

April 7, 2016

Winooski School District  
Office of the Superintendent  
60 Normand Street  
Winooski, Vermont 05404  
(802) 383-6000  
[www.wsdschools.org](http://www.wsdschools.org)

All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community.

### **Superintendent's Board Report**

**Action Items:** The Winooski administration recommends that the board approve all of the following action items:

5. **Consent Agenda:** (5 Minutes)
  - a) Minutes of Meetings: March 9, 2016
  - b) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
    - Approval of Bills
    - Quarterly Financial Management Report
  - c) Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
    - Approve Support Staff/IA Contracts
    - Approve Contract Recommendations:
      - Elise McCormick, High School Special Educator, 2016-17 (1.0 FTE)
      - Catrina Hughes, District-Wide SLP, 2016-17 (1.0 FTE)
      - Brian Dalla Mura, Elementary Special Educator, 2016-17 (1.0 FTE)
      - Ryan McFarling, Elementary Special Educator, 2016-17 (1.0 FTE)
      - Allison Saft, Elementary Special Educator, 2016-17 (1.0 FTE)
  - d) Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
    - Superintendent Report
  - e) Policy Title: 4.2.2 Board Job Description
    - Adopt Policy #5114c - Weapons

**Discussion & Action Items:** Please read the attached backup materials to be prepared for the following board discussions:

7. **Ends Monitoring (Policy Section I):** (20 Minutes)
  - a) Local/Global Engagement Interpretation
8. **Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):** (10 Minutes)
  - a) Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
    - Review/Discuss Superintendent Monitoring Report
9. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (30 Minutes)
  - b) Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
    - Discussion - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, #4122 - Substitute Professional Staff Employment
    - Discussion - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading #5123 - Promotion and Retention

## **Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment:**

- Greenhouse/Garden update: Our first Farm-to-School Vision meeting was held on March 28th. The work that came out of this meeting was:
  - Spring 2016 JFK School Garden preparation
  - Construction of Garden/Greenhouse project timeline
  - MS/HS Farm-To-School related curriculum development
  - Pine Island and Teen Farm Crew Summer Work:
  - Writing of Farm-To-School Vision Statement
  -
- Job Postings for 2016-17
  - Elementary Classroom Teacher (2.0 FTE)
  - Elementary Special Education Teacher (2.0 FTE)
  - Elementary Special Education Teacher/Therapeutic Classroom (1.0 FTE)
  - Speech Language Pathologist (1.0 FTE)
  - High School Special Education Teacher (1.0 FTE)
  - Middle School Guidance Counselor
- Act 46 Update:
  - The Colchester School District (CSD) school board discussed WSD's invitation to participate in a merger study at their April 5th meeting and tabled a motion so they could get more information about the merger study process and WSD. I have worked with CSD Superintendent Larry Waters to have CSD board members join the WSD May 11th board meeting in Winooski so boards can meet each other and discuss the strengths of our respective organizations and what a merger study entails. Still awaiting confirmation on this joint gathering.
- Legislative Update
  - [2016 Education Legislative Update #7](#)
  - [2016 Education Legislative Update #6](#)
  - [2016 Education Legislative Update #5](#)
  - [2016 Education Legislative Update #4](#)
  - [2016 Education Legislative Report #3](#)
  - [2016 Education Legislative Update #2](#)
  - [2016 Education Legislative Update #1](#)

## **WSD Goals**

### **Goal #1: College & Career Readiness**

- On March 11, Marie Ly, Rainbow Chen, Key Nguyen, Riley Corrigan, and and Colton Lavallette represented Winooski at the annual Treasurer's Cup competition in Montpelier. Our students were very competitive against the other nine schools, finishing in 4th place out of the ten schools in attendance. Even more importantly, these students were exemplary in their sportsmanship!
- Congratulations to senior Ro Ze Yar who was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society on March 24 at the Center for Technology, Essex!

