

# The Winooski Newsletter

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

SEPTEMBER 2025



**WINOOSKI SCHOOLS**  
*We are the future.*

## From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools



Dear Winooski Community,

Schools are open for the 2025-2026 school year, and our teachers and staff have hit the ground running. We are encouraged by state level data showing improvement for a second year in a row across most grades and subjects, which suggests that all the efforts we've set in motion in this district have had an overall positive impact academically.

We will carry on with the hard work of pushing our students to be the best version of themselves in all aspects, especially academically. This requires family and community commitment so that together we hold our students to high academic standards and habits. This also requires resources that at times we might not have, and we will have to learn to do more with less.

As you may recall from not long ago, the Trump administration had decided to withhold funding for all schools in the nation that related to titles supporting vulnerable communities. This included funds aimed to support English Learners, students who live in poverty, among others. While this is in line with what many in our community see as the Trump administration's policy of cruelty and punishment for the children who need most of our support, it was an unlawful move

from almost any angle. Luckily, some order still exists in the country, and the administration reversed course after many states joined a legal pushback. Districts like Winooski stand to lose the most when arbitrary attacks on public schools such as this happen. We spent much of the summer internally brainstorming ways in which to lessen the negative impacts of the Trump administration's decision while still safeguarding the limited resources our community has entrusted to us. We are relieved that this decision was successfully challenged and that we did not need to take drastic measures to save some of the programs and services we had already budgeted for, and which Congress had already approved. Moving forward, however, the sustainability of everything we do will have to be planned, accounting for the arbitrary, erratic, and sudden decisions at the federal level. We are now engaged in a different type of budget planning and use; one that does not take any federal support for education for granted and that instead considers carefully what we have in order of priority and impact on student learning and experience. We already knew that we would have challenging budgeting years ahead, but these new and significant factors cannot be ignored. We will maintain a robust educational experience for our students and families while working in the background to make it affordable and sustainable. The board and the community, as always, will play an important role in this.

Thank you for always supporting your public schools.

## Welcoming New Staff and Educators to the Winooski School District

The Winooski School District is excited to welcome our newest staff and educators for the 2025-26 school year! These talented individuals join us from near and far, each bringing skills, passion, and fresh ideas to support our students and strengthen our community.

We are pleased to introduce:

- **Lori Aldrich**, Administrative Assistant
- **Caroline Alorro**, Instructional Assistant
- **Wesley Black**, Behavior Specialist

- **Zachary Chagnon**, Instructional Assistant
- **Craig Dwyer**, School Safety Coordinator
- **Christopher Flaherty**, Teacher
- **Caitlin Gregory**, Behavior Interventionist
- **Kathryn Henry**, Program Assistant
- **Justin Hoy**, Dean of Students
- **Katherine Kowalski**, Teacher
- **Kameron Latulippe**, Program Assistant
- **Heather Lamore**, Teacher

- **Darcy Mazlish**, Nurse
- **Ellen Montgomery**, Teacher
- **John McGregor**, Support Staff
- **Amanda Schroth**, Teacher
- **Pema Tenzin**, Instructional Assistant
- **Mia Towers**, Instructional Assistant
- **Jarod Wunneburger**, JFK Assistant Principal

Please join us in giving them a warm Winooski welcome — here's to a year of learning, growth, and success for all!



### School Board Update

*By Nicole Mace, Vice President, Board of School Trustees*

Welcome back to school, students, staff, and families! Here's to a year filled with HEART, learning, and high expectations for the students of this district who consistently demonstrate their growth, leadership, and passion for making the world a more inclusive and just place. As a Board composed of parents and community members we also hold ourselves to high expectations for governing the district. The Board concluded a day-long retreat at the end of August where we received updates from the administrative team on the state of our schools, reviewed indicators of student achievement and growth aligned with our ENDS statement, and set Board goals for the coming school year.

At our August Board meeting we adopted a schedule for monitoring indicators of our ENDS statement every month, which will be shared through the Superintendent's Report to the Board in our monthly meeting packet. If you are unable to attend meetings, the Superintendent's Report is a great way to learn more about what is happening in the District and how we are measuring student progress with data.

Also at our August meeting we discussed how as a Board we want to engage in the work of the School Redistricting Task Force, which is responsible for delivering to the Legislature three options for school district mergers across the state, using a minimum district size of 4,000 students. Since Winooski has less than 800 students, this means that any proposal sent to the legislature will likely include merging our district with one or more of our neighboring districts.

