

The Winooski Newsletter

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

JULY 2026



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



Honoring the Class of 2026

The Winooski School District proudly celebrated the graduation of the Class of 2026 as students, families, staff, alumni, and community members gathered to honor this important milestone.

The ceremony reflected not only the accomplishments of the graduates, but also the strong relationships that have supported them throughout their educational journey.

One of the most memorable moments came from educator Jessica Perrotte, whose connection to the graduates is uniquely special. Perrotte taught many members of the Class of 2026 in kindergarten, fourth grade, and again in high school.

“I’ve had the rare gift of a front-row seat to your entire childhood,” she told the graduates. “I witnessed moments from that first missing-tooth smile in kindergarten, to the enthusiasm over reading something new and engaging in

my fourth grade reading class, all the way to your high school years where I watched you grow into the fierce, capable young adults you’ve become today.”

She reflected on the growth she witnessed over the years,

from learning to read and write to developing goals, dreams, and a deeper understanding of the world. Most importantly, she praised the graduates for remaining loyal, kind, and connected to their friends and families throughout their journey.

Class speaker David Distiso delivered a thoughtful address focused on living with purpose and embracing the opportunities ahead.

“If you’ve heard nothing else, hear this,” he said. “Don’t spend your life preparing to live. Live it.”

He encouraged his classmates to create, explore, learn, and pursue what matters most to them.

“Whatever path you take from here, I hope you choose it deliberately,” Distiso said. “I hope you spend your time on things that matter. And I hope you remember that the future isn’t something that happens to you. It’s something you build, one choice at a time.”

As tassels were turned and diplomas awarded, the ceremony marked both an ending and a beginning. We congratulate the Class of 2026 and look forward to seeing the impact they will make on their communities and the world.





WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Winooski families and community,

I want to congratulate the Winooski High School Class of 2026. Graduation marked the culmination of years of hard work, perseverance, and growth, and we are proud of all that our graduates have accomplished. As we close another successful school year, we also recognize the achievements of students and staff across the district. The final weeks of school were filled with learning, celebration, and



memorable experiences. JFK Elementary students enjoyed their annual year-end celebration at Landry Park and Myers Memorial Pool, spending the day swimming and enjoying outdoor activities with classmates. Middle school students traveled to Camp Abnaki for their annual year-end celebration, taking part in outdoor activities and enjoying time together before summer break. We also celebrated important milestones through our 5th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony and 8th Grade Graduation, recognizing students as they prepare for the next chapter of their educational journeys.

Our school community took time to celebrate the dedicated individuals who make Winooski School District such a special place. This year, we extend our heartfelt thanks to four retiring staff members for their years of service and commitment to our students and families. Additionally, 46 staff members were recognized for reaching significant career milestones within the

district, including six employees celebrating 20 years of service, one celebrating 25 years, and three remarkable individuals reaching 30 years of service.

Learning and growth will continue throughout the summer for many of our students in varied ways. Among other exciting things, sixteen Winooski students will participate in four different Governor’s Institutes of Vermont programs after being accepted through a competitive application process. The district will support students with transportation and visits to several institute programs this summer. Our partnership with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps also remains strong, with 10 Winooski students participating in the Food & Farm Crew paid service-learning program. Three students will spend the entire summer as AmeriCorps members, earning an education award in addition to their stipend while gaining valuable work experience.

While students enjoy their well-deserved break, the facilities team will be busy with annual deep cleaning, maintenance, repairs, and improvement projects that can only take place when school is not in session. The district will focus on sprucing up school grounds to ensure our campus is ready to welcome students and families back in August. And speaking of August, it’s never too early to mark your calendar for one of our favorite community traditions. The Back-to-School BBQ returns on Thursday, August 20, and we look forward to welcoming students, families, staff, and community members back together as we kick off another school year.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Presenting, the Class of 2026!

