

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:

3. **Recognition:** (5 Minutes)
 - a. Hiba Laaroussi-Student Representative to the Board
4. **Public Comments:** (20 Minutes)
5. **Consent Agenda:** (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes of Meetings
 - i. Capital Project Executive Committee Meeting: May 12, 2021
 - ii. Regular Board Meeting: May 12, 2021
 - b. Policy Title: 2.3 Financial Condition and Activities
 - i. Approval of Bills
 - c. Policy Title: 2.7 Compensation and Benefits
 - i. Approval: Teacher Contracts
 1. Laura Niedecker: Elementary Teacher
 2. Luke Lampugnale: Elementary Special Educator
 3. Maeve Poleman: Middle/High School Math Teacher
 4. Jeff Duggan: Middle School Math Educator
 5. Victor Toman: Middle/High School Theater Teacher
 6. Larkin Brown: ELL Intake & Family Engagement Educator

- d. Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board
 - i. Superintendent Report
 - e. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Create Written Governing Policies
 - i. Discussion/Approval - 2nd Reading #8313 Role & Adoption of School Board Policies
 - 1. Discussion/Approval - 2nd Reading 4.9 Board Committee Principles
 - f. Policy Title: 4.2.2 Board Job Description
 - i. Approve Recommendation of FY21 Food Service Contract
6. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (60 Minutes)
- a. Policy Title: 4.4 Board Linkage with Ownership
 - i. Discussion: White Supremacy Characteristics
 - 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/Possible Adoption - 2nd Reading: District Equity Policy
7. **Executive Limitations (Policy Section II):** (30 minutes)
- a. Policy Title: 2.6 Asset Protection
 - i. Discussion/Action: Authorize Use of Fund Balance for Capital Project
8. **Governance Processes (Policy Section IV):** (60 Minutes)
- a. Policy Title: 4.1 Governing Style
 - i. Action: Interview and Appoint New Board Member
 - 1. Effective Thursday, June 10, 2021
 - b. Policy Title: 4.2 Board Job Description
 - i. Approve: Co-Sponsor Resolution on Pupil Weighting Study
 - ii. Action: Appoint Board Secretary/Clerk

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, provided a financial overview of the federal funds and Michael Eppolito provided an update from the WSD Learning Recovery Planning Team at the May board meeting. WSD’s Learning Recovery Plan was submitted to the AOE and is under review. The plan will be shared with the board and community after approval.
 - WSD is continuing its partnership with The Education Annex this summer to provide free summer tutoring for students in grades K-12. Summer tutoring will start June 14th and continue through July and August.
 - The City of Winooski, in partnership with our district, is thrilled to offer FREE summer programs for children and youth! For a full list of programming and registration information, please visit www.winooski.vt.gov/summer.
 - *Health Update*: The latest update from VDH on June 3, 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 and is projected to meet the 80% vaccination goal sometime in the next few days.

- WSD In-School 2nd Dose Vaccine Clinic for 12 year-old +: June 8 from 1 - 5 pm
- [VT Agency of Education COVID-19 Information](#)
- [VT Legislative Joint Fiscal Office Updates](#)
- **[Senator Sanders Visit](#)**: Senator Bernie Sanders had an impromptu visit to WSD on Friday! Sen. Sanders will be hosted by Emily Hecker, our Director of Communications & Development. He will be meeting with our Health Office staff to learn more about our School-Based Health Center (SBHC) which we have submitted an application for \$700K in federal earmark funds to support our new SBHC which will be completed by August 2022. Also, he will be meeting with a WHS ELL class, a WMS Art class and a Kindergarten class.
- **[End-of-Year Celebration](#)**: In order to acknowledge the tremendous milestone of completing the school year throughout a global pandemic there are wonderful activities going on across WSD! Specifically, we will have a district-wide [“Chalk Art Event”](#) in the final week of school to reflect on how we collaborated, adapted and grew this year. It will culminate with every student and staff member receiving a “Winooski Strong” t-shirt.
- **[WSD Antiracism Steering Committee](#)**: The next meeting is June 7th and the committee will agree upon a compensation model for the steering committee and begin developing the communications and recruitment strategy to populate the demand-based teams.
- **[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.