In discussing this process the Board determined that taking a proactive approach was in the best interest of the District, instead of sitting back and watching what a statewide body recommends for our future. Accordingly, the Board adopted a motion authorizing the Board President and Vice President to initiate

conversations with neighboring districts in order to identify partner districts that are aligned with our ENDS and community values. We will be reporting back on those conversations at Board meetings throughout the Fall. We will also be monitoring the meetings of the Task Force and connecting with our own State Senator Martine Larocque Gulick, who cochairs the Task Force .

For those of you interested in following the process, below is a listing of upcoming meetings of the School District Redistricting Task Force:

- September 10, 2025
- September 29, 2025
- October 10, 2025
- October 28, 2025
- November 10, 2025
- November 20, 2025

All meetings will take place from 9:30am - 3:30pm and locations will be added to the AOE website: <https://aoa.vermont.gov/upcoming-meetings-school-district-redistricting-task-force>

All members of our community are invited to attend school board meetings in person or online. We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm, and the agenda is posted several days in advance of the meeting on the WSD website. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with my fellow board members, the administration, and members of the community to ensure the investments we make in our students' futures produce excellent results.

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### Winooski Schools Follow New State Law Limiting Cell Phone Use

*By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications*

As of August 1, Winooski schools are following new state-mandated guidelines that limit the use of cell phones and smartwatches during the school day.

In compliance with a Vermont law that takes full effect in 2026, students are required to turn off personal electronic devices (PEDs) and store them in lockers during school hours—including lunch, passing time, and recess. The goal of the law is to reduce distractions, improve student focus, and support mental well-being.

While exceptions are allowed for documented medical or educational needs, the overall shift reflects a statewide effort to build healthier learning environments across Vermont.

Winooski students received instruction on the new policy during orientation and advisory, and families have been provided with communication to reinforce expectations at home. The district thanks the community for their support as it works to uphold this important state law.

**WSD Cell Phone Guidelines for 2025**

- \*Phones and Personal electronic devices must be powered off and stored in lockers or with an adult.
- \*Devices may not be accessed during school hours, including transition/passing times, lunch, and recess.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**



### A Summer of Environmental Learning with VYCC in Richmond, Vermont

This summer, Winooski students joined the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) in Richmond for two engaging sessions of hands-on environmental learning. Their days were filled with experiences in sustainable agriculture, environmental science, and community service—earning wages while building practical skills and strengthening their connection to the land, their food, and one another. The season wrapped up with a special celebration dinner for students and their families, featuring a farm-to-table meal crafted from the very produce participants had cultivated and prepared over the summer.

### Sign Up for Our On-Site Dental Program

By Tracy Towers, RDH

Did you know that your child can access preventive dental services at school? WSD has an on-site, registered dental hygienist, Tracy Towers RDH. She can provide dental cleanings, fluoride treatments, and dental sealants at school. This means you don't have to take your child out of school and miss work. This does not replace your child's yearly exam or x-ray with their dentist. If your child is signed up for the dental program, we will communicate with your child's regular dental office to let them know what services they have completed at school. Forms to sign up are available on PowerSchool. If you prefer a printed copy, they are available in the Health Office at the school. Questions? Contact ttowers@wsdvt.org.



### SAVE THE DATE!

### Winooski PTO at the Farmers Market on September 28



The Winooski Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will have a booth at the Winooski Farmers Market on Saturday, September 28. Stop by to support the PTO and learn more about how they help enhance student experiences across the district. All proceeds from the booth will go directly to Winooski schools, funding programs, activities, and resources for students.

Come shop local, connect with the community, and support education in Winooski!

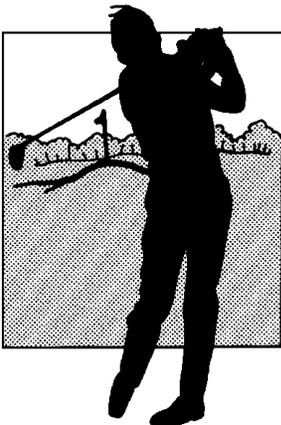
### SAVE THE DATE!

### Winooski PTO/Boosters Golf Tournament

The Winooski PTO/Boosters Golf Tournament will be held on **Saturday, September 6, 2025**, at The Links at Lang Farm, Essex Way, Essex Junction, VT.

