

The Winooski Newsletter

A newsletter created in partnership by the City of Winooski and the Winooski School District.

SEPTEMBER 2024



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

It's Back To School — Time for New Teacher Orientation

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

The Winooski School District welcomed new staff at their orientation at Winooski! Winooski High School teacher Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver led a thoughtful workshop, giving them the opportunity to connect and learn more about what makes our district so special and unique. They also gained insights into the city of Winooski from City Manager Elaine Wang, learned about district operations, multilingual programs and curriculum, student services, early learning, and heard directly from their supervisors. We're excited to have them join our community and look forward to a fantastic year ahead!



We are pleased to welcome the following new staff to the Winooski School District for the 2024-2025 school year:

- Veronika Ackerman
- Rebecca Bezio
- Lauren Bruneau
- Magdalena Cataldo
- Hayden Coy
- Amanda Donovan
- Samantha Ducharme
- Pamela Easterday
- Maia Edmunds
- Cassie Farmer
- Marinela Francis
- Haley Gonzalez
- Bonnie Granger
- Samantha Jarin
- Rebecca Ludden
- Brittney Marks
- Christie Moulton
- Benjamin Nelson
- John Nicholls
- Abigail Odell
- Angeles Ozahl
- Sole Parkin
- Ben Patrick
- Anna Rerrick
- Denise Sargent
- Lane Sky
- Blaise Smith
- Crystal Smith
- Emma Von Licht
- Holly Wells
- Jessica Wolf
- Matthew Yu



From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools



Dear Winooski community,

This school year promises to be a wonderful one, not only because of the amazing energy it is starting but also because we have designed several concrete actions as a school district to continue the momentum from last year.

Among the many things happening in our schools, we are thrilled to welcome the largest cohort of Pre-K

students ever. This is a big feat because it took much effort from everyone to make it happen, and we are convinced that investing early in quality education for our children can pay big dividends down the line. We are also starting the school year with strong support for all students who require additional help, whether academic, social-emotional, or linguistic. We were very fortunate to maintain many of the programmatic investments initially funded with federal relief money several years ago.

We are grateful for your continued trust in our efforts. The Winooski School District Board of Education proposed a budget last March that would ensure funds for this endeavor, and the community then voted to support it in the first round. Once the Board ensured a well-thought-out budget, it was now the work of school administrators, faculty, and staff to maximize

the resources secured. I have been pleased to see the level of expertise, care, love, and commitment our veteran and incoming staff have shown the first days of the year. I am reminded that our teachers and staff work very hard every day and that it takes more than money to protect, nurture, and build expert learners who have agency and curiosity. We hope to show actions and results to continue to make you feel confident in our work in benefit of our children and youth.

Now, an important logistical note. If you have children in our schools, please do not forget to update your forms either online or in person. If you need support with these forms, please just visit us and ask for "Registrar." We will be glad to walk you through what you need to update. One very important thing to have on file is the transportation form. We need to know how you would like us to help you in terms of transportation for your child. Many of our students walk to and from schools, others ride their bike, others ride the bus, and others come by car. To keep them safe, we want to ensure both your family and our schools are on the same page about this. We become nervous if one of our students gets on the wrong bus or wants to walk home even though you told us they should ride the bus. There are many elements involved in transporting students, and we want to work with you to minimize mistakes. I cannot stress enough the importance of updated transportation forms.

Thank you for your continued support.

Happy September, Winooski

By Isaiah Donaldson, Board of School Trustees Secretary



It is back to school season and I personally am so thrilled about this! We have officially started the 2024/2025 school year and all the amazing students are back in class. This year is truly set to be nothing short of great. The school year started on Monday, August 26th with our new start time of 8:15am. Being able to see the students and staff of our district get back in action is so exciting.