- Falhado Ahmed
- Ayub Ali
- Nabina Basnet
- Jaida Beaupre
- Ethan Bevins
- Okelina Bilenganya
- Jaelin Bohannon
- Armando Costa
- Abisek Dahal
- Pratikshya Dhamala
- Afia Diagne
- David DiStiso
- Natalie Dzessou
- Emily Lillian Freije
- Keegan Gehrmann
- Emilee Gilfillan
- Michael Gray
- Alisha Gurung
- Preyanka Gurung
- Mumina Hamadi
- Jacoby Hammitt
- Norah June Heikel
- Kai Madison Hemple
- Moo Thay Lay Htoo
- Kiana-Lee Ann Hill
- Abdinoor Hussein
- Leyla Hassan Hussein
- Dolma Sherpa Hyolmo
- Izzy Ingham
- Neema Isidore
- Isabell S. Johnson
- Jada Kinville
- Chloe Miriam Lynch
- Jamison Mathews
- Kayden Monnier
- Joice Mukamba
- Adin Mubarak
- Ayla Paluba
- Cayden Perez
- Iris Marie Poss
- Albina Rai
- Arij Reza
- Mikey Schmoll
- Samantha Secor
- Mapenzi Selemani
- Legacy M. Sinclair
- Ler Der Star
- Taylor J. Sweeney
- Marissa M. Sylvestre
- Nirusha Tamang
- Yangchyan Tamang
- Harley Matthew Trayah
- Omar Turnage
- Cheyenne Watson
- Asa D. Wheeland
- Eliza D. Willis
- Jean Pierre Yongo
- Ellie Young

Scholarships 2025-26



University of Vermont Green & Gold Scholarship

Each year the University of Vermont asks each high school in the state to select one student who they believe has demonstrated the highest of academic skills and rigor. This student is nominated and, if accepted, receives a full tuition scholarship to the university. This year's recipient is Samantha Secor.

The Kyle Tipson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is given in memory of Kyle Tipson, a graduate and lifelong member of the Winooski Community. It is given to 2 students who are continuing their education and have participated in sports for at least 2 years. This year's recipients are Ellie Young and Abisek Dahal.

Maida F. Townsend Scholarship

This scholarship is given to a student who has demonstrated a love of learning, an openness to the richness of differences among people, and a willingness to use their time and talent in service to others. This year's recipient is Nabina Basnet.

Carol L. Kessler Memorial Scholarship

This award is presented to a student or students who have succeeded academically, demonstrated a love of life, acted as a role model or mentor to peers, and who are intending to continue their education at a postsecondary institution to pursue a career in healthcare or a related field. This year's recipients are Alisha Gurung and Leyla Hussein.

Academic Excellence Scholarship

Two scholarships presented to students who excel academically. This year's recipients are Emily Freije and Izzy Johnson.

Nicholas Cusson-Ducharme Athletic Scholarship

This scholarship is given in memory of Nicholas Cusson-Ducharme to one hardworking, dedicated student-athlete who has participated in athletics throughout their high school career,



while also demonstrating outstanding leadership qualities. This award is presented to a student who excels in their schoolwork while also being a member of their beloved sports team(s). This year's recipient is Jacoby Hammitt.

Winooski School Board Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to two graduates who have demonstrated that they are in process of upholding the WSD Ends Statement they are college & career ready; leading healthy, productive and successful lives; engaging with their local and global community. This year's recipients are Mapenzi Selemani and Arij Reza.

Bill Everts Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is given in memory of Bill Everts, longtime Winooski resident and coach. He was a dedicated fan and supporter of Winooski students and athletes. Bill was a Professor at Champlain College for over 30 years and the first in his family to attend college. This scholarship is given to a student who is first generation in their family to attend college. This year's recipient is Samantha Secor.

Winooski Education Association Scholarship

A scholarship presented to an individual entering the field of education in recognition of exceptional contributions to school activities and all around excellence in academics. This year's recipients are Iris Poss and Norah Heikel .

Skills and Trade Scholarship

A scholarship given to a graduating student who will be furthering their education in a skill or trade. This year's recipient is Kianalee Hill.

Challenge Scholarship

A scholarship presented to a well-rounded, motivated student who has overcome obstacles in becoming a high academic achiever. This year's recipient is Falhaddo Ahmed.

John J. Malcovsky Community Service Scholarship

A scholarship given to a deserving student who has participated actively in community service. This year's recipient is Natalie Dzessou.



