the community budget survey! Visit winooskivt.gov/budgetsurvey to provide important feedback about the budget process and how your tax dollars are spent. If you have

questions, email budget@winooskivt.gov.

In other news, winter is on the way - be sure to check out Downtown Winooski's Winter Farmer's Market, which this year will be held at the Winooski Senior Center from November 10 through December 29. Also, don't miss the annual Holiday Pop-Up Shop on December 5th! Learn more at downtownwinooski.org/events.

From Your Local Representative

By Representative Daisy Berbeco

Hello Winooski! First of all, thank you for your votes in the Primary Election— I am so grateful. This summer has been a busy one for many of us. I have been diving deep into work with the boards and commissions I am part of, volunteering with NAMI VT, I pulled a fire truck and raised \$4,000 for LGBTQ+ youth with Outright Vermont, have been to conferences to collaborate with other states on reducing gun violence, cost of healthcare, and of course—lots family time.

In September I was one of 32 legislators (so exciting), judges, and executive branch officials invited to a meeting in Connecticut to share strategies and policies around addressing youth and adolescent behavioral health. We need to go beyond programs and improving access to care at this point. We can't just fix supply but not address the growing demand. The reality of the mental health crisis our youth are in, is that having access to a trained and licensed adult to talk to, or more inpatient beds, is not good enough.

Also last month, the Judiciary Commission on Mental Health and the Courts of which I am a commissioner had its annual summit and focused on looking at how we can improve adoption of the sequential intercept model (diverting folks from jail, to treatment instead) and also at how helpful it is to have people



Representatives Taylor Small (left) and Daisy Berbeco (right)

with lived experience, aka. Peers, involved at every step of the way when someone with a mental health challenge is navigating the justice system. I am very proud of the work this commission is doing.

Last spring I was appointed by our Chief Justice Reiber to the Conference of Chief Justices Behavioral Health Committee Funding Workgroup. We meet monthly to inform the national strategic plan for funding that can support efforts to increase collaboration between courts, the legislature and executive branches of government to implement programs that improve how people with behavioral health challenges come in contact with the justice system and get the care they need.

This week I travel to Springfield to visit the Southern State Correctional Facility for a meeting of the Prison Research and Innovation Network. I've been a member of PRIN for a couple years and it has been incredibly insightful. I both support diversion programs and want to improve care and rights of incarcerated people, so have found this network a valuable place to voice that.

Wishing you all a safe and happy fall.

Daisy



City Clerk's Office Reminders

Open 8am – 4pm, Monday – Friday
winooski.vt.gov/clerk | 802 655 6410

Please note, **Winooski City Hall will be closed** on Veteran's Day (Monday Nov. 11), Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, Nov. 28) and Post-Thanksgiving Day (Friday, Nov. 29).

Property tax and utility payments are due on Nov. 15! Please note postmarks are not considered as timely payment. Learn more about payment options at winooski.vt.gov/pay.

Recognizing Corporal Jason Ziter!

Join us in celebration of the incredible service of Corporal Jason Ziter, who is stepping down as School Resource Officer to pursue his next career opportunity supporting children and families outside of Vermont.

Jason's 8+ years in Winooski (and almost 25 years in law enforcement) included many accomplishments that will leave a lasting impression, such as the development of Public Safety Camp (facilitating 3 years of real-world student training in police, fire, and EMS/rescue services), instructing the D.A.R.E. program (teaching students decision making for safe and healthy living), providing professional development opportunities for teachers, school staff, administrators and statewide School Resource Officers, supporting the Vermont Department of Children and Families (investigations of abuse and neglect, missing and runaway children), offering life-saving first aid, CPR and Stop the Bleed training, receiving the KidSafe Vermont – 2024 Outstanding Professional Award, and so much more.

Jason's service exemplifies what success looks like as a School Resource Officer. His dedication to the City's Strategic Vision and Community Policing Model shone through his partnership with the Multilingual Liaisons, community outreach efforts, family welfare checks, and volunteer service coaching baseball and even singing the National Anthem at sporting events for the district.

While Jason will remain with the Winooski Police Department part-time, please join us in thanking him for his meaningful service to the residents, students, and families of Winooski – we wish him all the best in his new journey!



Main Street Revitalization Project Update

Construction continues this month on Main Street from the railroad bridge near Maple Street to the Winooski/Colchester town line. Before the winter shutdown in late November or early December, crews aim to finish installing new water, sewer, and gas systems. They will also install stormwater systems and concrete duct banks for underground utilities in the southern part of the project area. The roadway between Maple Street and Spring Street will be reconstructed up to the base course of pavement. Work hours are Monday through Friday, 7am to 7pm.

Construction activities will require short, temporary impacts to driveways and utilities. Crews will knock on doors and post flyers to let people know in advance. The flyers have QR codes that link to videos in 15 languages.

Main Street remains a single lane for northbound traffic only, 24/7. Southbound traffic is redirected to Weaver Street. Some side streets will be closed at their intersections with Main Street as needed. Notice of side street closures are included in the weekly project updates. Drivers should slow down, yield to pedestrians, and follow signs and flaggers throughout the project area.