There are so many new things happening in the district and the city of Winooski. New changes, new faces, new construction, new restaurants etc. With all these new things in the works it is easy to get caught up in the day to day we all go through and forget to stop and see all the great. My focus and our boards focus is to reflect back and show gratitude towards the hard work and perseverance our amazing

city and residents have put forth. As we reflect on everything my challenge to you all is to really do just that! Reflection on what is and what was is so important. The normal practice of this in our daily lives truly assists in our LOVE for Winooski, VT as a whole! If you see a new face or a new space around town make sure you stop and say hi. We as a community are so powerful and strong as long as we stick together and continue to uplift all around us.

Reflecting on board items this past month, the WSD Board had the amazing opportunity to have a board retreat. We met on Sunday August 4th and had a fantastic day filled with our future planning for this upcoming school year. We all got to know each other more in depth and worked on our intentions for 2024/2025. Feeling accomplished afterwards was great! Thrilled to see our community members about town and in the school. Please join us at our next board meeting on September 11th. We welcome everyone and truly enjoy the engagement from you all. Looking forward to it!

Welcome Back to School

By WMHS Co-Principals Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year at Winooski Middle and High School! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer break. As we step into this academic year, we are filled with anticipation and enthusiasm for the journey ahead.

Our dedicated team of educators is committed to providing a supportive and enriching environment where every student can thrive. We are eager to continue fostering a culture of respect, curiosity, and excellence in both academic and extracurricular pursuits.

To our students, remember that every day is a new opportunity to learn, grow, and achieve your best. To our parents, thank you for your unwavering support and partnership.

Together, we will make this school year remarkable.

Winooski High School Multilingual Students Participate in Summer Literacy Intensive

By Sheryl Haiduck and Annie Schneider



Winooski HS Multilingual students took part in a week-long literacy intensive. The theme was Community Services. Students read ten fiction and nonfiction books and learned 25 new Tier 2 vocabulary words. As part of the program, students took daily trips to explore different community services, including the library, the post office, and a bus trip to Burlington. Our final community experience was a lunch out at Sneakers, where students had the opportunity to practice ordering in English and trying American food they had never eaten before. Students shared that they appreciated the chance to see their teachers over the summer, read new books, and were happy to spend some time at school. Thanks to VSAC Gear Up Funding, students had access to online books at their level for the rest of the summer.

Curriculum Update

By Michael Eppolito, WSD Director of Curriculum and Learning

We continue to invest and upgrade our curriculum to provide your children with consistent, high-quality programs. This year, we upgraded our K-5 math program to Illustrative Math 360. IM 360 is a revision to Illustrative Math, our program for the past two years. In high school, teachers prepare to integrate more online resources in Reveal Geometry and Algebra I and II. In middle school, we will continue to use our math support materials through All Learners Online.

We are entering year three with Expeditionary Learning ELA and are seeing measurable growth K-8 in our students' reading, writing, and speaking skills. This year, we have upgraded our structured early literacy (k-2) curriculum to "EL Skills Block." This new component of the EL literacy curriculum is a significant improvement over our previous structured literacy program. In ninth grade, we are entering our second year with the CommonLit ELA curriculum. This curriculum is designed to engage high school students in contemporary literature and challenging texts and topics.

We are piloting new high school chemistry and conceptual physics curricula this year.



Winooski School District Child Find Notice

By Katherine Blair, Director of Support Services

The Winooski School District is required by federal law to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities. The process of locating, identifying, and evaluating children with disabilities is known as Child Find.

The Winooski School District conducts a Kindergarten Screening every spring, but parents may call to make an appointment to discuss their concerns at any time. As the school district of residence, we have the responsibility to identify and provide services to any child with special needs who may require special education and related services in order to access and benefit from public education.

If you have, or know of any resident, who has a child with a disability under the age of 21, including children enrolled in a private school located in Winooski by parent choice or are being home-schooled, we would like to hear from you. Sometimes parents/guardians are unaware that special education services are available to their children.

Please contact the Director of Support Services, Katherine Blair at (802)383-6085 or kblair@wsdvt.org



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



The Playing Fields

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

Join us on **September 13th at 6pm** for The Playing Fields Project at Winooski Middle High School, a free back-to-school celebration presented by The Flynn and the Winooski School District.