Come enjoy a day of golf while supporting a great cause. Registration begins at 9:00am, with a shotgun start at 10:00am. The entry fee is \$400 per foursome and includes lunch at the golf course.

To register, please contact Chris Freije at 802-310-2057 or [chris@shoelessmanagement.com](mailto:chris@shoelessmanagement.com).





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*We are the future.*



## Winooski Students Explore Natural Dyes and Local History Through Summer Workshops

*By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications*

This summer, students at Winooski School District participated in hands-on natural dye workshops as part of a community-wide arts project led by the Heritage Winooski Mill Museum. Funded by the Vermont Community Foundation's Arts and Social Cohesion grant, the project connected Winooski youth to local textile history through creative, place-based learning.

Led by natural dye artist Jackie Reno, third- and fourth-grade students explored dyeing techniques using plants such as coreopsis, onion skins, and chamomile to create vibrant colors on wool, silk, and cotton. Students even tried the Japanese technique of Hapa Zome—pounding flowers and leaves onto fabric to transfer natural color, creating hand-dyed scarves and bandanas.

Students reflected on their experience, with one sharing, "My favorite part was when I got to use a hammer to smash flowers on my silk." Another wrote, "I learned a lot of flowers' names," while a third said, "Thank you for everything."

The Mill Museum has long collaborated with the Winooski School District to offer free tours and creative projects for students of all ages. This summer's workshops continue a growing tradition of using textile arts to celebrate Winooski's mill town heritage and engage young learners through art, science, and storytelling.



## Summer Learning Shines at Winooski School District

*By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications*

This summer, Winooski School District students from Pre-K through high school engaged in a variety of enriching programs designed to inspire curiosity, build skills, and foster community. From hands-on learning and outdoor adventures to literacy activities and creative projects, students had opportunities to explore, grow, and connect with peers.

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible teachers and staff for their care, creativity, and dedication in making these summer programs a success. Your hard work continues to make a lasting impact on our students and community!





### Convocation 2025: Student Voices at the Heart of the Celebration

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

The Winooski School District kicked off the new school year with Convocation at the Performing Arts Center, where staff, city leaders, and district leaders gathered to celebrate community and prepare for the year ahead. Superintendent Wilmer Chavarria opened the morning with a warm welcome, setting the tone for a day centered on connection, learning, and inspiration.

A highlight of the morning was a powerful performance by Winooski High School senior Mapenzi Selemani, whose words and presence captivated the audience and set the stage for the day's theme—celebrating student voices.

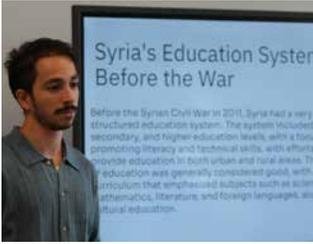
This year's Convocation featured Histories and Stories from Around the World, a series of student-led workshops. With support from district liaisons, Winooski High School students—and one alumnus—shared presentations on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria, Bhutan, and Haiti. They spoke about their countries of origin, exploring cultural values, traditions, and political histories. Students also shared personal stories about their families' journeys, their own experiences moving to the United States, and the challenges they have faced as students.



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The workshops were designed to build connection and understanding while contributing to ongoing conversations among staff about how best to support students in the classroom. Convocation served as a powerful reminder that our students are not only learners but also teachers—offering insight, perspective, and wisdom that help us grow as a community grounded in empathy and belonging.



Before the Syrian Civil War in 2011, Syria had a very structured education system. The system included secondary, and higher education levels, with a focus on promoting literacy and technical skills, and efforts to provide education in both urban and rural areas. The education was generally considered good, with a curriculum that emphasized subjects such as science, mathematics, literature, and foreign languages, as well as moral education.



### Facilities Team Preps Schools for New Year

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

The Facilities Team had a highly productive summer preparing the Winooski School District campus for the new school year. With a fully staffed crew and three summer assistants, the team completed annual deep-cleaning and maintenance projects more efficiently than ever.

- This summer's work included:
- Revitalizing the Campus: The team deep-cleaned furniture, carpets, and windows; painted several hallways; and refreshed garden beds with new mulch.
  - Essential Maintenance: All HVAC and drinking water filters were replaced, and all pending work orders were completed to start the year with a clean slate.
  - Prioritizing Safety: The annual safety check, including a walkthrough with the Winooski Fire Marshall, was completed to ensure the campus is secure and up to code.