Crews will pave and add line striping to the roadway before winter. Normal traffic patterns will be restored in late fall 2024 when major construction activities pause for the winter. Independent utility work may continue throughout the winter with minimal to no impact on traffic. Construction will resume in Spring 2025, focusing on road reconstruction, sidewalks, curbing, and tree work.

For weekly project updates about construction and impacts to traffic and parking, visit winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet or sign up for email updates. The project website has information in 15 languages.

Questions or comments about construction? Contact the project team at 802 595 4399 or info@winooskimainstreet.com.

2024/2025 Winter Parking Ban Reminder (Dec. 1 – March 31)

It's almost that time of year again! Winooski's winter parking bans begin next month on December 1. As a reminder, there are two types of bans:

Downtown Winter Parking Ban: Overnight street parking from 2:30am - 6am is not allowed in the downtown area. This area has a "blanket ban" - individual alerts are not sent out for this area. Visit winooski.vt.gov/parking to view this area map.

Non-Downtown Winter Parking Ban: For everywhere else in Winooski, overnight winter parking bans are made during winter storms and for snow removal where street parking is not allowed from 11p to 7am. Residents and visitors can sign up for these alerts.

For all important details and to sign up for alerts, visit winooski.vt.gov/parking

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | recreation@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/recprograms

Registration for winter programs is open! Visit winooskivt.gov/recprograms to sign up and learn more.

YOUTH

Youth Climbing

Ages 5–8 | Tuesdays, October 29–December 17
Ages 9–13 | Wednesdays, October 30–December 18
Ages 5–8 | Tuesdays, January 7 – February 18
Ages 9–13 | Wednesdays, January 8 – February 19

First LEGO Robotics Explore

Grades 2-4 | Mondays, November 4 – December 16

Youth Basketball League

Grades K-2 Clinic | Saturdays, January 4 – February 15
Grades 3-4 Teams | Weeks of January 6 – February 15
Grades 5-6 Teams | Weeks of January 6 – February 15

Very Merry Theatre

Grades 1-7 | Mondays, January 6 – February 17

ADULTS

Yoga Vinyasa Flow

18+ | Mondays, November 4 – December 16
18+ | Wednesdays, November 6 – December 18

Holiday Ukulele Lessons

18+ | Mondays, November 25 – December 16

EVENTS FOR ALL

Memorial Park Trail Cleanup Day

All ages | Saturday, November 9

Holiday Ukulele Sing Along Jam Session

All ages | Monday, December 16
18+ | Wednesdays, September 4 - October 3



Winooski Memorial Library

32 Malletts Bay Avenue | 802-655-6424 | library@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/library

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am - 6pm

Thursday & Friday: 10am – 5pm

Saturday: Please check our website for hours

Drop-in programs:

YOUTH

Library Playgroup | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am

Pokémon Club | Ages 8+ | Wednesdays | 3:30pm

Weekly Storytime | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am

Lego Club | Ages 4+ | Thursdays | 3:30pm

ADULTS

Monthly Book Group | Ages 18+ | Tue, November 26 | 6pm

Library Reopening

Good news! The library is currently reopened in our former space and full services have been restored for the community! Join us for regularly scheduled youth and adult programming, access to public Wi-Fi, computers and printing services, browse the collection, or just stop by to say hello! Check our website at winooskivt.gov/library for current hours.

As a reminder, online resources including eBooks, audiobooks, film streaming, and more are available 24/7 for Winooski Library cardholders. For more information and to access, please visit winooskivt.gov/library.

See you soon!

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov

winooski.vt.gov/seniorcenter

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am–12pm

Thursday: 9am–2pm

TUESDAYS

New American Community Connections | 10am–1pm

No Program on November 15

WEDNESDAYS

Grab-n-Go

10am–12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation

Nutritious takeout meals from AgeWell

Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Thursday

No Meals on November 27

Breakfast Café

9am–11am | Priced by donation | Drop-in

Enjoy freshly made breakfast sandwiches, fruit, and drinks

No Program on November 27

THURSDAYS

Sit Down Community Meals

12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation | Call to RSVP by 12pm the

previous Thursday. Healthy sit-down lunches from AgeWell

No Meal on November 28

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Thanksgiving Meal | Thursday November 14 at 12pm

\$5 suggested donation, RSVP by November 7

Bone Builders Exercise | FREE | Monday & Wednesday |

2–3pm

Meals on Wheels | Please call AgeWell at 802 863 0360 to find out the eligibility requirements. Volunteers are always needed!



Thrive After School

Thrive After School is a state-licensed childcare/enrichment program. Through our partnership with JFK Elementary School and the Winooski School District, we seek to build a community where children can explore, learn, and grow during their after school hours while providing a safe place for children. This program is perfect for caring adults who support working families. Our daily structure provides children with opportunities to expand on the learning that takes place during the school day and allows them to explore and grow through play-based, hands-on learning. We have opportunities for outside time and other gross-motor play, imaginative play, STEM learning, art, literacy, skill-building activities, and exploring hobbies and interests. We also use this time in our program community to guide children's social development with the language of Social Thinking as used during the school day, allowing children to practice what they have been learning socially in their classrooms.