Enjoy Cirque Kikasse’s spectacular circus performance from their extraordinary food truck, and dance to the vibrant sounds of the West Philadelphia Orchestra, blending Balkan and New Orleans brass.

Don’t miss out—everyone is invited!

Winooski Graduates Gain Professional Skills in ‘Steps to Success’ Program

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

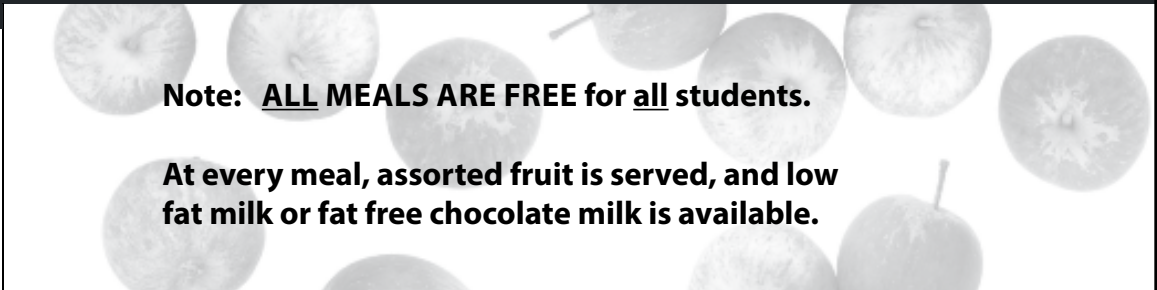
This summer, recent Winooski High School graduates participated in “Steps to Success,” a program held over six Tuesdays in collaboration with NorthCountry Federal Credit Union. The program offered an inside look at credit union operations and provided students with opportunities to work on their resumes, learn about workplace etiquette, and engage in

mock interviews.

On the final day of the program, students were joined by Vermont Treasurer Mike Peciak for a roundtable discussion. The program was facilitated by Antoinette Bennett-Jones from Champlain Housing Trust.



SCHOOL MENUS

<p>02</p> <p>Lunch Entree Grilled Cheese Sandwich Southwest Crunch Salad Turkey Ham & Cheese Hoagie Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Tomato Soup Carrot Slaw Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>03</p> <p>Lunch Entree Ground Turkey Tacos Hawaiian Chicken Wrap Chef Salad with Turkey Vegetables Fiesta Corn Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>04</p> <p>Lunch Entree Deconstructed Hot Dog Grilled Cheese Sandwich Mixed Green Salad with Cheese Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>05</p> <p>Lunch Entree Sweet & Sour Chicken Teriyaki Tofu Cheese and Turkey Pepperoni Pizza Vegetables Honey Ginger Green Beans Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Fried Rice</p>	<p>06</p> <p>Lunch Entree Cheesy Baked Ziti Chicken Ranch Wrap Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Lemon Pepper Broccoli Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>
<p>09</p> <p>Lunch Entree Chicken Ranch Flatbread Cheesy Flatbread Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Steamed Broccoli Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Lunch Entree BYO Burrito Bowl Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Fire Roasted Black Beans Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Lunch Entree Chicken Parm Sandwich Grilled Cheese Sandwich Turkey & Cheese Melt Vegetables Buttered Parsley Potatoes Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Lunch Entree Teriyaki Chicken Teriyaki Tofu Roasted Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Green Beans Veggie Stir-Fry with Ginger Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Asian Noodles Brown Rice</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Lunch Entree Chicken Tenders Cheese Pizza Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Chef Salad with Turkey Vegetables Chili Roasted Sweet Potatoes Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Lunch Entree Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese BBQ Chicken Vegetables Vegetarian Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar- Veg Roasted Mashed Potatoes Grains Bar: Whole Wheat Dinner Roll</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Lunch Entree Nacho Bar Greek Chicken Wrap Vegetarian Chef Salad Vegetables Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar- Veg Taco Bar: Seasoned Pinto Beans</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Lunch Entree Grilled Cheese Sandwich Meatball Marinara Sub Vegetables Spicy Slaw Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Lunch Entree Beef Shepherds Pie Vegetarian Shepherd's Pie Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Glazed Carrots Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Whole Wheat Dinner Roll</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Lunch Entree Jerk Chicken Drumstick Cheese Pizza Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Steamed Broccoli Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Rice Pilaf Whole Grain Corn Bread</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Lunch Entree Beef Cheeseburger Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Roasted Potato Lettuce & Tomato Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Lunch Entree Loaded Baked Potato Chipotle Chicken Soft Tacos Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Fresh Roasted Broccoli with Garlic Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Bar: Whole Wheat Dinner Roll</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lunch Entree Jerk Chicken (made with Halal chicken) Curry Chick'n Cheese Pizza Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Green Beans Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Brown Rice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Lunch Entree Spaghetti with Meatballs Meatless Meatball Marinara w/ Spaghetti Chicken Caesar Salad Buffalo Ranch Chicken Sandwich (Scratch) Vegetables Calabacitas con Elote (Squash with Corn) Daily Salad Bar- Veg</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Lunch Entree Hot Honey Glazed Chicken Thigh Honey Glazed Chick'n Roasted Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Vegetarian Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Rice Pilaf</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Lunch Entree BBQ Chicken Roasted Chicken Vegetarian Chef Salad Vegetables Steamed Corn Daily Salad Bar- Veg Grains Mac & Cheese, 1/2 cup (Gehl's)</p>	 <p>Note: ALL MEALS ARE FREE for all students.</p> <p>At every meal, assorted fruit is served, and low fat milk or fat free chocolate milk is available.</p>			



Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott | klott@winooskivt.gov / 802 766 1988

Hello, Neighbors.

This month, I'd like to address some public safety concerns due to the increase in unhoused individuals, camping, and panhandling in our community. With empathy at the forefront of our minds, we're working to find solutions for these complex issues. Between the State winding down the hotel shelter program, the national housing and opioid crises, and limited social support resources across Vermont, Winooski needs help from our partners and neighbors.



In addition to the City Manager's work with other managers in Chittenden County to share info and strategies to get to an advocacy platform, she and I are members of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) Public Safety Committee and are working on a bigger-picture policy strategy. These efforts will bring recommendations to our state legislators to inform their work, and it will take some time to turn the tide.

The unfortunate reality we're faced with is that a lot of people simply have nowhere to go. In the near term, the Winooski Police Department (WPD) will continue to partner with the Howard Center Community Outreach Team to monitor safety, address mental health issues, and offer social support services. WPD also recently sent two recruits to the Vermont Police Academy for training. These positions have been vacant for quite some time and we're hoping new officers will support WPD's ability to respond and be proactive. It is also worth noting that our Community Services Director is meeting with the Winooski Valley Parks District to get a better understanding of management strategies for encampments in public parks.

In the meantime, I encourage the residents of Winooski to practice compassion for those struggling with these issues. You can always report criminal activity by calling the WPD (always dial 911 in emergencies, 802 655 0221 for non-emergencies). If you want to help, please consider volunteering with the Howard Center (howardcenter.org/get-involved) or the Winooski Food Shelf (winooskifoodshelf.org). I know we can work together to meet these challenges and I'm optimistic about working with our regional and state partners.



City Clerk's Office Reminders

Open 8am – 4pm, Monday – Friday
winooskivt.gov/clerk | 802 655 6410

Please note, Winooski City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2024 in observance of Labor Day.

Dog Licenses: Per state statute, all dogs owned in the City of Winooski must be Registered with the City Clerk on or before April 1. Now that it is September, the costs are as follows:

- New dog licenses (for those who have just moved to Winooski): \$14 (altered) | \$18 (unaltered)
- New licenses for existing dogs after April 1: \$16 (altered) | \$20 (unaltered)

The **General Election** is on November 5, 2024. To register to vote, please visit olvr.vermont.gov. The Vermont Secretary of State will be mailing all ballots to registered voters! Please return ballots to the City Clerk's Office by mail, in person, or use the after-hours drop box by November 1st. To view the status of your ballot, please visit mvp.vermont.gov. Learn more about voting in Winooski at winooskivt.gov/vote.

