

Winooski School District
Office of the Superintendent
60 Normand Street
Winooski, Vermont 05404
(802) 383-6000
www.wdschools.org



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:

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: April 10, 2019
- b) Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - Approval of Bills
- c) Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
 - Approval of Teacher Contracts
 - Daviah Lawrence - 1.0 FTE JFK ELL
 - Anne Schneider - 1.0 FTE WHS ELL
 - Ann Berno Browning - 1.0 FTE WMHS Special Education Intensive Needs
 - Corey Girelli - 1.0 FTE JFK Special Education Intensive Needs
 - Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver- 1.0 FTE WHS Reading Specialist
 - Holly Haggerty – 1.0 FTE Early Childhood Spec. Ed./District Evaluator
- d) Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - Superintendent Report
- e) Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
 - 2nd Reading, Policy #Policy #5114b, Student Alcohol and Drug Use
 - 2nd Reading, Policy #5125, Student Educational Records (FERPA)
- f) Policy Title: 4.2.5 Appoint External Auditor
 - Approve recommendation

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

7. **Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):** (30 Minutes)
 - a) Policy Title: 2.1 Treatment of Students, Parents/Guardians & Community
 - Review/Approve Superintendent Monitoring Report
 - b) Policy Title: 2.6 Asset Protection
 - Action: Water Main Break Expenses- Payment from Capital Reserve
 - Discussion: WSD Capital Project Bond & Committee update

8. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (30 Minutes)
 - a) Policy Title: 4.1.b Governing Style: Encouragement of a Diversity of Views
 - Student Report to the Board
 - b) Policy Title: 4.2.4 Legislative Update
 - Discussion
 - c) Policy Title: 4.5 Agenda Planning
 - Board Retreat Date

9. **Community Engagement (Policy 4.2.1):** (10 Minutes)
 - a) Discussion: Recent community activities by board members

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment:

- **Barr Foundation Implementation Grant Proposal update:** We have been notified that Barr’s Education Program team is officially recommending WSD for a \$500,000 Wider Learning Ecosystem (WLE) implementation grant. Please note that this recommendation does not constitute guarantee of an award; the Barr Board will be reviewing grant recommendations at their June 18th Board meeting and we will be notified that week whether the grant is approved.

- **Winooski Family Center (WFC)/Howard Center:** We were recently notified that the Winooski Family Center (WFC) will not be running a preschool program next year as they have not been able to develop a sustainability plan over the past three years while being supported by the PreK Development Expansion Grant (PDEG).

- **Hiring Updates:** As you will notice, we have several recommendations to hire this month and we have the following job openings available which are all posted and in the interview process:
 - WHS Math Teacher (.67 FTE-1 Year Only to cover Rowland Foundation Fellow Luke Dorfman)
 - WMS Special Educator (1.0 FTE)
 - WMS Math Teacher (1.0 FTE)
 - WMS Arts/Technology Teacher (1.0 FTE)
 - JFK Classroom Teacher (1.0 FTE)
 - Director of Communications & Development (1.0 FTE)
 - Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (1.0 FTE)

- **Governor Scott Appointment:** WSD Director of Special Services & Early Learning Robin Hood has been appointed to the Advisory Council on Special Education. She will be a great advocate for students and families with special needs and a strong voice for the needs of schools who serve these students and families. Congrats Robin!

- **Legislative Work**
 - **2019 Education Legislative Reports:**
 - [Issue #7](#)

- [Issue #6](#)
- [Issue #5](#)
- [Issue #4](#)

WSD Goals

Goal #1: College & Career Readiness

- Nexus 7th launched their Expedition, *Earth Stories: How does connecting to the landscape help me connect to myself?* Students are immersing themselves in the study of geology and working with artist Gowri Savoor to create a site-specific art installation. Stay tuned for the final location!
- Students in grades 5-9 have been taking the SBAC assessments throughout the month of April. Students in grades 3 & 4 will be wrapping up the assessments in the next few weeks and we should receive the data from these tests in the late summer or early fall.
- WSD High School students are teaching financial literacy to JFK students in our afterschool VerMoney program. During the after school activity JFK students learn how to make financial decisions through stories and hands on activities.
- On May 28th [Ted Scheu, a local poet](#), will be presenting to students in grades K-3, and our newcomer ELL class. Students will be receive books to take home after the presentation.

