



Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
Cabot School, Twinfield School,
Danville School District, Peacham School District
Caledonia Cooperative School District (Barnet, Walden & Waterford Schools)

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Mark Tucker, Superintendent of Schools
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Superintendent's Report February 2023

1. Open Positions

Barnet School

- Reading Intervention Teacher
- Custodian

Cabot School

- Special Education Paraeducator
- Bus Driver
- Executive Assistant (2023-2024)

Central Office

- High School Paraeducator at the St. Johnsbury Academy

Danville School

- Paraeducators
- Secondary Math Teacher (Anticipated) 2023-2024

Peacham School

- No open positions at this time

Twinfield School

- Secondary Principal (FY23)
- Bus Driver
- Health paraeducator
- Elementary Teacher 2023-2024
- Art Teacher 2023-2024

Walden School

- Special education 1:1 paraeducators

Waterford School

- Special Education Paraeducator

2. **State of Vermont School Facility Analysis** – At this writing (Jan 31st) I have not been notified that any of the CCSU schools are on the February schedule for visits by the AOE's consultant. If that changes, I will update you in the district meetings or by email.
3. **US Dept of Energy "Renew American Schools" grant** – I submitted the required Concept Letter for this grant on January 26th. Total projected costs across the SU for 23 projects is \$4,230,519. The 5% cost-share (by project, responsibility of the district where the project occurs) is \$211,993. If we get past the concept

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stage and are allowed to file a full application, I expect these numbers to change as we will have to submit more detailed cost data. It is possible we might be told that some of the projects are okay and others are not . . . the documentation is not clear on that. And, if we don't make it in this first round, others are coming as they are doling out this grant money in \$80M blocks.

4. **PCB Testing** – Waiting on indoor PCB test results from Twinfield, and a date for testing at Peacham. They did the preliminary site visit at Peacham a couple weeks ago; this is done to map out where they want to monitor so that they know what equipment to bring for installation.

AOE and DEC submitted their recommendation to the Legislature for the distribution of the PCB remediation money. The challenge is they are working with what for now is a fixed dollar amount (\$32M) in the face of knowing that that will never cover all the likely costs, so part of the recommendation is to use an 80/20 cost share with the district responsible for 20% of remediation costs. I expect to be testifying to the Legislature on this plan. I am on record with AOE as being opposed to the cost sharing aspect, because the costs overall are unpredictable and we don't know how to budget for it locally.

5. **Teacher Contract Negotiations** – We settled the contract with teachers in CCSU and the contract is being ratified by districts and the SU board this month.

Mark Tucker, M.A.
Superintendent of Schools

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Danville School

Principals' Report to the School Board February 2023

- February 2 was a day filled with music. The day started with the pre-k and kindergarten students singing together. First and second graders sang and played xylophones - a highlight was a fantastic musical story with special guest Ms. Rivers as the Bear. The music got more complex as the students got older. The day finished with the fifth grade band and a final, rousing rendition of *These Green Mountains*, the Vermont State Song.
- On January 12th the Advanced Ensemble wowed a packed house with a concert in the cafeteria! This group features Riley Lyon, Kayley Goodsell, Luke Ste. Marie, Rowan Lawrence, and Peter Searls, with special guest Aiden Stillson. The Middle School Chorus dazzled with their opening numbers as well. As usual, this was under the expert direction of Emily Wiggett.
- Danville School Library is 1 of 2 schools chosen to be part of *The One Shelf Project* - a giveaway that is "an honoring and celebration of Native American wisdom by giving away culturally relevant, historically accurate, and high-quality traditional literature and educational material free to school districts and libraries serving American Indian children."
Danville School received 50 free books and teaching resources as part of this project, and we are so grateful! The One Shelf Project is a giveaway hosted by Gedakina, a Vermont organization that "offers community based interconnected activities rooted in cultural teachings and traditions that focus on leadership development, early reader literacy, community health and wellness, traditional ecological knowledge, sustainability practices, traditional food systems, healthy relationships and cultural revitalization with emphasis on activities for youth, women and families."
- Students in every grade have been participating in a wide variety of Winter Wellness activities. Choices have included cross-country skiing, ice skating, bowling, climbing, and swimming.
- On January 24, the Middle and High Schools gathered together for our Semester 1 Awards Assembly. The amount of awards given for true excellence, improvement, sportsmanship, and good citizenship is totally awe-inspiring. The full list of awards can be found on our facebook page.
- Also on January 24, we inducted our newest member of the National Art Honor Society: Peter Searles. The ceremony included a wonderful speech from elementary

art teacher Ben Metzger. Students lit primary color candles. Peter added his own color to the group painting. Many highly decorated sugar cookies were eaten.