Property tax and utility payments are due on November 15, 2024. Please note postmarks are not considered as timely payment. To learn more about payment options, please visit winooskivt.gov/pay.

Keeping of Animals: Looking to keep chickens or bees on your property? An annual application and registration fee is required! Stop by the Clerk's office or visit winooskivt.gov/clerk to learn more.

- Poultry: (maximum 8 total birds permitted): \$10
- Bees: \$10/hive



Main Street Revitalization Project Update

Construction is ongoing on Main Street from the railroad bridge near Maple Street north to the Winooski/Colchester town line. Crews continue to install new water, sewer, and stormwater systems and concrete duct bank for underground utilities. Vermont Gas Systems is installing new gas lines. Typical work hours are Monday through Friday from 7am to 7pm.

Construction activities will require short temporary impacts to driveways and utilities. Construction workers will knock on doors and leave flyers to let people know in advance. The flyers have QR codes that link to informational videos in 15 languages.

Main Street is a single lane for northbound traffic only 24/7. Southbound traffic is being redirected to Weaver Street. As needed, side streets will be closed at their intersections with Main Street. On-street parking is not allowed on the west side of Main Street and within active work zones. Parking is reduced on Weaver Street. Travelers should slow down and follow signs and flaggers in the project area.

Normal traffic patterns will be restored throughout the project area in late fall 2024 when construction activities pause for the winter shut down. Construction will resume in Spring 2025.

For additional project information regarding construction activities, traffic and parking impacts, and more, visit the website at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet or sign up for email updates. Project information is available in 15 languages.

Questions or comments? Contact the project team at 802 595 4399 or info@winooskimainstreet.com.

Downtown Winooski is highlighting Main Street businesses on social media to encourage people to support local businesses during construction.

To feature your small business or nonprofits reach out to Downtown Winooski at info@downtownwinooski.org.



Crews install water and sewer systems on Main Street

Housing Trust Fund



Did you know that the City of Winooski offers four affordable housing funding programs, known as the “Housing Trust Fund”, with support from Opportunities Credit Union through grants and loans? These helpful programs support affordable housing in Winooski for first-time homebuyers, homeowners, landlords, and developers.

Visit winooskivt.gov/housing to apply for any program, view the policy guidelines, and for more information. Programs include:

- Interest Rate Buydown Program (new!): helps low to moderate-income individuals who are buying their first home to buy down their interest rates
- Down Payment Assistance Grants or Loans: grants and loans help low to moderate-income first-time homebuyers pay for the down payment on their new home
- Home Improvement Loans: loans to help low to moderate-income owner-occupants of single-family homes and multifamily properties pay for projects that fix or improve their property
- Affordable Housing Construction and Rehabilitation Loans: for-profit and non-profit real estate developers and public housing agencies can apply for these loans when constructing or substantially rehabilitating homes or rental properties for low-income community members

Questions? Call or email Jazmine Hurley, Housing Initiative Director: 802 655 6410 / jhurley@winooskivt.gov

Short-Term Rental License Applications



On February 20, 2024, the Winooski City Council approved changes to Chapter 17 (Public Building Registry) of the City’s Municipal Code to include new language that addresses short-term rentals in Winooski. These changes went into effect on July 1, 2024.

Short-term rental property owners must now submit a license application for each unit of short-term rental (2024 applications are due on November 4). More information about this process, the short-term rental license application, and FAQs can be found on our website at winooskivt.gov/str.

Questions? Call or email Jazmine Hurley, Housing Initiative Director: 802 655 6410 / jhurley@winooskivt.gov

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | recreation@winooski.vt.gov
winooski.vt.gov/recprograms

Registration for fall programs is open! Visit winooski.vt.gov/recprograms to sign up and learn more.