Finishing ahead of schedule allowed the Facilities Team to be more thorough while also building stronger connections through team-building activities outside of work. The team takes pride in the work accomplished this summer and looks forward to welcoming the community back to a clean, safe, and refreshed campus.



<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> Grilled Cheese Sandwich</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Tomato Soup Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>2</b> Korean BBQ Chicken Street Tacos Taco Bar</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Fajita Style Peppers &amp; Onions 1/2c O Spicy Slaw Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>3</b> Chicken Patty Sandwich</p> <p>Crispy Chicken Patty Sandwich on a WG Bun</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>4</b> Butter Chicken, Scratch 2 MMA</p> <p>Chickpea Masala Baked Potato Bar</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Curried Potatoes &amp; Peas, Scratch Daily Salad Bar</p> <p><b>Grains</b> Brown Rice</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>5</b> Spaghetti with Meatballs</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Lemony Broccoli Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>8</b> Waffles &amp; Eggs Waffles &amp; Sausage Patties</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Homestyle Potatoes (Homefries) Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>9</b> Buffalo Chicken Quesadilla Taco Cheese Quesadilla</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Calabacitas con Elote (Squash with Corn) Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>10</b> Local Boyden Beef Hamburger on Whole Grain Bun Gardenburger® Veggie Burger</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> BBQ Beans Roasted Potato Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>11</b> Bang Bang Chicken Rice Bowl Chicken Fried Rice</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Honey Garlic Roasted Broccoli Daily Salad Bar</p> <p><b>Grains</b> Brown Rice</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>12</b> Pasta with Meat Sauce</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Glazed Carrots Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>15</b> Chicken Poutine Bowl, 2 MMA 3/4c S Chicken Ranch Wrap</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Lemon Garlic Sauteed Spinach Daily Salad Bar</p> <p><b>Grains</b> Whole Grain Rolls</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> Nacho Bar</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Fiesta Corn Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>17</b> Bahn Mi Sandwich BBQ Chicken Sandwich</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Seasoned Green Beans Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>18</b> Oven Fried Chicken</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar</p> <p><b>Grains</b> Whole Grain Roll</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>19</b> Macaroni &amp; Cheese</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Seasoned/Roasted Carrots Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>22</b> Roasted Chicken Ramen Bowl 2MMA 2 WG Chicken Lo Mein</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Orange Ginger Carrots Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>23</b> Chicken Al Pastor Tacos Taco Bar</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Ranchero/Charro beans, Scratch Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> Hot Dog Chipotle Chicken Sandwich</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Roasted Potato Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>25</b> Popcorn Chicken and Gravy Bowl</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Sauteed Spinach Daily Salad Bar</p> <p><b>Grains</b> Whole Grain Roll</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>26</b> Cheesy Baked Ziti</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Roasted Cauliflower Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>29</b> Grilled Cheese Sandwich Hot Honey Grilled Cheese w/ Sliced Apples</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Tomato Soup Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>Lunch Entree</b> <b>30</b> Nacho Bar</p> <p><b>Vegetables</b> Fire Roasted Black Beans Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p><b>ALL MEALS ARE FREE for all students.</b></p> <p><b>At every meal, assorted fruit is served, and low fat milk or fat free chocolate milk is available.</b></p>		



## Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott | [klott@winooskivt.gov](mailto:klott@winooskivt.gov) | 802 766 1988

Dear Winooski,

It is with a mix of deep gratitude and thoughtful consideration that I share my decision to resign as Mayor of Winooski, effective September 15, 2025. This was not an easy decision – the seven years I have served my neighbors has been the honor of a lifetime. I am embarking on a significant and joyous new chapter, as I expect my first child and navigate a career transition.

