



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

PO Box 216, Danville, VT 05828 (802)684-3801x206 - Fax (802)684-1190
Mark Tucker, Superintendent of Schools
mark.tucker@ccsuvt.net

Superintendent's Report April 2023

1. Open Positions

Barnet School

- Custodian

Cabot School

- Special Education Paraeducators
- Bus Driver
- Executive Assistant (2023-2024)
- Secondary Music Teacher (2023-2024)
- Secondary English Language Arts Teacher (2023-2024)
- Secondary Math Teacher (2023-2024)

Central Office

- High School Paraeducator at the St. Johnsbury Academy
- Special Education Teacher (Anticipated) 2023-2024
- LNA to start immediately

Danville School

- Secondary Math Teacher (2023-2024)
- Secondary Principal (2023-2024)
- Custodian
- Elementary Art Teacher .55 (2023-2024)
- World Languages Anticipated(2023-2024)

Peacham School

- No open positions at this time.

Twinfield School

- Bus Driver
- Health Elementary Paraeducator
- High School Paraeducator
- Elementary Teacher 2023-2024
- Secondary Principal 2023-2024 year around position

Walden School

- Special education 1:1 paraeducator
- Special education paraeducator

Waterford School

“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.”

- Special education paraeducator
 - Math Intervention Teacher Middle Grades (2023-2024) anticipated
2. **State of Vermont School Facility Analysis** – At this writing (March 28th) I have not been notified that any of the CCSU schools are on the April schedule for visits by the AOE’s consultant. If that changes, I will update you in the district meetings or by email.
 3. **PCB Testing** – Awaiting airborne PCB test results from Peacham; Source Testing results from Danville, second round Source Testing results from Cabot, and Source Testing work plan for Twinfield.

We seem to be in a legislative lull right now regarding the allocation of PCB remediation funds. The House Education Committee proposal; to pause additional airborne testing in schools where it has not been started is opposed in the Senate and by the Governor. Tied up in that proposal is a separate section that would pay for 100% of remediation costs for schools that are already somewhere in the PCB testing cycle. This is not a good situation as far as I am concerned – at this point, all schools in CCSU that were flagged for testing (all schools except Barnet and Walden) are somewhere in the process, so my selfish focus is on securing 100% remediation reimbursement. Burlington is pushing hard to get a large chunk of money from the State – something like \$13M – to pay for the removal of PCBs from their Burlington High School demolition site, and the Chittenden County Senate contingent carries a lot of weight. The problem right now for us is that, without appropriate action in this session, there is NO reimbursement model for our schools that require remediation.

4. **New Statewide Testing** – The SBAC exam is no more, and its replacement – labeled VTCAP (Vermont Common Assessment Program – was rolled out late. The test window opens in April, and there are still things not working correctly in the system. And because this is a very different test, and new to all – students and test administrators in the schools – there is no way to compare results from this test with prior SBAC test results.
5. **Crisis Planning Training** – I am taking a team to Waterbury on 4/5 for training on a statewide template for crisis planning in schools. I’ll have more to say about the impact of this training on our school planning at a later date.
6. **JUUL Settlement** – Back in September, I signed on to a national class action suit against JUUL, manufacturer of nicotine vaping devices and product. The suit alleged that JUUL had marketed its product to minors, and the suit came at a time when we were seeing a big increase in vaping by students in our schools. The case settled, and we are expecting an award of \$22,777.95 (after attorney fees and costs), to be paid sometime in September 2023. I am planning to use this settlement for tobacco prevention instruction in our schools.

Mark Tucker, M.A.
Superintendent of Schools

“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.”

Danville School

Principals' Report to the School Board

April 2023

Sarah Welch and David Schilling

- We are excited for the start of spring sports. Baseball and softball are both happening collaboratively with Twinfield this year - we did not have enough players for a softball team and Twinfield did not have enough players for baseball. Baseball is therefore hosted at Danville and softball at Twinfield, with 3-5 players from each school traveling per sport. Lacrosse has seen a significant increase in participants this year!
- On Monday, 3/20, all high school students participated in a presentation from Choices Matter focusing on distracted driving. Students met Fletcher Cleaves, who became paralyzed after a collision with a driver who was texting, ending a very promising college football career. Fletcher's message was one of overcoming obstacles and adversity, as well as the impact of choices made behind the wheel. Students and staff alike reflected that the presentation was extremely impactful and engaging. The talk was free to us, sponsored by the VPA.
- Dave is returning to Washington, DC from April 22-25 to participate in the National Association of Secondary School Principals Trailblazing Leaders Weekend. NASSP describes the event as *"bringing together NASSP's most outstanding leaders, including student leaders, advisers, and school leaders, in discussion on disrupting education to transform it into a system that meets the needs of every child"*. All travel expenses are covered by NASSP.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences are April 5 and 6 from 4:00-8:00. These are available in-person or via Google Meets. Elementary progress reports will go home with students prior to conferences.
- Vermont has transitioned the standardized testing platform from SBAC to VT-CAP hosted by Cognia. Danville students in grades 3-9 will take two math tests and two language arts tests. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 will also take two science tests. This setup is consistent with what our students are accustomed to. We will begin testing the week before spring break and continue through the first three weeks of May.
- During the ½ day inservice in March, elementary teachers and MS math participated in a math training through All Learners Network. This training is designed to support our current math program while simultaneously aligning

with best practices. All paraeducators participated in a social-emotional training led by the SU's behavior analyst. Both of these training sessions will continue in May.