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

- **[Spectacular Performance of our Middle/High School Band!](#)** Live music again filled our school! On the evening of Thursday, May 27th there was an incredible and impressive performance from our schools' band and their talented music teacher, Randy Agraves! The 11+ musical numbers provided the audience with a range of entertainment that inevitably made you feel alive and hopeful. Congratulations to our students for the hard work they put in this year. True evidence of persistence!

- Fourteen students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are graduating next week! Students have been working with their case managers to complete their summary of performance. This is a document that they may use for further employment, education, or post-secondary training. Students review their IEP and evaluation with their special educator and provide their own perspective on how their disability affects their school work, as well as what they need to be successful beyond high school. Being aware of what accommodations work best for them allows them to advocate for themselves in terms of both needs and strengths.
- JFK will be piloting three new math programs next year. Teachers have begun to volunteer to pilot a math unit from at least one of the identified math programs.

Goal #2: Healthy, Productive & Successful Live

- All WMS students continued our tradition of a day at Camp Abnaki on May 27. It was chilly but we had a huge campfire. Students played soccer, skateboarded, baked pretzels, learned archery, kayaked and more!
- On June 10, 8th graders and two guests will celebrate the end of middle school with some food and fun. Later that night, all students are welcome to dance into summer at our first MS dance this year.
- June 12th- **Graduation Day!** All seniors will need to be at school by 12:00 pm for a 1:00 pm 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.**
- This past week in the Bridging Program our students have been reveling in the excitement generated by our **Bridging GALA** and the wonderful slide show created by **Michelle Paya**. [Here's the link](#) if you've not seen it yet.
- JFK had their annual All School Celebration on Monday, June 7th. Students spent the day inside and outside participating in fun activities for the full day.

Goal #3: Local & Global Community Engagement

- **Former Alumni Volunteer Coaches Bringing the Love Back Home!** Five former Winooski High School students have worked this year as volunteer coaches in our athletic programs. Girls basketball: Brianna Robare, Sarah Lind, and Amanda Nattress, Boys basketball Abdullahi Sadik, and Softball Amanda Nattress and Rebekkah Lambert. It is such a great thing to see these former students give back to the athletic programs that they participated in themselves.
- VT Folklife Center has worked tirelessly with half of our high school students and teachers to support creating a podcast as part of our culminating unit on "**Pandemic Stories.**" Students interviewed friends, family, teachers, and community members about their experiences this past year. These stories and podcasts will be made available with the VT Folklife Center and Winooski community.
- WSD participated in USCRI-VT's annual consultation meeting in May, during which USCRI-VT announced that they have increased their resettlement request with the federal government from 100 individuals to 300 individuals in response to the new federal administration's shift in refugee resettlement policy. This means WSD will likely see an increase in the number of ELL students and families next school year.
- The JFK Staff finished reading Teaching for Black Lives. During the final staff meeting, everyone had time to process the work they have done this year and what it means for their work next year. These reflections will be part of our work in the summer and fall to plan for next steps.

Finance/Operations

- As we end the 11th month of Fiscal Year 2021, we are predicting a favorable balance of \$753,609 or 3.89% of the approved budget. That favorable balance is due to funds that were budgeted to pay for capital project interest and principal payments in FY 21 that we did not need in FY 21 due to the terms of the BAN. However, most of 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. The interest due on the current BAN in October 2021 is \$512,500. We also anticipate approximately \$200,000 in costs associated with obtaining financing for the last year of the project. We are currently working with PFM Financial Advisors to issue an RFP for a Bank Purchaser to issue the final BAN to the WSD. We expect to bring a recommendation to the Board in August, which will include the proposed interest rate and financing terms for the final BAN.

- The projected favorable balance has declined since the April report for several reasons:
 - We determined that needed IT investments would be an important use of projected favorable balance and moved forward with purchasing new laptops, software, and equipment that we will need for next school year. We needed to do so in May in order to ensure we received the equipment by June 30.
 - As of the close of May expenses, we are better able to estimate final special education expenses and projected revenues, which indicate that we will receive approximately \$400,000 less in special education revenue than budgeted, due in part to spending \$300,000 less on special education costs than what was originally budgeted.
 - We are planning to use \$63,000 in FY 21 operating budget to fund the WSD's grant to WSA, as authorized by the Board in April.
- 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 \$320,696. There are no outstanding obligations for this account.
- The budget for Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) for FY21 is \$524,959. We have expended \$370,729, or 71% of the budget.