The PTO Education Scholarship

A scholarship presented to a student who is pursuing a career in education and who has displayed community involvement through school or work experience. This year's recipient is Taylor Sweeney.

The PTO Scholarship

A scholarship presented to 2 students who have shown overall commitment and involvement with Winooski High School in multiple and varying ways. This year's recipients are Albina Rai and Moo Thay Lay Htoo .

Leadership Scholarship

This scholarship is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and exemplifies positive impact. This year's recipients are Ler Der Star and Okelina Bilenganya.

Persistence Award

This scholarship is given to two students who have shown perseverance through all they faced to make it to high school graduation and plan to pursue a post-secondary education. This year's recipients are Legacy Sinclair and Omar Turnage.

Class of 2013 Scholarship

A scholarship for a senior who has demonstrated dedication to their class and exhibited a genuine care and respect for Winooski High School. This year's recipient is Pratikshya Dhamala.

The Rising Above Scholarship

Awarded to a student who has shown remarkable growth throughout their time in high school, and has overcome adversity to prepare themselves for their next steps. This year's recipients are Kai Hemple and Joice Mukamba.

WPP Student Community Impact Scholarship

Presented by the Winooski Partnership for Prevention, this scholarship recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership, positive decision-making, and a commitment to strengthening their school and community through their participation in the Above the Influence program. This year's recipients are Natalie Dzessou and Leyla Hussein.

Governor Hoff VT Honor Scholarship

One student from each high school in Vermont is selected for this longstanding statewide honor. It is awarded to a student with outstanding academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities and/or community service who will be enrolling at a post-secondary educational institution. This year's recipient is Eliza Willis.



School Board Update

By Nicole Mace, School Board President

At our June meeting, the Winooski Board of Trustees focused on several important topics that reflect both statewide developments and our ongoing commitment to students in our district.

Legislative Session Updates

We discussed the close of the 2026 Vermont legislative session and its implications for Winooski schools. Two key pieces of legislation were called out in particular: S.227, which establishes immigration-related protocols for Vermont schools, and builds directly on policies first developed here in the Winooski School District. This legislation ensures Winooski is not the

only sanctuary school district in the state, and its passage is a testament to Superintendent Chavarria's leadership in creating safe, inclusive environments for all students and families.

H.955, the education transformation bill, paves the way for continued changes in how education systems are structured and supported across the state. The legislation requires Winooski to begin immediate work exploring potential district mergers, participate in the rapid formation of a new Cooperative Educational Service Area (CESA), and prepare for significant changes to how education is funded and delivered regionally.

(continued on page 5)

SCHOOL BOARD (continued from page 4)

While the bill does not mandate mergers, it does require merger exploration. The bill's parameters place Winooski in a challenging position among larger neighboring districts, raising the possibility of investing substantial time and resources into merger efforts that may not ultimately be realized. At the same time, the district is expected to help establish a new regional governance structure without clear guidance on resources, roles, or accountability.

Despite these concerns and the complexity of the path ahead, the Board remains committed to complying with the law while protecting the progress we have made and ensuring that any changes continue to support high-quality outcomes for Winooski students. At the June meeting, I was appointed to represent the WSD on the new CESA Board. The board is expected to hold its first meeting in August; all meetings will be public, and I will provide regular updates at WSD Board meetings.

Monitoring Progress on Race and Equity

The Board also reviewed the Superintendent's monitoring report for Policy 2.9: Race and Equity, a cornerstone of our district's commitment to ensuring all students have access to equitable opportunities and outcomes.

Our discussion focused on how we can more clearly measure progress over time. Board members identified key metrics we would like to see emphasized in future reports, helping us better understand where progress is being made and where additional attention is needed. This ongoing work is essential to ensuring accountability and transparency as we strive to live up to our equity commitments.

SPARK Center at 2 Normand Street

We also received an update on the proposed SPARK Center (Skills, Purpose, Autonomy, Readiness, Knowledge) at 2 Normand Street.

