

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 review backup for the following items and approve all of the action items in the Consent Agenda:

### **4. Consent Agenda: (5 Minutes)**

- a. Minutes of Meetings
  - i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: April 14, 2021
  - ii. Special Board Meeting: April 7, 2021
  - iii. Regular Board Meeting: April 14, 2021
- b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
  - i. Approval of Bills
  - ii. Approval WSD Contracted Services Agreement with City of Winooski
- c. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
  - i. Approval: Teacher Contracts
    1. Emma Walsh: Elementary Special Educator
    2. Caitlin Batche: Elementary Special Educator
    3. Erin Hurley: Elementary ELL Teacher
    4. Julie Galati: High School Special Educator
  - ii. Approval: Superintendent Contract
- d. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
  - i. Superintendent Report

5. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (60 Minutes)
  - a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
    - i. Discussion: White Supremacy Characteristics
  
6. **Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):** (30 minutes)
  - a. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
    - i. Presentation: Financial and Planning Overview of ESSER Funding and Learning Recovery
  
7. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (60 Minutes)
  - a. Policy Title: 4.1b Governing Style: Encouragement of a Diversity of Views
    - i. Discussion/Action: Multi Stakeholder Group Proposal to Research School Safety Models and Make Recommendations
      1. Action: Authorize Superintendent to Execute City of Winooski-Winooski School District (WSD) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for 2021-22 School Year
      2. Action: Accept Multi Stakeholder Group Proposal to Research School Safety Models and Make Recommendations to the Superintendent
  - b. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
    - i. Discussion/Possible Adoption - 2nd Reading: Revised Policy Titles: 2.1, 2.2 & 4.1.2 to include Safety
    - ii. Discussion - 1st Reading: Role & Adoption of School Board Policies
    - iii. Discussion - 1st Reading: Board Committee Principles
    - iv. Discussion - 1st Reading: District Equity Policy

**Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment:**

- **COVID-19 Updates**
  - *Learning “Recovery”*: The AOE has developed a website entitled [COVID-19 Education Recovery](#) which provides all on the framework, overview, resources, and timelines of a required plan relative to ensuring students have targeted learning opportunities over the next few years with support from federal funds to make up for lost instructional time. [WSD has been allocated \\$3,314,182 in ESSER II and \\$7,442,526 in ESSER III funds](#) which can be used through September 30, 2024. WSD has composed our Learning Recovery Team led by Michael Eppolito, Director of Curriculum and Learning and they began meeting the week of April 12th. Nicole Mace, Finance Manager will provide a financial overview of the federal funds and Michael Eppolito will provide an update from the WSD Learning Recovery Planning Team at the May board meeting.
  - *Health Update*: The latest update from VDH on May 7, 2021 [can be found here](#) and additional [VDH Dashboard data](#) can be found here. Vermont continues to have some of the most encouraging data relative to the virus.
  - [VT Agency of Education COVID-19 Information](#)
  - [VT Legislative Joint Fiscal Office Updates](#)
  
- **WSD Antiracism Steering Committee**: The committee held its first meeting on Monday, April 5th and second meeting on Monday, May 3rd. Lindsey Halman and Evelyn Monje facilitated the most recent session with a focus on the “Why?” of our antiracism work and developing communications and action group scaffolding sub teams. Members of the Steering Committee attended a WSA training session on the WSA Demands between these two meetings. The next meeting is June 7th and the committee will continue the sub teamwork and agree upon a compensation model for the steering committee.

- **WSD Winter Transportation Bid:** I will be pulling together various state government officials from the departments of transportation, labor and commerce with local transportation companies like STA/Mountain Transit and R.R Charlebois, Inc early this summer to collaborate on a plan to build more bus driver capacity, particularly for potential applicants who have built-in barriers like language.
- **Auditing Services for FY22:** Last year the board approved a one-year extension of auditing services with Fothergill, Segale and Valley who have been our auditors since FY2014 so they will complete our FY2021 audit and then we will put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) this coming fall to be prepared for the FY22 audit.
- **WSD Capital Project Update:**
  - [Weekly Job Reports](#)
  - [Pics](#)
- **Legislative Work**
  - **2021 Education Legislative Reports:**
    - [VT School Boards Association \(VSABA\) Legislative Blog](#)
    - [April 12, 2021 VSA Legislative Update](#)
    - [Issue #2](#)
    - [Issue #1](#)
  - [VSBA Email Archive](#)