Danville School, Principals' Report to the School Board February 2023 Page 2



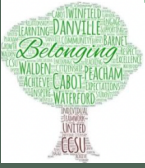
Newsletters

- Winter Wellness: [Elementary & Secondary](#)
- [December Elementary Update, 12/14](#)
- [December MS/HS Update, 12/11](#)
- [November Update \(2\), 11/20](#)

Go Bears!



- [November Update \(1\), 11/4](#) ◦ [Costume Day, 10/28](#)
- [MS/HS Update, 10/23](#) ◦ [ES Update, 10/21](#)
- [Meet the New Principal, 10/21](#) ◦ [Getting Started, 8/19](#)



Mission: It is the mission of the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union and its seven member schools to create a learning community in which each individual can achieve the highest standards of excellence in intellectual growth and citizenship.

Vision: Our learning community is safe, inclusive, equitable, and transparent. Our learners are supported to be engaged, self-directed, contributing members of their local and global communities.

Curriculum Notes

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- [20 Years at CCSU](#)
- [Upcoming Professional Development](#)
- [Photos from the Field](#)



Clay making @ Cabot

Recently, while visiting a kindergarten classroom, we were chatting with some students who were drawing multimedia creations of castles and families. In the course of our visit one of the artists told a story about a dog in the picture that was hurt. Another artist at the table stopped their work and asked, “Is your dog ok?”. This is an example of compassion; this child was sympathetic and then acted on their emotion to express caring for their classmate.

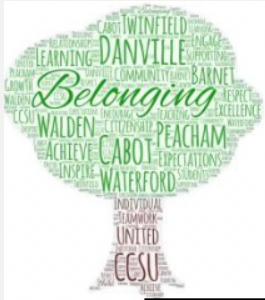
When we engage with each other in meaningful ways, we have the opportunity to enter spaces with curiosity. To find out what is important, what matters, what thoughts and feelings are present for that person. Elena Aguilar in her book *Onward*, suggests practicing compassion by first assuming that the folks we interact with are “doing the best they can with what they have.”

We build upon relationships and our own understanding of another’s experience. With this new understanding, we are able to act with intentionality and compassion. Our actions become more purposeful and meaningful.

We see examples of compassion, both receiving and giving, throughout CCSU in various ways. For example, students at Cabot are leading a grassroots fundraising for a new playground—one that will benefit the entire community. Additionally, many of our schools are working with local area food banks to help support their greater community. Actions based in compassion are evident in our classrooms daily; we notice the support of kindness and understanding given to our colleagues and students alike. When we pause and reflect, we can easily see how we are surrounded by compassion.

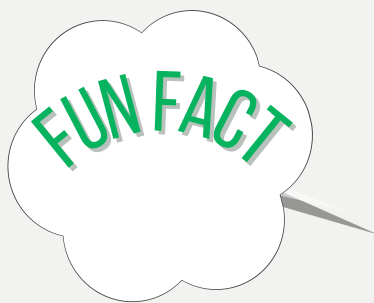
Compassion strengthens relationships, and trusting relationships are a critical component for learning. When we feel cared for, we feel safe and our brains become more receptive to learning new things. These relationships foster opportunities for personalized learning and create space for students to nurture and grow their own curiosities.