While I'll always care deeply about public service and what comes next for this incredible community I call home, it is the right decision to focus my priorities and energy on family, career, and personal life. You'll be in great hands as Deputy Mayor Thomas Renner will serve as interim Mayor until someone is elected during the 2026 Town Meeting Day election to fulfill the remaining year of my term. Deputy Mayor Renner is an exceptional public servant and is well prepared to shepherd a successful transition while bringing his voice and identity to a key leadership position. Since I first took office in 2019, we've achieved so much together, and I'm incredibly proud of the progress we've made on our Strategic Vision. There's so much



more to do - planning in Winooski is guided by the Strategic Vision and Master Plan, which evolves to address ongoing and new community needs, and aims to bring more voices to the decision-making table. While I won't be at the helm, we have exceptionally talented and dedicated city staff and elected officials, countless engaged residents, businesses, and community volunteers who will continue to make progress on our goals together.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to Winooski's success during my tenure. It has been an immense privilege to serve as your Mayor, and I will forever cherish the experiences and relationships forged therein. I look forward to watching Winooski continue to flourish and grow from a new perspective, as a proud resident and advocate for our wonderful community, and look forward to future opportunities to re-engage and continue giving back.

With heartfelt thanks and best wishes for Winooski's bright future,

Sincerely,  
Mayor Kristine Lott

## From Your Local Representative

By Representative Daisy Berbecco



As we navigate the new school year and Vermont's wider challenges, it's clear that equity and fairness must be at the heart of our solutions. In the latest blog over at [daisyforwinooski.com](http://daisyforwinooski.com), I outline some of the newest laws designed to improve livelihoods, healthcare access, affordability, and dignity for ALL Vermont residents.

These laws are more than just policy changes—they're a step toward giving everyone a fairer shot at getting through these historically wretched times, especially those who have faced disproportionate barriers for far too long.

From relieving medical debt and protecting your credit, to capping prescription drug prices and ensuring Medicaid covers doula services that are culturally competent and equitable—each of these steps moves us closer to living lives where we all have options. We all have agency. Despite what is happening overall in this country, we must continue to advance our wellbeing and care for each other.

As I'm considering legislation for next session, I've been focused this summer on the importance of community well-being and what it means for us. In my meetings with many of

you, business owners, houseless friends, older Winooski folks, single moms, elementary students, medical residents, police, commissioners, renters, judges and so many incredible advocacy organizations, here's what I'm observing: No matter our age, ethnicity, income level, religion and whether we're dealing with homelessness, alcoholism, health challenges, or mental health issues—these things are always quietly part of the fabric of Winooski. But right now, those challenges are only becoming harder for our community to ignore.

We're living in a time when conversations about equity and human rights are more crucial than ever because these principles are under threat. New laws like the ones discussed over at the blog on my website don't just happen in a vacuum—they happen because we continue to push for justice and inclusion at every level. I've always been committed to championing diversity and equity in state policy, and I'll keep doing that. But it's not just about what I do in the legislature—it's about what we all do in our everyday lives.

By supporting each other and insisting on fairness and dignity for every Vermont resident, we're building a stronger, healthier Winooski. Stay loud, Winooski!

### Main Street Revitalization

[winooskivt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooskivt.gov/mainstreet)

The road on Main Street between Spring Street and Lafountain Street has been reconstructed up to the second course of pavement. New curbs, sidewalks, brick pavers, and streetlight conduit/pole bases were also installed. Road reconstruction has begun between Lafountain Street and Bellevue Street, including digging, drainage, gravel, grading, curb, and paving work. Crews also upgraded the water main on Normand Street, installed stormwater pipes from Bellevue Street to Tigan Street, completed traffic signal foundations at the Winooski Fire Department, built utility duct banks and conduits between Spring and Normand Street, and completed all telecom vaults throughout the project area. In September, road construction will continue between Lafountain Street and Bellevue Street, then between Bellevue Street and Tigan Street with excavation and drainage installation. Sidewalk construction will progress between Stevens Street and Bellevue Street. The contractor plans to install the traffic signals at the Winooski Fire Department and at the Spring Street intersection and install the underground utility duct bank/conduit and stormwater pipes throughout the project limits. Tree planting is also planned between Maple and Stevens Street, where brick pavers have been completed.

The schedule may change due to weather, field conditions, subcontractor availability, and other factors. Throughout construction, Main Street between Maple Street and Tigan Street is reduced to a single lane, allowing only northbound traffic. Southbound traffic is detoured to Tigan Street and Weaver Street. This traffic pattern will remain in place 24/7 for most of the construction season. Additional impacts include short-term side



street closures, on-street parking restrictions, and temporary driveway access and utility interruptions for project abutters.