District staff recently met with architects from TruexCullins to review initial concept designs for the project, which would tear down the existing house and build a new educational facility that achieves the following objectives:

- Flexible, open learning and social spaces
- Improved access to outdoor areas and the backyard
- Careful consideration of student safety throughout the design and layout of learning spaces.
- Adequate space for storage, IT, and custodial needs

The next step is for the architects to update the designs to share them with a cost estimator. The Board expects to receive updated cost information at our August meeting, which will guide next steps for the project.

Here's to the Class of 2026!

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Winooski High School Class of 2026. We are proud of all of our graduates and wish them the very best as they take their next steps. Each year, the Board awards scholarships to students who exemplify our ENDS statement, and this year, after a competitive process with many strong applicants, we were pleased to recognize Mapenzi Selemani and Arij Reza. Both students demonstrated a strong commitment to leading healthy, productive, and successful lives, meaningful engagement with their communities, and a clear ability to connect their experiences in WSD to their future goals. Congratulations to all!



We appreciate the continued engagement and support of our community, and invite you to join us either in person or online at an upcoming meeting.

Highlighting Our Business Students

By Courtney Poquette, HS Business and Personal Finance Educator

This year our business students were recognized as follows: Mapenzi won honorable mention in the state Entrepreneurship bumper sticker contest AND second place in the state Business Model Canvas for her non-profit business idea, providing dorm essentials to Winooski graduates.

Jacoby, Cayden, Siyat, and David won honorable mention in the state Business Model Canvas competition for their idea of a portable outdoor yard game business.

Nirusha, Pratikshya, and Nawmi won second place in the state's entrepreneurship video contest for the jewelry making business they started in class.

Alisha was selected as one of three winners in the state by Darn Tough socks for a pig themed sock design that she created.

In addition this year eight students in the high school business classes committed to running the School Store during their supported study times, lunches, and breaks. They also expanded operations to running concessions at the basketball games.



From their profits: over \$7,000 went towards scholarships and the remaining funds will carry over to provide business seed money for the students in the business classes next year. We look forward to growing operations in partnership with the PTO and building on the success from this year.

Celebrating Our 5th and 8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremonies

Last month, the Winooski School District proudly celebrated two important milestones as our 5th and 8th grade students marked the next step in their educational journeys.

At JFK Elementary School, families, staff, and students gathered to honor our 5th graders as they prepare to transition to middle school. A special highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of their Ish books, a cherished tradition that follows students throughout their elementary years. Each year, teachers add personal notes and reflections, creating a meaningful keepsake filled with memories, encouragement, and growth.

At Winooski Middle School, our 8th graders were celebrated as they prepare to enter high school. During the ceremony, students received the traditional green envelopes, a longtime Winooski tradition containing notes of encouragement and support from family members, teachers, and community members. The event was made even more special by the strong turnout of families, siblings, alumni, and supporters from across the Winooski school community.

Congratulations to all of our 5th and 8th grade students. We are proud of your accomplishments and look forward to all that you will achieve in the years ahead.



2026 FREE Summer Meals for Winooski Students

Sarah Haven, Director of Finance & Operations

The Winooski School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. As always, students participating in summer programming offered through the Winooski School District or the City of Winooski will have access to breakfast, lunch, or both, depending on the program's hours.

Students who are not registered in programming are also eligible for meals. Starting on Monday, June 22nd, students may come to the Myers Memorial Pool for lunch only. Meals at the pool will be available at 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. This service will run through August 14th.

Every child in Winooski, aged 0-18, is eligible for FREE summer meals. Summer meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), found online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf> and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to the USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: 202-690-7442 or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov



Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Thomas Renner



Hello Neighbors, Happy July! **Summer has fully arrived in Winooski**, and with it comes one of my favorite times of year in our city. There is something special about this season - longer evenings, neighbors out walking and gathering, children playing, and our parks, streets, and public spaces feeling especially alive. After the long winter and busy spring, I hope everyone finds some time this month to enjoy everything that makes Winooski such a vibrant and connected community. Before anything else, I want to **extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating Juneteenth**. It was wonderful to see so many people come together in community, reflection, and celebration. Moments like these remind me how fortunate we are to live in a city that values connection, belonging, and showing up for one another. **Summer in Winooski also means pool season** is here again. Whether you're cooling off with family, spending an afternoon with friends, or simply enjoying some sunshine, I encourage you to take advantage of one of our community's favorite summer traditions. You can learn more about hours, passes, and programming online at winooskivt.gov/pool. For our dog lovers - one of Winooski's most fun summer traditions is back! If you have a four-legged family member who deserves local fame, be sure to **check out Best Pooch in the 'Noosk**

and join the community celebration on July 26. I also want to remind everyone that one of my favorite things about Winooski is how often we create opportunities to gather with our neighbors. **The next Downtown Winooski Block Party is on July 15** - these events are such a great reminder that some of the best parts of city life happen close to home, right outside our front doors. I hope to see many of you there. Learn about Downtown Block Parties and more at downtownwinooski.org/events. And because this time of year brings celebrations across our region, **here are a few local fireworks events** for those planning holiday gatherings: BTV Independence Day Celebration, July 3 (btvjuly3.com), Essex Junction Independence Day Celebration, July 4 (ejrp.org), Colchester Parade and Fireworks, July 4 - colchestervt.gov. As always, there is so much happening throughout the summer - events, recreation programs, markets, celebrations, and opportunities to connect. **I encourage everyone to stay engaged by following updates on social media from the City, City Councilors, and Downtown Winooski**. Thank you, as always, for making Winooski such a welcoming, energetic, and caring place. Whether you're volunteering, attending events, supporting local businesses, or simply checking in on a neighbor, those actions shape the community we all share.

I hope you have a wonderful July and find time to enjoy all that summer in Winooski has to offer.

From Your Local Representative

By Representative Chloe Tomlinson



Hello neighbors, the 2026 legislative session was packed with many intertwined and consequential pieces of legislation. Please reach out if you would like more detail on any of these topics, or if there's something you'd like an update on that I wasn't able to include here. **Budget:** The overall FY2027 budget was \$9.38 billion, a 2.1% increase from last year's budget. Key investments include \$1.00 million

for the Rent Arrears Assistance Fund, \$4.00 million for an increase in the renter rebate, \$200,000 to Vermont Legal Aid for an immigration attorney to support legal defense, and \$350,000 to support the Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and Farm Share programs as well as \$250,000 to support the Vermont Foodbank's Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Program. **Education:** The main education reform bill, H.955, drew from many of the recommendations of the School District Redistricting Task Force. The bill creates Cooperative Educational Service Areas (CESAs) which aim to save costs by regionalizing services, and sets up a process for voluntary school district mergers. Additionally, the education finance policy laid out in the Yield Bill, H.949, creates a plan to gradually cap how much school districts can increase their budgets year over year until the state transitions

to the theoretical foundation formula. I continue to have major concerns about this approach, and voted no on both of these bills. **Transportation:** We made some progress on addressing the growing gaps in our Transportation Fund, but much more work will need to be done in future years to ensure Vermont has sustainable transportation funding. This year's Transportation Bill, H.944, lays out a plan to levy a Mileage-Based User Fee (MBUF) on electric vehicles starting in 2027. The intent is to expand this program to plug-in hybrid vehicles in 2029, pending additional legislative action. There will also be work done to address how to account for miles traveled out of state, but in the meantime there is a yearly cap on the fee. **Civil Liberties and Immigration Protections:** S.227 is based on Winooski's model sanctuary school policy and creates immigration protocols for all schools in Vermont. All students deserve these fundamental protections, and the passage of this bill was a big win. Another important piece of progress was S.209, which limits civil arrests in sensitive locations such as healthcare facilities, social services, government buildings, and educational institutions. **Finally, I want to share that I am not seeking re-election.** I have been deeply honored by your trust in me to represent Winooski in Montpelier. I will continue to serve as your representative until the next legislative session begins. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with any questions or concerns.



City Hall Reminders

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

2026 Elections: The next election is the Statewide Primary on Tuesday, August 11, 2026. The ballots will be available in the first week of July. Register to vote or request an absentee ballot at vote.vermont.gov or contact the City Clerk’s Office: clerk@winooskivt.gov | 802-655-6410. The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. The ballots for the General Election will be sent to all active voters. For details on voting and elections visit winooskivt.gov/vote.