## **WSD Goals**

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

- WMS Newcomer pod launched their Expedition *Nutrients & My Body: How can I make good choices?* For their field-work, students watched Ms. Aftaba Mezetovic cook up a “nutritious pocket” (eggs, peppers, onion, mushrooms and spices in wrap) and then received all the ingredients and tools to make it at home to share with their family.
- WMS 6th graders launched *In Search of the Wild Onions: a Study of Local Ecology and Indigenous History*. Students conducted field-work on-site at Bolton Notch to forage for ramps. Students will develop a website and conduct a webinar to showcase their learning and informational writing skills as a culminating event.
- WMS 7&8th grade A-day pod will sharpen their investigative journalism skills with their Expedition *Humans of Winooski*. Students will interview and then write a third person news story. Driving questions include: How do critical incidents reveal character? And, how can we tell powerful stories about our own human experiences?
- Ali Brown, a local educational consultant is working with JFK to help create a robust plan for project-based learning summer school. Students will have in-school and field work each week in order to create meaningful and engaging learning.
- This spring WHS is focused on evolving our proficiency-based learning system to make it less complex, more transparent and clearly understood by students, families, and educators. Our school’s promise to the community is to ensure that all of our students receive a quality education that aligns itself well with our community’s graduation expectations (GXs): Critical Thinking, Communication, Culture & Community, Persistence, Well-Being, and Creativity.
- We are pleased to announce that the Winooski Early Childhood Program (WECPP) has once again prequalified as a prekindergarten education program in Vermont. This accomplishment demonstrates our commitment to providing quality early education for Vermont’s children. Our approval is effective March 26, 2021 through June 30, 2024. As an approved pre qualified prekindergarten education

program. The WECP program will be listed on the state's Bright Futures Information System (BFIS) for families looking for publicly funded prekindergarten education for their child.

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

- The weather is getting warm finally, and JFK is taking advantage. Staff are taking students outside for class, a practice that we will continue as the weather gets even nicer.
- JFK students, staff, and families are working on our annual surveys. These surveys ask about the culture and climate at JFK, educational practices, and communication.
- Students in the Bridging program will be wrapping up at the end of the month. Students watched "My Intelligent Mind" in **Mark Utter's Movie; I am in Here**. If you'd like to see the whole movie [click here](#). Students also juggled scarves with **Gretchen from EDD Adaptive Sports**. It was a blast. Next week's activities will include "**GoodBye Session**" with our **UVM Social Work** interns who end their time with us next week.
- WHS Important Dates:
  - May 27th - **Senior Dinner** We are planning a senior dinner at 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. This is for all seniors and is hosted by Liam from VSAC and the graduation committee here at school. We want this time together to share a final meal with you all and talk about your memories here at Winooski High School. Please RSVP to Mrs. Greene at [kgreene@wsdvt.org](mailto:kgreene@wsdvt.org) or call at 383-6109.
  - June 5th - **Junior/Senior Dance** We are planning a Junior/Senior dance prom from 7:00 p.m. - 10 p.m. in the cafeteria. This will be for all juniors and seniors from our high school. Unfortunately, outside guests will not be allowed. There will be snacks and drinks. Dancing is allowed as long as students wear masks. There is no cost to attend.
  - June 10th- **Senior Class Field Trip** The senior class will be taking a field trip to ArborTrek in Jeffersonville. ArborTrek is a family-friendly forest amusement park with a treetop obstacle course.
  - June 12th- **Graduation Day!** All seniors will need to be at school by 12:00 p.m.s for a 1:00 p.m start. We will meet in the cafeteria. **At this point seating is limited to two guests per graduate and will be assigned in the gym.**

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

- One of our high school pods held WSD's first ever Virtual Community Iftar on Tuesday, May 4th. Iftar is the traditional meal Muslims eat after sunset during Ramadan to break their daily fast. Caitlin Macleod-Bluver's class requested funds from the PTO to purchase food that students brought home to eat together after sunset during the zoom presentation. During the Zoom, several high school students and one of our liaisons, Abeer Alubaidy, shared about what Ramadan means to them and how it is celebrated. A guest speaker, Mohamed Ali Abdullahi, who is active in the local mosque also spoke. Here's [the video](#) students' created to advertise the event.
- JFK has held three Zoom Kindergarten Information sessions for families. These sessions have been a great way to share information with our incoming kindergarten families about JFK and WSD.

### **Finance/Operations**

- As we end the 10th month of Fiscal Year 2021, we are predicting a favorable balance of \$1,180,058 or 6.09% of the approved budget. \$800,000 of that favorable balance is due to funds that were budgeted to pay for capital project interest and principal payments in FY 21 that we will not need in FY 21 due to the terms of the BAN. However, those funds will need to be held in reserve so that we are able to make the required interest payments in October 2021 when the payment on the BAN is due. Assuming those funds are restricted to capital project debt, then the projected favorable balance is \$380,058, which is 1.96% of the approved budget.

- This favorable balance relies on the WSD receiving full reimbursement for all unbudgeted COVID-19 expenses from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief funds (ESSER).
- The balance of the Capital Reserve Fund is currently \$320,723. There are no outstanding obligations for this account.
- The budget for Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) for FY21 is \$524,959. We have expended \$218,459, or 64% of the budget.