- Stay Informed! Sign up for weekly construction updates and traffic alerts at [winooskivt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooskivt.gov/mainstreet).
- Multilingual updates are available in 15 languages
- Property Owner/Resident/Business Notifications: The contractor will inform project abutters about utility or driveway interruptions in advance using door hangers or by knocking on doors.
- Questions or Concerns: Our public information team is here to help: 802 595 4399 | [info@winooskimainstreet.com](mailto:info@winooskimainstreet.com)
- Damage Claims: If your personal property is damaged due to construction, there's a process in place to help. Contact the public information team for more details.



### City Hall Reminders

Open 8am – 4pm, Monday – Friday  
[winooskivt.gov/clerk](http://winooskivt.gov/clerk) | 802 655 6410

Winooski City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2025, for Labor Day. The next quarterly tax and utility bills will be due on November 17, 2025. The utility bills will be mailed on or before October 17, 2025. To learn about payment options and details, please visit [winooskivt.gov/pay](http://winooskivt.gov/pay) or contact the City Clerk's Office: 802 655 6410 | [clerk@winooskivt.gov](mailto:clerk@winooskivt.gov).

Having trouble paying your bills? Payment plans are available. We are here to help - acting early gives you more options and can save you money! To learn more, call or email Angela Aldieri, Finance Director: 802 655 6410 | [aaldieri@winooskivt.gov](mailto:aaldieri@winooskivt.gov).

### Apply to a Winooski Board, Commission, or Committee!

Are you looking to get more connected to the community and shape our city? Residents with relevant experience, skills, interests, or a willingness to engage are encouraged to apply and participate in Winooski's public process! The City Council and staff welcome diverse voices, and if you've never served on a board, commission, or committee before, we'll do our best to support you! Visit the news updates section on our website to learn more and apply or visit [winooskivt.gov/representatives](http://winooskivt.gov/representatives).

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



### Recreation and Parks

[winooski.vt.gov/recprograms](http://winooski.vt.gov/recprograms)  
802-777-1621 | [recreation@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:recreation@winooski.vt.gov)

#### YOUTH

##### Field Hockey

Grades K-5 | Mondays, September 8 – October 27

##### FIRST Robotics Challenge Team

Grades 4-7 | Mondays, September 8 – December 15  
Saturday Competitions

##### Youth Climbing

Ages 5-8 | Tuesdays, September 9 – October 14  
Ages 9-13 | Thursdays, September 4 – October 16

##### Vermont Patriots Soccer

U6 | Saturdays, September 6 – October 25  
U8-U12 | Weeks of August 26 – October 19  
Volunteer coaches are needed!

##### Very Merry Theatre

Grades 1-6 | Wednesdays, September 3 – October 22

#### ADULTS

##### Winooski Bike Gang

Ages 18+ | Mondays and Wednesdays, April 16 – Sept 29

##### Winooski Running Club

Ages 18+ | Wednesdays, April 30 – September 1

#### EVENTS FOR ALL

##### Volunteer Park Cleanup Days

Memorial Park | Friday, October 10  
Casavant Nature Area | Friday, October 17  
Gilbrook Nature Area | Friday, October 24



### Winooski Memorial Library

32 Malletts Bay Avenue | 802-655-6424 | [library@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:library@winooski.vt.gov)  
[winooski.vt.gov/library](http://winooski.vt.gov/library)  
Tuesday to Friday: 10am - 5pm | Saturday: 10am - 2pm

#### Drop-in programs:

#### YOUTH

**Outdoor Playgroup** | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am

**Outdoor Storytime** | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am

**Messy Art** | 18mo & up | Saturdays | 10:30am

**Stories in Landry Park** | Birth & up | August 8 & 22 | 10:30am

**Game Tournament** | Ages 5+ | August 13 | 3:30pm

**Food Art for Kids** | Ages 5+ | August 6 & 20 | 3:30pm

**Crafternoon** | Ages 5+ | August 14 | 3:30pm

#### ADULTS

**Free Bike Repair Clinic** | All ages | August 6 | 11am

**Monthly Book Group** | Ages 18+ | Last Tuesday of each month

**Monthly Writing Group** | Ages 18+ | Call or email for specifics

#### EVENTS FOR ALL

**End of Summer Celebration** - Thursday, August 21: 3:30 – 4:30pm: Join us as we celebrate the end of summer and our summer reading challenge! We'll have food, games, and entertainment, and will be raffling some great prizes for our reading participants!