YOUTH

Vermont Patriots Soccer

U8-U12 | August 26 - October 20
U6 | September 7 - October 26

Field Hockey

Ages 5-11 | Mondays, September 9 – October 28

Tennis in the Parks

Grades 3-9 | Saturdays, September 7 - October 12
Grades 1-2 | Mondays, September 9 - October 14

Youth Climbing

Ages 5-8 | September 10 - October 22
Ages 9-13 | September 11 - October 23

Very Merry Theatre

Grades 1-6 | Thursdays, September – October

ADULTS

Tennis in the Parks

18+ | Mondays, September 9 - October 14

Winooski Bike Gang

18+ | Wednesdays, April 17 – September 25

Winooski Running Club

18+ | Wednesdays, May 1 – September 4

Yoga Vinyasa Flow

18+ | Mondays & Wednesdays, September 4–October 30



Winooski Memorial Library

32 Malletts Bay Ave | 802-655-6424 | library@winooski.vt.gov
winooski.vt.gov/library

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am–6pm

Thursday & Friday: 10am–5pm

Saturday: 10am–2pm

Drop-in programs:

YOUTH

Library Playgroup | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am | Outside, weather permitting

Pokémon Club | Ages 8+ | Wednesdays | 3:30pm

Weekly Storytime | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am

Lego Club | Ages 4+ | Thursdays | 3:30pm

STEAM Ahead | Ages 5+ | Saturdays | 10:00am

Birding for Kids | Ages 8+ | Saturday, September 14 | 10am

Dad Guild Playgroup | Families / Youth | Saturday September 21 | 12:30pm

ADULTS

English Conversation Group | Ages 18+ | Tue & Thu | 11am

Morning Coffee Social | Ages 18+ | Friday, August 9 | 9am

Winooski Reads Book Club | Ages 18+ | Tue., August 26 | 6pm

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month: Celebrate Library Card Sign-up month throughout September as we invite everyone to discover the amazing programs, resources, and opportunities available at the Library! Cards are free for anyone who lives, works, pays taxes, and/or goes to school in Winooski. Stop by or sign-up online today.

Library Open House & Community Listening Session |

Tuesday, September 10, 4 – 7pm

Have you heard? The Winooski Library is expanding! The City of Winooski is partnering with the Champlain Housing Trust to redevelop the O'Brien Community Center and construct a new library for the community – an initiative that will vastly increase our existing space by nearly 4000 square feet. Stop by during our open house to learn more about the project, provide feedback on the design process, and meet with stakeholders who will be present to answer questions.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov

winooski.vt.gov/seniorcenter

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am–12pm

Thursday: 9am–2pm

TUESDAYS

New American Community Connections | 10am–1pm

WEDNESDAYS

Grab-n-Go

10am–12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation

Nutritious takeout meals from AgeWell

Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Thursday

No Meals served on September 11 and 25

Breakfast Café

9am–11am | Priced by Donation | Drop-in

Enjoy freshly made breakfast sandwiches, fruit, treats, and drinks

THURSDAYS

Sit Down Community Meals

12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation | Call to RSVP by 12pm the

previous Thursday. Healthy sit-down lunches from AgeWell

No Meals served on September 12 and 26

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Community Mandala Project | Free | Wednesday Sept 18 |

10am - 12pm

Bone Builders Exercise | Free | Monday & Wednesday | 2–3pm

Meals on Wheels - Please call AgeWell at 802-863-0360 to find out the eligibility requirements. Volunteers are always needed.



Thrive After School

Thrive After School is a state-licensed childcare/enrichment program. Through our partnership with JFK Elementary School and the Winooski School District, we seek to build a community where children can explore, learn, and grow during their after school hours while providing a safe place for children. This program is perfect for caring adults who support working families. Our daily structure provides children with opportunities to expand on the learning that takes place during the school day and allows them to explore and grow through play-based, hands-on learning. We have opportunities for outside time and other gross-motor play, imaginative play, STEM learning, art, literacy, skill-building activities, and exploring hobbies and interests. We also use this time in our program community to guide children's social development with the language of Social Thinking as used during the school day, allowing children to practice what they have been learning socially in their classrooms.

To learn more and sign up for the 2024-2025 season, please visit winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms.



Scan the QR code to learn more about
and sign up for anything on these pages!
winooski.vt.gov/programs



Downtown Winooski & Winooski Organics present...

