

JFK Weekly Newsletter

Friday, May 27, 2022 Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

All School Celebration

On Monday, June 13th, JFK will be having our End of Year All School celebration! This year students will be spending half of their day at JFK, and half of their day at Landry Park. While at JFK, students will be doing activities in their classrooms and playing on bouncy houses outside. While at Landry Park, students will be skateboarding with the CHILL program (only 12 students per grade), or swimming in Meyers Pool. There will be lifeguards at the pool while we are there. Students will also be playing field games, and have time to play on the playground and eat a snack. We will be providing the snack for students.

If your student is participating in the skateboarding (only 12 students per grade), they have to have a CHILL Youth Participation Form completed by an adult at home. All forms are due June 3rd. If students are not skateboarding, they will have the opportunity to swim in the [Meyers Memorial Pool](#). Students need to have a bathing suit to swim in the pool. If your student needs to borrow a bathing suit for the day, please let your student's classroom teacher know. If your student is not skateboarding, and does not feel comfortable swimming, please let your student's classroom teacher know and we will find an alternative activity for them.

It is vital that all students come to school on June 13th with:

1. Sunscreen and bug spray already applied. If you do not want sunscreen put on your student, please let their classroom teacher know.
2. A sunhat
3. A full water bottle
4. A towel and bathing suit
5. Sneakers or comfortable walking shoes

If you HAVE NOT completed a field trip form for your student(s) please contact their classroom teacher right away. Students cannot go to Landry Park if they do not have a completed field trip form.

We would love to have adults from home join us for part or all of the All School Celebration. We need volunteers for the walk to and from Landry park, and for the activities at Landry Park, especially at the pool. Volunteers are welcome to join us for a half day or whole day. If you have students in multiple grades, you are welcome to split your time between the grades.

Grades 3, 4 and 5 will be at Landry Park in the morning and JFK in the afternoon. Grades K, 1, and 2 will be at JFK in the morning and Landry Park in the afternoon.

Please fill out this form if you are interested in volunteering for the day! If you fill out the paper form, please return to Sara Raabe.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2KiYzpot5gRoLOEA9Wn28SY00QN6tsyddP2EJBAhbxBcHWQ/viewform>

Teachers Leaving JFK

Each year, JFK Elementary has some teacher turnover. Nancy Devost, ML teacher, Catherine Lavigne, Speech and Language Pathologist, and Steve Hauke, Special Educator, are all retiring at the end of this year. Katharine Monje, district school nurse, will also be leaving WSD at the end of the school year.

Nancy Devost started teaching Multilingual students in Winooski in 2001. She started the Newcomer Academy at JFK, and ran the Newcomer Summer School program each summer. Nancy has worked tirelessly with the Winooski community to build trusting relationships, and ensure that her students were ready for learning each day.

Steve Hauke started in Winooski in 2002. Steve has worked as a grade level Special Educator, and in the therapeutic classroom. Before coming to Winooski, Steve worked in Massachusetts as residential educator, in Williston as a social studies teacher, and in Richford as a special educator.

Catherine Lavigne came to Winooski as a Speech Language Pathologist in 2012. Before coming to Winooski, Catherine worked in Fairfax and Burlington as a Speech Language Pathologist. In Winooski, Catherine has worked with our youngest students to ensure they have strong speech and language skills.

Katharine started in 2016 as one of the nurses in our District Health Office. Before joining WSD, Katharine worked at the UVM Medical Center, Howard Center, and the Sustainability Academy in Burlington. Katharine has been an instrumental part of the Health Office, helping to grow the programs we offer for our students and families.

We want to wish all of these teachers the best in their new endeavors! Over the next few newsletters, I will be introducing our new teachers. Be on the lookout for those!

Sally Bissonette

Last week, the newsletter said that Sally Bissonette joined JFK in 1998. She actually joined us in 1988 and has worked at JFK for 34 year!

Calling all 5th grade JFK families headed to WMS!

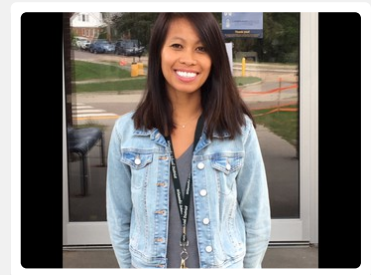
Join us for an open house in the new Middle School on **Thursday, June 2 from 5:30-6**. Meet some staff, learn about the program, and see our wonderful new learning spaces! Caregivers and their students are welcome.

JFK Welcomes Kristin Van Fossen as a 5th grade teacher!

After graduation from UVM, Kristin Van Fossen began her teaching career in Guadalajara, Mexico in 2005 as a kindergarten teacher in a bilingual immersion program. When she came back to Vermont, she worked at the Vermont Migrant Education Program from 2006 until 2016 working with migrant youth on Vermont Dairy farms. Kristin worked to identify and register students, and to design and implement lessons. While working for the Vermont Migrant Education Program, Kristin completed her Masters in Education at St. Michael's College. Kristin joined JFK as a Multilingual teacher for the 2012-13 school year. She has worked collaboratively with classroom teachers to plan and implement grade level curriculum.

While working as a Multilingual teacher at JFK, Kristin took classes to receive her Elementary Education endorsement. We are excited to have Kristin continue to work with the 5th grade team, now as a classroom teacher. Kristin will be the 5th grade writing teacher which is a perfect fit as writing has always been a passion of hers. Her background as a multilingual teacher is exciting, as it gives her a depth of knowledge that will make writing accessible and enjoyable for all students.

When Kristin is not teaching she is at home with her two children and her dog. Her son, Maxwell, is 6 and her daughter, Jaylyn, is 19. Kristin enjoys cooking new foods from around the world, gardening, and going on hikes. Before she was a teacher, she worked as a waitress, cleaning hotel rooms, and in construction. She lived in Mexico for 3 years and speaks Spanish, English and a little French.



Welcome Thu Borch!

Thu Borch moved from Vietnam to Vermont when she was 4 years old. Thu was raised in Vermont and completed her bachelor's of Science at the University of Vermont with a major in Early Childhood Education. After completing her bachelor's, Thu went on to complete her Masters in Education at Southern New Hampshire University.

Thu began her teaching career at the YMCA in Burlington as a lead teacher. She then went to work for Champlain Valley Head Start for 9 years working in different Head Start Preschools in Vermont, including Winooski. After nine years as a preschool teacher, Thu went to Maple Run in St. Albans as a looping preschool/kindergarten teacher.

We are thrilled to welcome Thu back to Winooski as part of our Kindergarten team. Thu will be a classroom kindergarten teacher starting in the fall of 2022. Thu believes strongly in laying the foundation for learning and growing for students, and building strong relationships with students and their families.

Important Dates

May 30, 2022

No School

June 13, 2022

JFK All School Celebration

June 14, 2022

JFK All School Celebration Rain Date

June 17, 2022

Last Day Of School, 11:00a, Early Dismissal




JFK Elementary

 Facebook

 @WinooskiLearns

 sraabe@wsdvt.org

 802-655-0411

 wsdvt.org