

Winooski School District
Office of the Superintendent
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WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

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: October 10, 2018
- b) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Conditions and Activities
 - Approval of Bills
- c) Policy Title 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - Superintendent Report
- d) Policy Title 4.2.2 Board Job Description
 - Adopt Policy #4127, Volunteers, Work Study Students and Student Teachers
 - Adopt Policy #5114a, Student Conduct and Discipline

Discussion & Action Items: Please review backup for the following items.

6. Executive Limitations (Policy Section II): (90 Minutes)

- a) Policy Title: 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting
 - FY20 Budget timetable
- b) Policy Title: 2.5 Emergency Superintendent Succession
 - Superintendent Monitoring Report 2.5: Review/Discussion/Approval
- c) Policy Title 2.6 Asset Protection
 - WSD Capital Project Committee Update: Community Engagement Plan

7. Governance Processes (Policy Section IV): (30 Minutes)

- a) Policy Title: 4.1 Governing Style

- Charter Committee Re: Non-Citizen Voting: Discussion/Action
- b) Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
 - Board Monitoring Report 4.4: Review/Discussion/Approval

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment:

- **WSD Charter Revision Update:** This ballot item passed on November 6th. **Proposed Amendments** to the Charter of Winooski School District: **Total Yes: 2338, Total No: 252**
- **Barr Foundation:** We are in the final six months of this planning phase and have been invited by Barr to apply for up to \$500K over three years to implement our plans. Our pre-proposal was submitted on November 2nd.
On October 22 and 23 we hosted ten other New England high schools/Barr grantees for the Fall Convening to continue the planning and capacity building phase to redesign our school models in a way that blends the lines between school, college, career, and the community. We hosted over 40 educators and students from these schools and received the following feedback after their visit to WHS:
 - Winooski is grappling with ways to hold students accountable for achieving proficiency - how to document and showcase that learning in a manageable way. Same challenges for our school.
 - Site visit was most helpful. Insights into struggle with expos, advisory, learning lab was helpful.
 - GX and GP examples and discussion from Winooski was great
 - Appreciated the Winooski tools - paper and electric online w GX/GP matrix and two-part continuum. Open site visit time with options was useful.
 - I benefited from the Intersection of culture building, mindset, and change with deeper vigor as instructional practice is a crucial one of focus. Winooski's site visit and materials were great in helping reinforce importance of including youth in planning and giving them voice.
- **WSD Capital Project Committee (CPC):** Supt. McMannon has begun to meet with key individuals in our community about the project. The committee will meet on Tuesday, November 13th to review updated enrollment projections, potential cost reductions and the community engagement plan.
- **WMHS Co-Principal Hiring process:** The position was posted on Schoolspring.com on November 5th and will close on January 11th. The Interview Team has been composed and will meet on November 15th for their first meeting. First round interviews are slated for January 28-February 8 and final interviews including site visits will be February 11-22 culminating in a recommendation to hire to the board at the March 2019 meeting.
- **“I am from here” video:** VT-NEA commissioned Bess O’Brien to produce a video on racism in VT schools. Two of our students, both who graduated in 2018, Abdisalan Sheikh-Bile and Abdimajiid Mohamed are featured, as well as Supt. McMannon.
- **Legislative Work**
 - **2018 Education Legislative Reports:**
 - **2018 Education Legislative Wrap Up Report #10**

WSD Goals

Goal #1: College & Career Readiness

- Nexus 7/8 launched their fall Expedition, *Finding Home: The Winooski Experience*. In an effort to create a positive narrative about our city, students will take on the role of an investigative journalist to interview and report on a variety of residents and people employed in Winooski.

- The 6th grade participated in a two-week residency with Circus Smirkus, made possible with a generous donation from the PTO. This experience will culminate in several school-based performances.
- **Barr Site Visit Feedback:** A group of 40 adults and students representing Barr Foundation supported schools and the foundation itself visited our high school Monday, October 22nd. The group visited numerous classrooms, followed by a "[fishbowl](#)" conversation, with students from Winooski and guest schools having a conversation. Our guests spoke in glowing terms about the personalization, caring, focus on skills that can be transferred to any discipline (GXs), practical content, and much more. One of our students, walking with me later in the hallway, said he felt so proud to be part of our school when they were talking. [HERE](#) are the main comments captured from that part of the fishbowl.
- Congratulations to Nan Johnson for being awarded the Northern New England Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Mainstream teacher grant for her service to our ELL students. "Nancy Johnson is dedicated to better understanding the ELLs in her classroom, and making them feel welcome and confident in the school. She regularly seeks out translations of school songs, or greetings, and teaches them to the whole class, raising the status of ELs in her room, and celebrating the diversity they bring. As a co-teacher, she goes out of her way to make time for planning with the ELL teacher, and shares relevant grade level data with the ELL teacher on a regular basis. She works hard to differentiate and scaffold learning for the ELLs in their classroom, while maintaining high standards for the cognitive demand of tasks, encouraging academic and language development."