Winooski City Hall will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2026 in observance of Independence Day.

Comprehensive Plan Open House Series:

The City of Winooski must readopt a municipal plan (a high-level plan that guides the City’s future) by March 2027. The current plan, known as the Master Plan, is getting updated and will be called the “Comprehensive Plan”. Community feedback is needed to guide the plan! Open House events are happening throughout the summer, where you can weigh in on the plan. Thanks to everyone who attended the Overview, Land Use, and Historic Preservation event on May 28, and the Economic Vitality event on June 16.

Coming Up: **Municipal Infrastructure: July 29, 5–7pm at the Winooski Senior Center.**

Give feedback on the City’s long-term infrastructure goals and objectives (water, sewer, stormwater, transportation, and energy infrastructure improvements). City staff will present maps identifying recommendations for transportation improvements based on input from the Winooski Walk/Bike Plan and the Transportation Master Plan. Light refreshments provided.

Safe, Healthy, Connected People: August 27, 5–7pm at the Winooski Senior Center

Learn more at winooskivt.gov/plan



Main Street Revitalization Project

winooskivt.gov/mainstreet

In June, the contractor completed most of the concrete sidewalk and curb, brick and permeable pavers, and driveway paving between Lafountain Street and the Winooski/Colchester town line, including side streets. Crews built median and pedestrian refuge islands between Lafountain and Tigan Streets and finalized streetlight installation across the project area. Traffic signal work advanced at the Winooski Fire Department and the Spring Street intersection. After the remaining telecom utilities were relocated underground, crews began to remove overhead utility lines and poles. At the end of the month, crews milled and paved between Tigan Street and the town line.

In July, the contractor is expected to pave the final layer of asphalt between Spring Street and Tigan Street, including side street intersections, and install final line striping and pavement markings. **Final paving and line striping activities may take place at night.** Crews will also complete remaining traffic signal work at the Winooski Fire Department and the Spring Street intersection. Crews will finish remaining sidewalk, brick and permeable pavers, curbing, driveway aprons, landscaping, and site restoration. **Construction for the Winooski Main Street Revitalization Project is expected to conclude this summer.**

Traffic Impacts: Construction will primarily occur under shoulder and parking lane closures, travel lane closures, lane shifts, short-term side street closures and detours, and occasional alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers. **Traffic delays are expected.** Drivers are encouraged to allow extra travel time, consider alternative routes, or use other transportation options such as carpooling, transit, biking, or walking.

Drivers are encouraged to sign up for project email updates to receive Traffic Alerts about the schedule and traffic pattern changes for final paving and line striping.

Stay Informed: Sign up for project email updates at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet.

Questions or concerns? Contact our public information team: 802-595-4399 | info@winooskimainstreet.com.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Recreation and Parks

802-540-1476 | recreation@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/recprograms

The Myers Memorial Pool is open! Get your season passes, sign up for swim lessons, and view our programs at winooskivt.gov/pool.

YOUTH

USTA Tennis in the Parks

Grades 1-9 | Mondays and Wednesdays July 6-22

Winooski Waves Swim Team

Ages 4-18 | Monday, Wednesday, Friday June 10-August 3

Swim Lessons

All ages / varying levels | Weeks of June 13-August 6

Junior Lifeguarding

Ages 11-15 | Saturdays, June 20-July 25

Ages 11-15 | Monday-Thursday, August 3-6

Rec Summer Camps Completed grades K-5

Outdoor Adventures Camp | June 15-18

Dream Team Sports Camp | August 10-14

Creative Spark Camp | August 17-21

Chill Skateboarding Camp

Ages 11-17 | July 6-10

Very Merry Theatre Camp

Grades 1-5 | July 13-17

ADULT

Aqua Aerobics

Ages 18+ | Tuesdays & Thursdays | June 16-August 13



Winooski Memorial Library

65 Winooski Falls Way | 802-655-6424 | library@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/library

Tuesday - Friday: 10am - 5pm

Saturday 10am - 2pm

Closed: Sunday and Monday

We've moved! The Library has moved to our new, temporary location at **65 Winooski Falls Way** (formerly leased by Commodities Market) while the O'Brien Community Center is being renovated.