To learn more and sign up for the 2024-2025 season, please visit winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms.



Scan the QR code to learn more about
and sign up for anything on these pages!
winooski.vt.gov/programs



2024 Winter Season

Winooski Senior Center (123 Barlow St.)
10am - 2pm, every Sunday, Nov 10 - Dec 29



Winooski
HOLIDAY
POP-UP SHOP



THURS
DEC 5 5-9PM

Winooski Partnership for Prevention

By Kate Nugent, Executive Director

Congratulations, Winooski, on winning the home soccer game on October 5 AND “winning” a great presentation given by Winooski youth who shared reasons they care about their health and their peers’ and how substance use can get in the way of the future you want. Many thanks to the students and Mukhtar for their hard work putting this presentation together!



Above the Influence with Mukhtar Abdullahi continues, along with other volunteer and recreational opportunities, this fall. Please see Mukhtar at school to learn more!

Community Dinner & Family Night (December): In December (exact date TBD), the WPP, led by

Mukhtar Abdullahi, will host a community dinner and family night for families in Winooski. Last year, the WPP hosted several discussions with families and this event will be a way to follow up and provide relevant support opportunities and connection. The event will be free and everyone is welcome. Be on the lookout for a date in our communications. We’re looking forward to seeing you there!

Another way to support healthy youth development:

We know that reducing substance use disorders among our youth is an important way to give them access to the futures they deserve, and one part of how to do this is by encouraging them and ensuring they stay in school. Winooski is fortunate to have a school that offers positive support, such as free food, caring adults, enriching after-school programs, sports, healthcare, and dental care, and even treatment and referrals for substance use. Learn more about your power as caregivers for youth with this National Association for Elementary School Principals resource (naesp.org)



Town Meeting TV

Vermont’s General Election is on Tuesday, November 5th. Don’t miss Town Meeting TV’s Live Election Night Results Show at 7pm for real-time results, commentary, political analysis, and interviews with newly elected officials. Watch live at [YouTube.com/TownMeetingTV](https://www.youtube.com/TownMeetingTV) or on Comcast Channel 1087. In other news, CCTV Center for Media & Democracy is hosting a work sample screening of Burlington This Is You! a feature documentary by filmmaker Myles David Jewell about the birth and evolution of community media in Vermont. Join us on Thursday, November 21, at 6:30 PM at the Main Street Landing Film House, 60 Lake St, Burlington. RSVP for free at bit.ly/cctv-film. Hope to see you there!



Winooski Food Shelf

Winooski residents may access the food shelf one (1) Wednesday and both Saturdays.

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Saturday, November 2 | 9:30am – 11am |
| Wednesday, November 6 | 1pm – 3pm |
| Wednesday, November 13 | 1pm – 3pm |
| Saturday, November 16 | 9:30am – 11am |

Where to find us: We are located at 24 West Allen Street inside the green United Methodist Church. Our phone is 802-655-7371.

Volunteers needed: Please reach out to us at our e-mail: winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com. We need volunteers to pack produce boxes and pantry staples. We especially need help the third Wednesday of each month at 9am to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

Howard Center Update

By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

Howard Center’s new Mental Health Urgent Care (MHUC) is open to Winooski residents, offering a therapeutic alternative to



HOWARD CENTER
Help is here.

emergency department visits for adults in a self-defined mental health crisis. Located at 1 South Prospect Street in Burlington, the MHUC provides immediate support in a trauma-informed, suicide-safe setting. In partnership with the University of Vermont Medical Center, Community Health Centers, and Pathways Vermont. Learn more and find information in 19 languages at howardcenter.org/mhuc.

This November as we observe Veterans Day, a holiday established to honor all those who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, we are proud to announce that Howard Center has secured a \$4 million federal grant to become a Certified Community-Based Integrated Health Clinic. A core focus of this grant is supporting veterans and their families with essential services. The grant is designed to improve the coordination of care, ensuring that individuals receive timely, integrated services that address both mental health and substance use concerns. Part of this initiative is to meet the unique needs of those who have served our country.

Howard Center helps people and communities thrive by providing supports and services to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs.

howardcenter.org | 802 488 6000



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

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The Winooski Newsletter

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 WINOOSKI, VT 05404



**Please recycle your copy of
 this newsletter when you
 are finished reading it!**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT
www.wsdvt.org

Superintendent of Schools
 Wilmer Chavarria, wchavarria@wsdvt.org
 802-383-6000

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

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

City Manager
 Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, ewang@winooski.vt.gov

City Councilors
 Aurora Hurd, 802-734-7082, ahurd@winooski.vt.gov
 Charles Judge, 802-655-6410, cjudge@winooski.vt.gov
 Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, boakleaf@winooski.vt.gov
 Thomas Renner, *Deputy Mayor*, 802-922-3265, renner@winooski.vt.gov

City Clerk
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, jwillingham@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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