DOWNTOWN BLOCK PARTIES

WINOOSKI WEDNESDAYS

Rotary Park Concert & Marketplace

pride Edition

featuring

PURPLE

A Prince Tribute

DJ GAYBAR

KATIE LYON

DRAG SHOW

BRASS BALAGAN

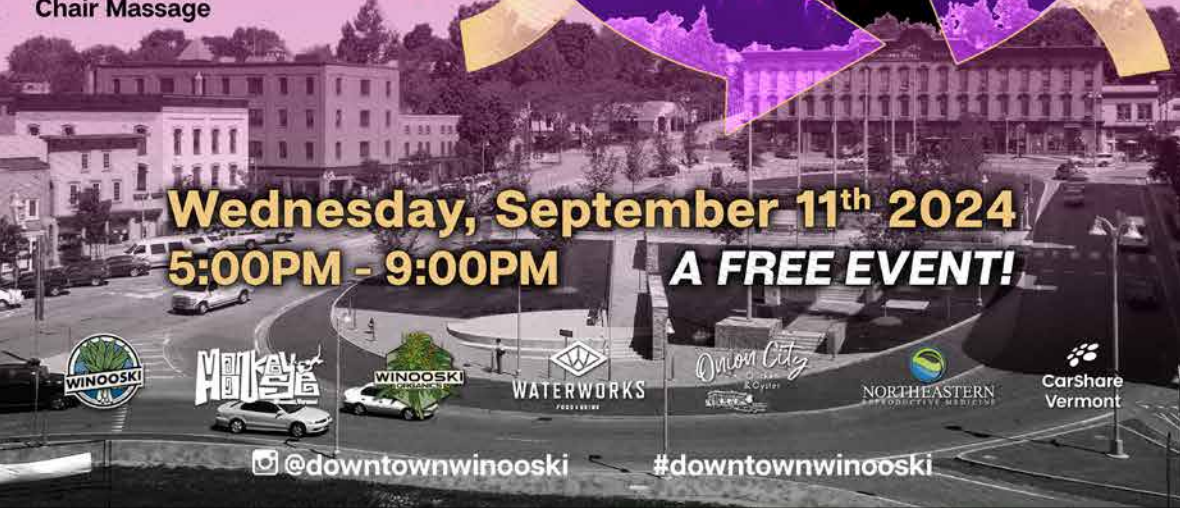
- Free Food for the Community
- Popsicles from Curly Girl
- Drinks from the Monkey House
- Local Vendors
- NOH8 Photo Studio Experience
- Bubbles & Tie Dying
- Library Walk & Summer Reading
- Chair Massage



Wednesday, September 11th 2024

5:00PM - 9:00PM

A FREE EVENT!



@downtownwinooski

#downtownwinooski



Winooski Partnership for Prevention

By Kate Nugent, Executive Director

How we address substance use is changing and presents a tremendous opportunity

Public opinion is in line with the science around substance use; the public is largely supportive of treating addiction as the disease that can happen to anyone anytime. People understand intuitively that the substances themselves act on the brain in ways that lead to addiction for many people, and there's no way to predict how a person's body will respond to them. The only factor we know with certainty that makes it more likely to "contract" an addiction is age. The younger a person uses their first substance, the more likely they are to become addicted to any substance as an adult.

However, finding enough funding to support youth and young adults and families is a chronic challenge. And while funding these needs is a challenge for us as we continue to try to address these issues, over the long term, or even perhaps the medium term, Vermont stands to regain a very significant part of its spending power by doing so. \$1 billion and about 20% of the state's entire budget was spent in 2022 alone on treating chronic diseases in Vermont, most of which are caused by behavioral health issues—i.e., substance use, nutrition, and physical activity.

Welcome back, students! Above the Influence with Mukhtar Abdullahi, along with other volunteer and recreational opportunities, will be starting up again this fall. Please see Mukhtar at school to learn more!