**Local Attraction Passes:** Did you know the library offers passes for free or reduced admission to a number of local attractions? Available to Winooski Library cardholders on a first-served basis, passes include Vermont State Parks & Historic Sites, Shelburne Museum, ECHO, and the Birds of Vermont Museum, and have a loan period of three days. Stop by and start exploring!

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



### Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov

[winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter](http://winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter)

#### TUESDAYS

##### New American Community Connections

September 16 and 23

10am – 1pm | Games, Activities & Lunch

#### WEDNESDAYS

##### Breakfast Café

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

Enjoy fresh breakfast sandwiches, fruit & drinks

##### Senior Community Connections

9am – 12pm | Free | Drop-in

Play games and puzzles, enjoy crafts and more!

##### Sit Down Community Meals

12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation

Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Wednesday.

Healthy sit-down lunches from AgeWell

No program on September 10

#### SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

##### Mobile Pet Food Shelf

September 28 | 1 –3pm | Free | Pet food and items for those in need

##### Bone Builders Exercise

Free | Monday & Wednesday | 2–3pm

##### Meals on Wheels

Please call AgeWell at 802 863 0360 for eligibility. Volunteer drivers are always needed!



### Thrive Afterschool

[winooskivt.gov/thrive](http://winooskivt.gov/thrive)

Enrollment for Thrive Afterschool 2025-26 is open for all incoming kindergarten through 5th-grade children! Thrive is a state-licensed, childcare/enrichment program that runs from 3 - 5:30pm, Monday–Friday, from September 2, 2025 – June 5, 2026 (we are closed on school closures and early release days).

We partner with the Winooski School District to build 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, cooperative and socio-emotional learning, outdoor play, and more.

- You may choose specific days of the week (\$19/day) or full-week enrollment (\$90/5 days)
- Thrive accepts Vermont Childcare Financial Assistance Program (State subsidy) to cover the costs of the program, and most Winooski families qualify for some support (copays may apply)
- Applications are encouraged for all families – visit [dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ccfap](http://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ccfap) or contact Evelyn if you have questions or need support in applying for childcare subsidy
- We do have scholarships available for those in need who don't qualify for State subsidy
- Visit [winooskivt.gov/thrive](http://winooskivt.gov/thrive) for more information and to register, or contact Thrive Program Director, Evelyn Monje: [emonje@winooskivt.gov](mailto:emonje@winooskivt.gov) | 802 233 8188

**Sign up for  
Community Services  
Programs & Events!**



[winooskivt.gov/programs](http://winooskivt.gov/programs)

## DOWNTOWN WINOOSKI AND SERVICE PROVIDERS



### Downtown Winooski

[downtownwinooski.org](http://downtownwinooski.org)

Support businesses on Main Street during the **'Winooski Mosaic'** campaign! Visit [downtownwinooski.org/mosaic](http://downtownwinooski.org/mosaic) and follow us on social media to learn more. With the tagline "Temporary Routes, Permanent Progress," the initiative aims to maintain business patronage and community engagement during the Main Street Revitalization Project and includes everything from print and digital advertising, social media content, wayfinding signage, business highlights, and exciting programs for gift cards, receipt raffles, delivery options, and opportunities to share your experiences supporting businesses.

September brings **Youth Vendor Day** to the Farmers Market! Join us on September 28th for a market day all about the kiddos. We'll be welcoming special young guests vending their wares at the market as well as local resources for kids and families. There'll also be fun activities like a storywalk, an instrument petting zoo, and more! The Winooski Food Shelf will also be there accepting donations, so bring a food or monetary donation.

We're thrilled to announce our **winter Holiday Farmers' Markets!** We'll be making a cozy return to our cold-weather home at the Winooski Senior Center, but there will be only two chances to catch the farmers market this winter. We'll be having a Thanksgiving market on Sunday, November 23rd and a Holiday market on Sunday, December 21st. Stock up for your family feasts and grab your holiday gifts with us.

Thanks everyone for joining our August Downtown Block Party. We are so excited to cap off our summer Block Parties with PRIDE! Join us for **Winooski Pride** in Rotary Park from 5-8pm on Saturday, September 13th. From drag and musical performances to food to fun, free activities, we're going to have an amazing time celebrating our LGBTQIA+ friends and neighbors in Winooski. We can't wait to see you there.