- Last month, we met with Des Hertz, Jen Lemery and representatives from [Vermont's Partnerships For Literacy and Learning](#) (formerly UVM's Vermont Reads Institute) to discuss the possibility of engaging in a whole-school literacy audit at Danville. We have secured ESSER grant funding to begin this work, and teachers have been interviewed by PLL staff during the full day inservice on March 27th. So far, the response from teachers across grade levels has been positive.

What it is

The literacy audit process, through a series of interviews and classroom visits, helps to illuminate strengths and challenges pertaining to literacy across subject areas and across grade levels. It is not evaluative, or even pseudo-evaluative in nature. They are not looking at teaching skills, they're looking at improving literacy skills for all learners. PLL has also been clear that some of our greatest pathways to increased literacy exist outside of our ELA classes, and that other subject areas, including the arts, are frequently overlooked as a significant avenue to increased literacy proficiency.

What it's not

More professional development. This is not a program, a class, or a seminar. PLL VT does not sell products or systems, and if they do recommend strategies, they have no business relationship with those vendors. They simply have data to recommend what works and see things from a perspective focused solely on improving literacy in Vermont.

Why we need it (the current version)

We know there are significant challenges and gaps in basic literacy skills, and we know they exist across all grade levels and all subject areas. We know these existed before covid for a variety of reasons, and we know covid made the situation much, much worse. As Nat Bacon observed after a discussion on middle school STAR scores, "Our middle school is a one-room schoolhouse of learning levels in every classroom." None of this is the fault of any one person, one system, or one (of many) catastrophic events over the last several years, but a roadmap on how to actually navigate it will be tremendously helpful. From our instructional leadership perspectives, this is something that Sarah has seen as essential since arriving at Danville to align the elementary's work,

and that Dave sees as a much more logical approach than examining STAR scores in the older grades without any sense of what to do about it, or if they're even an accurate measure.

Why we need it (the historical version)

6 years ago, CCSU declared that the sole mission of the supervisory union was to ensure that by the close of 3rd grade, 90% of students will meet or exceed grade level expectations for reading. The answer to this challenge, put in place solely by administrators who are no longer in our district, was steadfast adherence to two programs - Fountas & Pinnell and Wit & Wisdom. Other teaching strategies that worked better for certain learners were banned, and it's no surprise that this approach did not lead to successful outcomes. At the same time, when this approach fizzled, we ended up without vertically aligned literacy practices, and no sense of what each other was doing. Our response to the pandemic, unfortunately, just exacerbated our lack of alignment as we all were doing what we needed to do to survive. We believe this process will help to align our practices.

- The Literacy Festival is returning to Danville School for the first time in at least four years. All students in grades preK-12 have an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities designed to expose students to multiple ways of literary expression. These include author talks, Danville Historical Society, film talks, author teas, literacy parade, and more.
- Open Positions
 - Elementary Art Teacher
 - Foreign Language Teacher
 - Upper Grades Math Interventionist
 - MS Special Educator
 - Paraeducator
 - Evening Custodian
 - MS/HS Principal
- **Newsletters**
 - [March 27 Elementary Update](#)
 - [March 7 Elementary Update](#)
 - [February MS/HS Update](#)
 - Winter Wellness: [ES](#) & [MS/HS](#)
 - [December 14 Elementary Update](#)
 - [December 11 MS/HS Update](#)
 - [November 20 Update](#)
 - [November 4 Update](#)
 - [Costume Day, 10/28](#)
 - [October 23 MS/HS Update](#)
 - [October 21 Elementary Update](#)
 - [October 21 Meet New Principal](#)
 - [August 19 Getting Started](#)

Go Bears!



Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Office of Student Services

PO Box 216 Danville, VT 05828
(802) 684-3801 Fax (802) 684-1190

Allie Monahan
Asst. Director of Student Services
allie.monahan@ccsuvt.net

Anne Landry
Director of Student Services
anne.landry@ccsuvt.net

Vicki Hummer
Asst. Director of Student Services
vicki.hummer@ccsuvt.net

Student Services Board Report April 2023

1. CCSU Updates

- a. We are starting to advertise for positions for next school year.

2. AOE Updates

- a. Preliminary information has been provided from the AOE about our compliance on Indicator 13 (Transition Plans). We are in 100% compliance in this area! This is a big accomplishment as this indicator has been a challenge for the majority of districts in Vermont. Because of the many nuances and details required for compliance, we will be doing further training in this indicator with all special educators who work with high school students.
- b. The AOE will let us know about our compliance on the other indicators in June. I expect we may be notified we will be in selective monitoring on some other indicators but will let you know definitively once we receive the notification.
- c. I am working with building administrators and some school nurses on completing the application for the MAC (Medicaid) grant for 2023-2024. Activities included in this grant must promote health and wellness for our students. Some activities included in this grant application are purchasing bicycles and equipment, gardening supplies, and outdoor education.

3. Professional Development

- a. Professional Development has been provided in social skills and in different evidence based reading intervention programs, funded through ARP-IDEA. Math intervention training is scheduled to be provided in May.

4. Of Note

- a. I would like to acknowledge Vicki Hummer (Assistant Director), Allie Monahan (Assistant Director), Jennifer Lindert (Cabot Special Educator), Cathy DuPont (Twinfield Special Educator), Beth Nishball-Williams (Danville Special Educator), and Mary Cassidy (Danville Special Educator) for their outstanding work on preparing compliant Transition Plans to be submitted for monitoring!

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Landry
Director of Student Services