Save the Date! October 22, Winooski Coalition Meeting Winooski Partnership for Prevention @ the O'Brien Community Center, Malletts Bay Avenue
RSVP here: forms.gle/291H4gB1qeZcn5xL7

Have you checked out 802Quits lately? 1-800-QUIT-NOW has a special program for new and expecting mothers to quit cigarettes, e-cigarettes or other tobacco products. You may have questions about the best ways and products to help you quit smoking or other tobacco. You'll work with a supportive Pregnancy Quit Coach during and after your pregnancy. The program includes:

- 9 calls with your own personal Quit Coach
- Text messaging support available for free
- A customized quit plan
- Free Nicotine Replacement Therapy with doctor's prescription
- Up to \$250 in gift cards

Learn more: 802quits.org/home/ready-to-quit-tobacco/free-quit-help-for-you-and-your-baby

Winooski Food Shelf

- Wednesday, September 11, 1 – 3pm
- Saturday, September 14, 9:30 – 11am
- Wednesday, September 25, 1 – 3pm
- Saturday, September 28, 9:30 – 11am

Where to find us: We are located at 24 West Allen Street inside the green United Methodist Church. Our phone is 802-655-7371.

Volunteers needed: Please reach out to us at our e-mail: winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com. We need volunteers to pack produce boxes and pantry staples. We especially need help the third Wednesday of each month at 9am to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

Howard Center Update

By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, dedicated to raising awareness and promoting the resources available to prevent suicide. Howard Center provides a variety of supportive services and programs to help educate our community about suicide prevention.



Our community education programs teach individuals how to recognize the signs of suicidal behavior and how to provide support. We also offer practical tools such as free firearm cable locks to reduce access to lethal means, which is a crucial step in preventing suicide.

Our new Suicide Safer Care training provides best practice screening and care coordination strategies. This training has been captured in a professional video that will be used for continuing education and staff orientation by our partners, including the UVM Health Network and Richmond Family Medicine.

Our goal is to equip individuals with the knowledge and tools necessary for suicide prevention and reinforce a supportive network within the community.

If you are interested in learning more about our suicide prevention resources or need support, please scan the QR code for our suicide prevention resources.

Howard Center helps people and communities thrive by providing supports and services to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs.





WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 BURLINGTON, VT
 PERMIT #361

The Winooski Newsletter

60 Normand Street
 Winooski, VT 05404

POSTAL PATRON
 *****ECRWSS**
 WINOOSKI, VT 05404



**Please recycle your copy of
 this newsletter when you
 are finished reading it!**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT
www.wsdvt.org

Superintendent of Schools
 Wilmer Chavarria, wchavarria@wsdvt.org
 802-383-6000

John F. Kennedy Elementary School
 Principal: Sara Raabe
 802-655-0411
sraabe@wsdvt.org

Winooski Middle and High School
 Co-Principals: Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume
 802-655-3530
kgrodin@wsdvt.org
jberthiaume@wsdvt.org

Board of School Trustees
 Robert Millar, *President*, 802-238-0089, rmillar@wsdvt.org
 Kamal Dahal, *Vice President*, 802-310-2821, kdahal@wsdvt.org
 Isaiah Donaldson, *Secretary*, 802-999-8410, idonaldson@wsdvt.org
 Elom Kpessa, 802-324-9431, eessiba@wsdvt.org
 Nicole Mace, 802-363-7777, nimace@wsdvt.org

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA We are @WinooskiLearns

CITY OF WINOOSKI
www.winooski.vt.gov, 802-655-6410

Mayor
 Kristine Lott, 802-766-1988, klott@winooski.vt.gov

City Manager
 Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, ewang@winooski.vt.gov

City Councilors
 Aurora Hurd, 802-734-7082, ahurd@winooski.vt.gov
 Charles Judge, 802-655-6410, cjudge@winooski.vt.gov
 Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, boakleaf@winooski.vt.gov
 Thomas Renner, *Deputy Mayor*, 802-922-3265, renner@winooski.vt.gov

City Clerk
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, jwillingham@winooski.vt.gov

Winooski Police
 Emergency: Call 9-1-1
 Non-emergency: 802-655-0221

Winooski Fire Department
 Emergency: Call 9-1-1
 Non-emergency: 802-655-6420

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA We are @winooski