Goal #2: Healthy, Productive & Successful Lives

- **Winooski Community Clothing Event:** This annual event was held November 7th and 8th at the O'Brien Community Center in order to make it more accessible to most of our families and provide winter clothing earlier in the season.
- Evidence of middle school advisory work is in the hallways, mainly advisory posters, and on a bulletin board in the MS hallway where a "tool of the month" is posted. With support and coordination from Heather Win, MS advisory is getting a "tune-up" with some coordinated lessons on social emotional literacy as well as some improve home-school communication. The MS Leadership Team anticipates students will report through a pre and post survey this year and increase in feeling supported and and increase in skills to manage school-based problems.
- The MS has begun the process to renew its social contract. Advisory representatives have gathered in a General Assembly to bring forward ideas for amendments.
- **Congratulations, Najib Ali:** After missing several weeks of training and competition, Najib returned to competition at the State Meet in Thetford on October 27th, placing 5th in D3 with a time of 18:38. When you see Najib, be sure to congratulate him.
- **A Great Season for Boys Soccer:** Our boys team played hard Friday afternoon, October 26th, fighting hard to a 1-2 defeat to the eventual state runner-up, Vergennes. The team completed the year with a 13-1 regular season record and a playoff win against Oxbow before Friday's disappointing loss.. They're a skilled, unified group of athletes who are a lot of fun to watch, and have represented Winooski exceptionally well! Check out these [terrific photos](#) taken by Becky Savage.
- Wednesday, October 10, 2018 the Winooski School District celebrated fit and healthy students with a walk-to-school activity for all ages. Students and their families joined JFK teachers and staff in walking to school from the Rite Aid on Main Street. We were led by the WMHS band and kept safe by the Winooski Police Department.
- Our afternoon preschool classes are participating in Kiddie Cats on the Move. The *Kiddie CATs on the Move* program is a 32-minute physical activity curriculum designed for preschool students (3 – 5 years of age). *Kiddie CATs* is designed to help preschoolers reach moderate-to-vigorous activity levels, become more aware of their bodies, practice important gross motor skills and learn the importance of incorporating physical activity into their daily lives. The program follows a "Plan, Do, Review" sequence popularized by the HighScope® Early Childhood Curriculum. To learn more about *Kiddie CATs on the Move* with the University of Vermont. Please [click here](#) to watch a video about the program.

Goal #3: Local & Global Community Engagement

- Gin Ferrera worked with 6th graders to give them a professional critique of their posters which they made as graphic designers to advertise their circus performance.
- Journey 7/8 students attended *Rap on Race* by Spectrum Dance Company at the Flynn.
- **Congratulations, Heidi McLaughlin:** On October 9th, Heidi was honored by VSAC with the Jack Anderson Distinguished Service Award. This award was designed with the intention to recognize and honor professionals who have demonstrated years of dedicated service to TRIO and similar Educational Opportunity Programs, and have served as mentors for other TRIO and EOP professionals. Well deserved!
- **Congratulations to Masiti Mohamed:** On Monday, November 5th, the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) recognized Masiti as one of its two recipients of the [2018 Crystal Family New Hope Award](#)! In her interview with VermontBiz magazine, Masiti noted "I have made education my highest priority in life, as I have come to understand that education is the only way to a better life and freedom." Well deserved, Masiti! [Here is a photo of the evening.](#)
- **VT Legislative Race Models Civility:** In case you missed this moving story, take a minute to read ["Political rivals in Vermont House race perform musical duet after debate."](#) Maybe, just maybe, the 14th state can show that there is a way back to civil discourse. And Winooski will model a way to build student's knowledge of [civil discourse](#), and integrate them into our communication skills.
- **[The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo](#)** - Cleoplace Mukeba's Vermont Ubutwa Initiative organization is hosting this film on Saturday, November 17th, 7pm at Main Street Landing, 60 Lake Street, Burlington. Contact Cleoplace if you have questions.
- During the first trimester, each JFK classroom teacher has or will invite families to join them for a Morning Meeting. Every class at JFK starts their day with a Morning Meeting as part of our Responsive Classroom model. This is a great way for families to connect to their student's classroom, peers and teacher. It also is a fantastic way for families to experience a part of their student's day. Once families experienced a morning meeting, it gives them new knowledge to start conversations at home about what happened at school.
- This past week, JFK had our library CLiF event. This event paired the WSD library and the Winooski library to host an event and bring new books to both locations. Local author Tracey Campbell Pearson presented to Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade, and both libraries showed the students what new books they could borrow from the libraries.

Finance/Operations

- The team from Fothergill Segale & Valley has been completing their field work. Early results predict an estimated \$100K favorable fund balance for FY18, which would bring our cumulative Fund Balance to \$400K. We expect to have a draft audit by the end of November.
- On October 9, 2018, Kirsten Kollgaard, Robin Hood and Rebecca Goulet attended Federal Fiscal Monitoring training put on by the AOE. Rebecca participated on the guest panel and the AOE acknowledged the collaborative team from Winooski as an example for other districts.
- At the end of October our fund balance for FY19 is favorably forecasted at \$81K or .47% of the voter-approved budget. We have made assumptions for several open Instructional Assistant positions and Health Reimbursement Accounts.
- The budget for Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRA) for FY19 is \$478,374. We have expended \$68,698 or 14.3% of the budget.
- The projected balance of the Capital Reserve Fund is currently \$360K.
- The Facility Team is preparing the building/grounds for the winter season.
- Information for the FY20 budget process is well underway. Administrators have entered their budget needs and currently the information is being consolidated.