YOUTH

Playgroup

Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am

Teen Art Club

Ages 11+ | Tuesdays | 2pm

Crafternoon for Kids

Ages 5+ | Wednesdays | 3:30pm

Storytime

Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30pm

STEAM Ahead

Ages 4+ | Saturdays | 10:30pm

Food Challenge

Ice Cream | Thursday, July 16 | Teen Session (Ages 11+): 2pm |

Youth Session (Ages 5+): 3:30pm

ADULT

Monthly Book Group

Ages 18+ | Last Tuesday of each month

Monthly Writing Group

Ages 18+ | Call or email for specifics

Dino Man Performance, July 14: Join us for an exciting performance Dinosaur performance with Dino Man on Tuesday, July 14th at 10am at Landry Park. How do we know dinosaurs were here? What is a fossil? How are they made? Join Dino Man and his inflatable life-size dinosaurs to learn more! This program is fun and informative for all ages. Weather dependent.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425
winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter
seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov

TUESDAYS

Cultural Connections – July 14 and 21

- 10am – 2pm | Free | Drop-in
- Activities, exercise and lunch

WEDNESDAYS

Breakfast Café

- 9am–11am | Priced by Donation | Drop-in
- Enjoy fresh breakfast foods, fruit & drinks

Senior Community Connections

- 9am–12pm | Free | Drop-in
- Come and play games, puzzles, crafts and more!

Sit Down Community Meals

- 12pm | 60+ | \$7 suggested donation
- RSVP by 12pm the previous Wednesday
- Healthy sit-down meals from Age Well

FRIDAYS

Singing Group (ends August 21)

- 10:30am – 11:30am | Free | Drop-in
- Music can help sustain cognition and quality of life

Senior Open Swim

- 11:30am – 12:30am | Free | Myers Pool
- Enjoy cold treats & drinks with your neighbors

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Age Well BBQ Lunch | Wednesday July 22

- 12pm | 60+ | \$8 suggested donation | Ticketed event with limited seating

Mobile Pet Food Shelf | Sunday, July 26

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

Bone Builders Exercise | Monday & Wednesday |

- 2 - 3pm | Free

Meals on Wheels | Call Age Well at 802-865-0360



Thrive Afterschool

winooskivt.gov/thrive

The 2026 Thrive Afterschool year continues with excellence! Spaces for the 2026-27 Afterschool program and the 2026 Summer Camps are available for online registration at winooskivt.gov/thriveprograms or with a paper application that must be returned to Program Director, Evelyn Monje.

Summer Camps

Thrive will be offering 7 weeks of fun and excitement during Thrive Summer. We always take a dip at the pool, spend time having fun in the sun, and make lots of new friends!

- **Artistry Adventure Week:** June 22–26
- **'Cheffing Up' Week** (3-day week): June 29–July 1
- **Olympians Week:** July 6–10
- **Thrives' Got Talent Week:** July 13–17
- **Splish Splash Week:** July 20–24
- **Storytelling Spellbinders Week:** July 27–31
- **Legendary Week:** August 3–7

All Thrive Programs are subsidy eligible. Visit winooskivt.gov/thrive for more information and to register, or contact Evelyn Monje, Thrive Program Director: emonje@winooskivt.gov | 802-233-8188.

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



winooskivt.gov/programs

DOWNTOWN WINOOSKI AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Downtown Winooski

downtownwinooski.org

Crop Cash Plus is coming back to the farmers market! Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients will now be able to get an extra \$10 match to spend on groceries at the market in addition to the existing \$20 match for produce. Farm to Family coupons also return this month. Get these from the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) or the local Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) office and bring them to the market to use on fresh produce.

Our July special event at Winooski Farmers Market is Best Pooch in the 'Noosk! Save the date for July 26th and make sure to bring your pup for lots of canine fun. We'll have prizes for each of the five category winners in the Best Pooch contest so consider entering your dog. Contest entry fees support the market and For The Love of Dogs Vermont Visit downtownwinooski.org/best-pooch for details.