In partnership,
Des and Jen



20+ Years of Service

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Brian Boyes | Cabot |
| Denise Briggs | Transportation Coordinator |
| Kevin Colosa | Danville, Peacham, etc |
| Christina Fearon | Barnet |
| Joanna Fowler | Twinfield |
| Valerie Gombas | Barnet |
| Linda Howard | Twinfield |
| Marie Langmaid | Walden |
| Kim Larose | Walden |
| Krista Larrow | Twinfield |
| Jennifer Lindert | Cabot |
| Guy Pearce | Danville |
| Christine Rapoza | Danville |
| Cheryl Stevenson | Peacham |
| David Warren | Danville |
| Connie Withers | Cabot |
| Jennifer Wood | Waterford |



Most of the people were hired **between 1988-1998**. During this time period several towns in the CCSU still had operating one room school houses or small community based buildings.

From [VT Historical Society](#) and [Danville Historical Society](#)



Do you have a fun fact? Please send them to Jennifer.lemery@ccsuvt.net



Upcoming Professional Development in the Region and Beyond

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|---|---|---|
| Math | | |
| Building upon the foundation: Developing a deeper understanding of additive reasoning and computational fluency <i>From Castleton and PNOA</i> | Jan 11, 18, 25; Feb 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar 1, 8, 15 Wednesdays 3:30-5:30 Virtual | \$1435 (3 credits) or \$1000 to audit |
| Illustrative Math Courses For all math teachers K-2, 3-5, K-8 | Various Courses offered for all level of Math teachers. | \$200 |
| All Learner's Network Math Courses | Various Courses offered for all level of Math teachers. | prices vary |
| Pam Harris: The Building of Powerful Workshops Series: Developing Mathematical Reasoning | Various Courses offered for all level of Math teachers: Virtual Access is open Feb 7-May 9 | \$347 |
| Amplifying Discourse with Math Language Routines K-8 <i>From Open Up Resources</i> | Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 21, Feb 28 7:00pm-8:30pm | \$225 for all 4 sessions \$75 each session |

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|--|--|---|
| MTSS and EST | | |
| EST Process Workshop From: Partnership for Literacy and Learning | Virtual 3:30-5:00pm Mondays: Jan 16, Jan 30, Feb 13, Mar 6 | \$100.00 per person, FREE for current and past NEXIS participants |
| Early Years: MTSS Pyramid Model Preschool Training Modules <i>From: Pyramid Model Consortium</i> | Virtual: 2 Different events. Check the flyer for more information | FREE! |
| Putting UDL and PBL Into Practice with Media Making Flyer <i>From: Vermont Rural Education Center (VREC)</i> | Virtual: Starting Feb 8, 2023 Sessions can be taken as a package or individually. | \$300 for individual session; \$825 recertification; \$1245 3 credits |

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|--|---|---|
| Literacy | | |
| <u>Bringing the Science of Reading to Teachers</u> <i>From: Stern Center</i> | Rolling admission; enroll any time (virtual) | \$199 or \$895 with 3 credits |
| <u>Foundational Skills in Literacy Workshop Series</u> <i>From Katie Handy</i> | Virtual and Self Paced Access anytime | FREE! |
| <u>Framing Your Thoughts: Sentence Structure</u> <i>From IDEA-NNEA</i> | 6 Hour Recorded Webinar | \$204.94 |
| <u>Joy Write: Time, Choice, and Response for Developing Writers</u> <i>It will be held on July 31, August 1, and 2 at the Hilton in Burlington PLL and St. Michaels</i> | Jan 25 – May 10, 2023 (virtual) | \$1,575 with 3 credits / \$900 without credits |
| <u>Shifting the Balance: A flexible course for busy K-2 educators ready to make learning to read easier for children.</u> <i>From: The Six Shifts</i> | Virtual Jan 16-Feb 26 Access anytime-weekly modules | Early bird: \$299 Reg: \$329 *1 credit available for extra |

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|--|---|---|
| Deepening Thinking Skills | | |
| <u>Visible Thinking: Using Thinking Routines Effectively to Cultivate Dispositions and Learning</u> <i>From: Harvard: Project Zero</i> | Virtual: Course work Suggested to take with team of 3-6 people | Team: \$615 Individual: \$695 |
| <u>Mini Courses From Harvard Project Zero</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Power of Making Thinking Visible</u> • <u>Investigating Forces that shape cultures of thinking</u> • <u>Let's Play: Teaching Structures Playful Learning</u> | Virtual: <i>Suggested to take with team of 3-6 people</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan 16-Feb 12 • Mar 6-Apr 2 • Apr 17-May 14 <p style="text-align: center;">*Scholarships available</p> | Team: \$295 Individual: \$375 |