- The Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) spring summative testing window is 3/30/16 to 5/15/16. The assessments offer students with significant cognitive disabilities a way to show what they know and can do. Assessments are based on a learning map that shows different paths a student might take to learn new academic skills. The DLM assessments use the structure of the learning map and a student's answers to calculate the scores. At the end of an academic year, DLM scores indicate how a student performed compared with the expectation for his or her grade level. DLM assessment scores also provide information about a student's growth in English language arts or math.
- WSD sent a team of representatives from all three schools to the Coaching Institute sponsored by the Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) at Killington Resort on Monday, March 28th. Participants learned about research-based academic coaching models and discussed ways to enhance our content instruction at all levels.
- SBAC testing began across the district on Tuesday, April 5th. It will be wrapped up at the middle/high school by Friday, April 8th and will continue in the 3rd and 4th grades after April break. This year we will receive the data much quicker than last year and should receive completed scores for all grades by the end of May.
- The next preschool parent workshop, *Building Blocks for Literacy*, is on Wednesday, May 11th. Parents will engage in activities to help their child learn how to connect the sounds they hear in our words to the alphabet letters. They will learn songs that help children learn to match letter names to both upper and lower case letters, and discuss how print works to convey meaning. They will also receive another set of free books to use with their child at home.
- On March 23rd and 24th a team of six teachers from WMHS and the JFK Leadership Team attended the Masons C.A.R.E. training. This is a crucial step in strengthening our overall Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) for students that are considered at-risk. This conference teaches educators to identify students that are at-risk, recognize the individual student strengths, and create plans based on the student's individual strengths to ensure success for all students. There was a specific focus on the Educational Support Team (EST) process.
- The JFK Leadership Team registered for the summer BEST institute. This weeklong institute in June supports our new learning around Responsive Classroom, and integrates Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).

### **Goal #2: Healthy, Productive & Successful Lives**

- Danielle Jatlow, our Student Assistance Program counselor, had another successful Parent Meet-Up on Friday, April 1st. Parent Meet-Ups are an opportunity for our middle/high school parents to come together to discuss the challenges of parenting and share strategies to support each other. In addition to the Parent Meet-Ups, Danielle is starting a Somali/Somali-Bantu Embroidery Group with our high school registrar, Masiti Mohamed, for Winooski mothers and daughters. This group will address similar parenting needs in the context of mothers teaching their daughters this traditional craft.
- We are excited that Unified Sports participants will begin Bocce Ball practice on April 24th and compete in a tournament on May 19th in St. Albans.
- Key Nguyen had a fantastic experience at the New England Music Festival on March 17-19. He has nurtured his passion for singing throughout the year, including an iLab project to learn Italian and his early morning choral training. How exciting to see what happens when students aspirations and education converge!

- All of the classrooms in JFK have sets of Yoga 4 Classroom cards to be used as movement and stretch breaks for students

### **Goal #3: Local & Global Community Engagement**

- In March the ELL department began offering a Parent Technology class for middle and high school ELL parents to teach them how to support their students with technology at home. Since many of our ELL families have come from countries with very limited technology access they are not used to working with computers and are very eager to learn. They are learning how to set up their own gmail accounts and how to access Web 2 School's parent portal to check their student's grades and help them with their homework.
- Senior Hom Pradhan was honored with the March 18 opening of his art display at the Vermont Folklife Center, "Life Under the Shadow." His work will be on display at the center in Middlebury until July 31. Painting has long been a passion for Hom and a powerful way for him to share his story.
- Parent teacher conferences at JFK and WMHS were very well attended. Families learned about their students growth this year, and received information about summer programming.
- Kindergarten registration is set for May 6th and 9th

### **Finance/Operations**

- At the end of March, our fund balance for FY16 is favorably forecasted at \$7K or less than .05 % of the voter-approved budget.
- We are also beginning work on grants for FY17. At a recent training put on by the AOE, information was shared about changes coming to Title 1 and Title 11A federal funds, including an increase in funding for FY17.
- An invitation to bid was recently advertised for the replacement of the walk-in cooler/freezer in the kitchen. With board approval we hope to do this project in early August.