Goal #2: Healthy, Productive & Successful Lives

- **YOUTH4YOUTH GRANT RECIPIENTS:** Congratulations to Savion Thibou, Eric Buker, Thera Neilson and Alia Ross for being awarded two Winooski Youth4Youth Grants in the first ever Vermont Youth4Youth Grant competition. The students learned about the grant through their participation in 21C after school leadership opportunities. There were 43 proposals from across the state and out of the 714 votes cast from young Vermonters, Savion's "Winooski School Band Private Lesson" and the "Winooski Hang-Out" projects were in the top seven of the \$1500-\$3000 category. Eric, Alia, Thera and Savion will receive \$3,000 for the Winooski Hang Out project, and Savion will receive \$2870 for his individual grant. Savion's grant supports funds for private music lessons for students in band. Eric's collaborative grant supports additional spaces after school for middle and high school students that are waiting for sports to begin and/or waiting for a ride home. The students will attend the Y4Y Grant Workshop and Celebration Event Friday afternoon at the Vermont State House with Suzanne Skaflestad and Nancy Keller.
- For the past and present months, the Middle School "tool" has been *listening to learn, speaking is silver; listening is gold*. We will celebrate students who have demonstrated this tool at our town meeting in May.
- A team of JFK staff, administrators and a parent attended a workshop entitled "Whose Country is This? Race, Racism, and Refugee Status in America" on April 12th. This workshop connects to the professional development we have been doing this year on identity, race and bias at the middle/high school. We will be continuing this work next year district wide.

Goal #3: Local & Global Community Engagement

- JAZZ DINNER "Rocks the House" The annual Jazz Dinner, April 13th, was a huge success, and the performances were "in the zone!" Congratulations to Randy Argraves, our middle and high school musicians, and the supporting adults who made it all happen. Special thanks to Bonnie and Norm Granger who arranged the food with Juniors, and took care of all preparation and serving! Check out [photos of the evening](#), and this [recording](#) of the final 5 performances of the evening.
- The Center For Education Equity (CEE) released their report entitled "[Creating New Futures for Newcomers.](#)" This report highlights WSD's Newcomer Programs, along with four other Northeast US sites who support newcomer ELL students. Data for this report was collected through interviews and observations from a WestEd staff writer who visited WSD last spring. The report is being distributed nationally as a guide to best practices for how to support newcomer ELLs in US public schools.
- Sarah Forbes, our K/1 ELL teacher represented Winooski as the keynote speaker at the Saint Michael's College Third Annual Student Conference on Language Teaching. Her keynote was titled "It All Starts Here: Know Your Students." Sarah shared lessons she has learned from her work at JFK with Responsive Classroom, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS), Project-based Learning (PBL) and trauma informed

- practice and how that has helped her develop an inclusive and empowering language learning classroom.
- WMHS PARENT/STUDENT CONFERENCES: There was positive energy and appreciation all around at the conferences April 11th and 12th. This is the last year for having the JFK and WMHS conferences on the same day. Holding the conferences on separate days in the future makes it possible for our liaisons to participate in all the meetings they need to attend and it will allow us to schedule WHS conferences instead of having a drop in model.
 - NPR MARKETPLACE: Take a few minutes to listen to this segment from NPR just did that includes conversations with Courtney and our business students: [Why So Few People Do Their Own Taxes](#).
 - WMHS AT WINOOSKI EQUITY & DIVERSITY SUMMIT: 14 WMHS students, staff, board members, and parents joined Saturday's Summit. We considered how the dynamics of race, power and privilege impact our community, built self-awareness of our individual biases, and discussed systemic inequities, in order to envision a community where all members can thrive and identify initial action steps. Ali Hussein, Dhiraj Dhakal, Milan Mager, and Lek Nath Luitel presented their research, based on their Culture & Community Capstone projects, and awed the 50 attendees, parents included. One JFK parent stated with admiration, "**If my kids turn out like your kids (the 4 presenters), we're good!**" [Listen to the powerful feedback to the students from participants](#). In the coming week's I'll make available the full video of their presentation. *It's important for you each to know that there was universal acclamation regarding the quality and poise of our students' contributions, and explicit affirmation that what you/we are doing here is working!*
 - Bread & Puppet Theater came to visit our 6th grade students as a part of their Expedition work. Students are learning about making art with a purpose or message and will be experiencing an artist-in-residence soon. Bread & Puppet taught the group a piece of theater and led a rich Q&A.
 - Over vacation, JFK teachers held a parent workshop for ELL parents on how to engage in books with their child. With the generous support from a CLiF Year of the Book mini-grant, parents were able to take home several titles to jump into reading with their children.
 - May 22nd, JFK will be hosting a Family Literacy Night for families with students in grades K-3, and our Newcomer ELL class. Families will listen to a presentation while the students play, everyone will listen to a read aloud, have dinner together, and the students will get books to take home.

Finance/Operations

- At the end of April our fund balance for FY19 is favorably forecasted at \$79K or .46% of the voter-approved budget. We have made assumptions in several areas such as Substitutes Expenses and Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA).
- The budget for Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRA) for FY19 is \$478,374. We have expended \$364,676 or 76.23% of the budget with three months remaining.
- The projected balance of the Capital Reserve Fund is currently \$329K. We will be presenting the final bill from All Season Excavating (ASE) for the water main break repairs at this month's board meeting.
- The RFP for Food Service has been submitted to the Agency of Education for approval. Once approved, the RFP will be posted and a recommendation will be brought to the board in June.