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|---|--|-------------|
| Spring and Summer Courses | | |
| Castleton Spring Course Catalogue : Continuing Education and Graduate Level Courses | Various Courses-Please see the linked course catalogue | prices vary |
| Vermont Higher Education Courses (VHEC) Spring Courses | Various Courses-Please see the linked course catalogue | prices vary |
| Shelburne Farms Institute: Summer Courses | Spring course catalogue has been updated. Various Courses and Institutes open now for Summer 2023 and next year | prices vary |
| Watershed for Every Classroom | Summer Course-into 2024 Starts July 18 | \$400 |

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|---|--|---|
| Equity and Restorative Practices | | |
| Dr. Gholdy Muhammad Culturally & Historically Responsive Education for Equity and Excellence <i>From: CVEDC</i> | Wednesday, March 8, 2023 1:30 PM Wednesday, April 12, 2023 3:30 PM (virtual) | \$325 |
| Engaging, Managing, & Motivating Hard to Reach and Disruptive Students Seminar with Brian Mendler <i>From Teaching Learning Center</i> | March 29, 2023, 8:30-3:00 Live event: Nashua, NH | \$265 |
| Kids, Books and Racism Series Closing the opportunity gap: promoting equity through literacy <i>From: Lesley University</i> | Virtual Dates: Feb 8, March 10, May 4 | \$499 for all 3 sessions \$199 per session |

| Topic and Link | When/How | Cost |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Social Studies | | |
| <u>Using Inquiry-Based Teaching to Promote Justice & Combat Inequity (social studies teachers 6-12)</u> <i>From: CVEDC</i> | 2 Day workshop, (in-person) Burlington April 18-April 19 9:00-3:30 | Member: \$550 Non-member: \$600 |

Exciting Upcoming Events

| Title & Audience | Details | How to join |
|---|---|---|
| <u>Vermont Holocaust Week</u> | <p>To introduce the variety of resources available, the Vermont Agency of Education, in conjunction with Vermont Holocaust Memorial, Echoes & Reflections, and other Holocaust organizations, are offering an array of daily, themed lesson plans and special Zoom presentations. Themes and opportunities for each day can be found on the linked page.</p> <p>Please note: All classes that would like to take part in listed Zoom presentations must pre-register at VtHEW Zoom as participation is limited.</p> | <u>Click here to see sessions and to register</u> |

Have a Listen





How to set yourself up for a great year

Photos from the Field



Holiday concert @ Barnet



Winter fun @ Walden

7/8 Grade vs. Mr. Fontana Basketball game @Walden



Cabot School students and staff enjoying a Harvest Meal together just before the Thanksgiving break.



Cabot high schoolers selling the soap they made in chemistry class at the December Holiday Market in Cabot Village.

Holiday painting @ Waterford



Cheering for the team @Danville



Winter wellness @Danville



Community painting @ Barnet

Student Report February 2023

- As part of my project on the student representative position, last month I had a meeting with Mr. Cargill, Mr. Fliegelman, Mr. Schilling, Ms. Keach, and Mr. Fisher about the student representative position. I got to hear about how the role fits within our school and the processes involved in the position. We discussed using the Danville Directions (Lead, Solve, Connect, and Express) as a guideline for making a backbone for the position.
- **Getting to Y** is postponed indefinitely. The release of the YRBS (Youth Risk Behavior Survey) data that we need has been delayed again to the spring.
- **Winter Carnival** is coming right up in 2 weeks for middle and high school. Classes will compete in projects (skits, sculptures, etc.) and athletic events. This is a fun event every year to get a break from academics for a couple of days and engage in friendly competition.
- With less than 3 weeks left in the regular season for high school, we are in the last few weeks of **basketball**.
- On January 24 we had an **end-of-semester assembly** where many students received awards for their academic work throughout the semester.
- Last month, the school had some days of **Winter Wellness**. In high school, there is an option for skating and bowling, and another option for cross-country skiing. Last time for high school (January 30) there was no bowling.