With the end of summer, comes fall on the horizon. That can only mean one thing... **Halloween** is coming soon! But we need your help to make it happen. Keep an eye on [downtownwinooski.org](http://downtownwinooski.org) for information on volunteer opportunities, carving times, and other ways to help. This monumental celebration comes with a big cost, and one of the easiest ways to make a big impact is by adopting a pumpkin! Visit [downtownwinooski.org/donate](http://downtownwinooski.org/donate) to adopt yours today.

### Winooski Food Shelf

[winooskifoodshelf.org](http://winooskifoodshelf.org)



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

Wednesday, September 10	1:00 – 3:00pm
Saturday, September 13	9:30 – 11:00am
Wednesday, September 24	1:00 – 3:00pm
Saturday, September 27	9:30 – 11:00am

**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](mailto: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

[howardcenter.org](http://howardcenter.org)



#### Mental Health Urgent

#### Care (MHUC):

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental

health crisis, MHUC provides walk-in care at 1 South Prospect Street in Burlington, Monday–Friday from 9am–5pm. In addition to mental health support, peer support, suicide care, and related medical care are also available. Services are free.

Call 802 488 MHUC (6482) or visit [howardcenter.org/MHUC](http://howardcenter.org/MHUC) to learn more. If you need general information about Howard Center's services or resources, please contact our Access and Intake main number at 802-488-6000; Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5pm. Howard Center helps people and communities thrive by providing supports and services to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs.

### Town Meeting TV

[cctv.org](http://cctv.org)

Town Meeting TV is now accepting applications for the **Fall 2025**



**Neighborhood Media Internship Program!** This opportunity is perfect for students and aspiring media-makers who want to learn more about community storytelling, local democracy, and video production. This weekly program runs from September through January for youth ages 16-20. Interns will learn professional video production techniques, develop media literacy skills, and gain access to CCTV's 40+ year archive of local history. They'll also get direct experience with producing content for television and online platforms. Only 4 spaces are available; apply at [cctv.org/nmi2025](http://cctv.org/nmi2025).



**WINOOSKI SCHOOLS**  
*We are the future.*

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**IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI**

**WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**[www.wsdvt.org](http://www.wsdvt.org)**

**Superintendent of Schools**  
 Wilmer Chavarria, [wchavarria@wsdvt.org](mailto:wchavarria@wsdvt.org)  
 802-383-6000

**John F. Kennedy Elementary School**  
 Principal: Sara Raabe  
 802-655-0411  
[sraabe@wsdvt.org](mailto:sraabe@wsdvt.org)

**Winooski Middle and High School**  
 Co-Principals: Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume  
 802-655-3530  
[kgrodin@wsdvt.org](mailto:kgrodin@wsdvt.org)  
[jberthiaume@wsdvt.org](mailto:jberthiaume@wsdvt.org)

**Board of School Trustees**  
 Robert Millar, *President*, 802-238-0089, [rmillar@wsdvt.org](mailto:rmillar@wsdvt.org)  
 Nicole Mace, *Vice President*, 802-363-7777, [nimace@wsdvt.org](mailto:nimace@wsdvt.org)  
 Isaiah Donaldson, *Secretary*, 802-999-8410, [idonaldson@wsdvt.org](mailto:idonaldson@wsdvt.org)  
 Emily Bowers, 802-383-6000, [ebowers@wsdvt.org](mailto:ebowers@wsdvt.org)  
 Elom Essiba, 802-324-9431, [eessiba@wsdvt.org](mailto:eessiba@wsdvt.org)

**CITY OF WINOOSKI**  
**[www.winooskivt.gov](http://www.winooskivt.gov), 802-655-6410**

**Interim Mayor**  
 Thomas Renner, 802-922-3265, [trenner@winooskivt.gov](mailto:trenner@winooskivt.gov)

**City Manager**  
 Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, [ewang@winooskivt.gov](mailto:ewang@winooskivt.gov)

**City Councilors**  
 Aurora Hurd, 802-734-7082, [ahurd@winooskivt.gov](mailto:ahurd@winooskivt.gov)  
 Charles Judge, 802-655-6410, [cjudge@winooskivt.gov](mailto:cjudge@winooskivt.gov)  
 Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, [boakleaf@winooskivt.gov](mailto:boakleaf@winooskivt.gov)

**City Clerk**  
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, [jwillingham@winooskivt.gov](mailto:jwillingham@winooskivt.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

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA** We are @WinooskiLearns

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