We are excited to bring another Block Party back to Rotary Park! Join us on July 15th from 5-8pm for live music from Seth Yacovone band, local food vendors and nonprofit guests, and tons of fun activities. Visit downtownwinooski.org/block-parties for all the details.



Winooski Partnership for Prevention

winooskiprevention.org

The US faces similar challenges today as it did a hundred years ago, including substance use and its effects on society. Law has always played a key role, and how to use it well evolves. Law and policy affect the most people at once, making them “powerful” options. As leaders in the 1900s also found, we must align who are making the laws with those implementing/enforcing them. Community representatives (i.e. church, local, state governments) have been more successful in getting policies embraced. A sign that it may be time to review laws and policies is when they are causing more social and economic harm than benefit, or whether they have become too strict or too lenient. The WPP annual report is available at winooskiprevention.org. It's a great snapshot of the hard work done in Winooski this year to support youth and families' health! We are so proud of Leyla Hussein and Natalie Dzessou, who have worked with Mukhtar Abdullahi, Substance Use Prevention Educator, inspiring peers and students to avoid substance use and keep a clear path to their futures. The WPP awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to each in honor of our first awardee and long-time supporter, Lukas Zweeres. We wish them all the best on their next adventures! Helpful resources: Quit the Hit, for teens to help quit vapes quitthehitnow.com | MyLife MyQuit revamped! A totally anonymous app for teens. vt.mylifemyquit.org/en-us | 802Quits offers free Nicotine replacement and tobacco cessation help: 802quits.org. Please reach if we can help you or work with you!

Winooski Food Shelf

winooskifoodshelf.org

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



Wednesday July 8	12-3pm
Saturday, July 11	9-11am
Wednesday, July 22	12-3pm
Saturday, July 25	9-11am

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

howardcenter.org

Access and Intake - Multicultural Liaisons:

Howard Center's Multicultural Liaisons help individuals and families navigate services with understanding, respect, and cultural awareness. Liaisons build trust, reduce barriers, and provide guidance in ways that honor language, culture, and lived experience—and help people feel heard and supported from the very first point of contact. Howard Center helps people and communities thrive by providing supports and services to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs.

- For info call our Access and Intake team at 802-488-6000
- For 24/7/365 crisis support: First Call for Chittenden County: 802-488-7777 or 9-8-8
- For immediate walk-in care for adults, visit Mental Health Urgent Care; 1 S. Prospect St., Burlington, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm
- For more information, call 802-488-6000 or visit howardcenter.org.



Center for Media & Democracy

CCTV Center for Media & Democracy
TOWN MEETING TV • CCTV PRODUCTIONS • VERMONT LANGUAGE JUSTICE PROJECT

cctv.org

The 2026 Primary and General election season is back and we're revving up for another round of forums! Town Meeting TV will be hosting Live Primary Candidate Forums every week beginning June 24th! You can catch these forums on Town Meeting TV's YouTube page at YouTube.com/TownMeetingTV, watch on Comcast 1087 or BT 217. Be sure to check out cctv.org/primary to stay up to date with our forum schedule!



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
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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
 Nicole Mace, *President*, 802-363-7777, nimace@wsdvt.org
 Robert Millar, *Vice President*, 802-238-0089, rmillar@wsdvt.org
 Emily Bowers, *Secretary*, 802-383-6000, ebowers@wsdvt.org
 Elom Essiba, 802-324-9431, eessiba@wsdvt.org
 Katie Livermore, 802-383-6000, klivermore@wsdvt.org

CITY OF WINOOSKI
www.winooskivt.gov, 802-655-6410

Mayor
 Thomas Renner, trenner@winooskivt.gov

City Councilors
 Deputy Mayor Bryn Oakleaf: boakleaf@winooskivt.gov
 Councilor Elsie Goodrich: egoodrich@winooskivt.gov
 Councilor Eli Ogilvie: eogilvie@winooskivt.gov
 Councilor Al Turkos: aturkos@winooskivt.gov

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

City Clerk
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, 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

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