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Mt. Ascutney School District Vision

To honor, encourage, and celebrate the excellence, diversity, and aspirations of each learner through creative and motivating challenges.

October 30, 2020

Dear Windsor Parents, Guardians, & Caregivers,

Time is moving quickly and October has come to a close. This November we are thankful to be part of such a kind, team-oriented school and community. We are thankful to be a part of your daily lives. We hope this November you have time to enjoy your family and express your gratitude for one another.

Colleen DeSchamp & Kate Ryan

New Information for All:

For our parent drop off students: Please remember drop off is between 8-8:30. As the weather gets colder we want to avoid students having to wait outside before 8 am. Additionally, our thermometers are not accurate in the cold. Please have your student stay in the car and we will check them while they are still nice and warm.

Collaborative Problem Solving:

What is CPS? CPS helps adults shift to a more accurate and compassionate mindset and embrace the truth that *kids do well if they can* – rather than the more common belief that

kids would do well if they simply wanted to.

Flowing from this simple but powerful philosophy, CPS focuses on building skills like flexibility, frustration tolerance and problem solving, rather than simply motivating kids to behave better. The process begins with identifying triggers to a child's challenging behavior and the specific skills they need help developing. The next step involves partnering with the child to build those skills and develop lasting solutions to problems that work for everyone. As a Supervisory Union, we are all using CPS. You may hear your child talk about Plan B. Plan B is how we clarify student's concerns, share adult concerns, and collaborate on solutions together.

MTSS: The <u>Vermont Multi-tiered System of Supports</u> (VTmtss) is a systemic approach to decision-making for excellence and equity within a culture of continuous improvement that focuses on successful outcomes for all students. This systemic approach

- Supports the collaboration of all adults to meet the academic, behavioral, social and emotional needs of all students,
- Provides a layered system of high-quality, evidence-based instruction, intervention, and assessment practices that are matched to student strengths and needs,
- Relies on the effective and timely use of meaningful data,
- Helps districts and their schools organize resources to accelerate the learning of every student,
- Engages and develops the collective expertise of educators.
- Our MTSS leaders are Bridget Fariel, Regina Davis, Erin Rockwood and Maureen Mulligan.

Full Remote Learning:

The Windsor Supervisory Union will be preparing all students in our four schools for **Full Remote Learning** from **November 23- December 4** (see HACTC schedule below), to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 during a time of many family and social gatherings. Classroom teachers will be sharing more information as we get closer.

High School Information & <u>HACTC Letter</u> and <u>Calendar</u>

Monday 11/2 -only AM students go to HACTC, no PM programming at the HACTC.

Tuesday 11/3 -no HACTC programming at all.

Asynchronous dates for HS Students: November 6th and 20th

Thursday, November 19: 7:00pm HACTC Parent Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 25: No School at the HACTC

Thursday, November 26: No School at the HACTC

Friday, November 27: No School at the HACTC

Elementary and Middle School (K-8) Information:

We have started afternoon remote learning. Teachers have been communicating expectations with students and parents. Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions. Please complete the afternoon work and more importantly please let us know how we can support you and your child during this time.

From Nurse Martens:

Vision & Hearing Screenings will take place the first week in November.

Annual Health Update required by the State of Vermont. If you have not already done so, please fill out and return the attached Annual Health Update Form . If you need a new form please email me at elizabeth.martens@wsesu.net



Your help is appreciated if you can share your tentative travel plans, if occurring outside of Vermont, during the upcoming holidays. This data can help us plan accordingly for the safe return to school after the holidays for all students and staff.

Travel Guidelines - The Health Dept. encourages school administrators, school nurses, and designated school personnel to share the link to the travel map/info on the ACCD website with parents and families. We encourage you to consult the map before planning a trip outside of VT. Here is the link to the map. It is updated on Tuesdays. If you are traveling over the Thanksgiving break, please share with the administration and/or school nurse. https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel

Reminders:

Picture Retakes are scheduled for Wednesday, November 11. <u>Lifetouch Photography</u>

Parent teacher virtual conferences for grade K-12 will be held the week of **November 9 -13**. Friday November 13th will be an asynchronous learning day for all students, **EXCEPT HACTC students**, in grades K-12.

Please remember all meetings are virtual via google meets or via phone calls. You will be hearing directly from your child's teacher **(K-8)** to set up a time. **High School** parents please contact Suzanne Ambrose at sambrose@wsesu.net to schedule your appointment.

Important Dates

11/13 – Remote Learning Day (K-12), HACTC in session

11/23-11/24 – **Remote Learning**

11/25-11/27 – Thanksgiving Break, No School

11/30-12/4 –Remote Learning

12/21-12/23 - **Remote Learning**

12/24-1/3 - Holiday Recess, No School

Weekends Are For Family and Wellness

Over the weekends this year, we will be encouraging our staff and families, as well as ourselves, to practice taking time for personal wellness and family connections while minimizing screen time. To this end, we will be offline as much as possible over the weekends and be back, refreshed and ready to go, when school is back in session at the start of each week. If there is an emergency however, always feel free to contact Colleen DeSchamp or Kate Ryan.

Helpful links:

School Website with daily bulletin

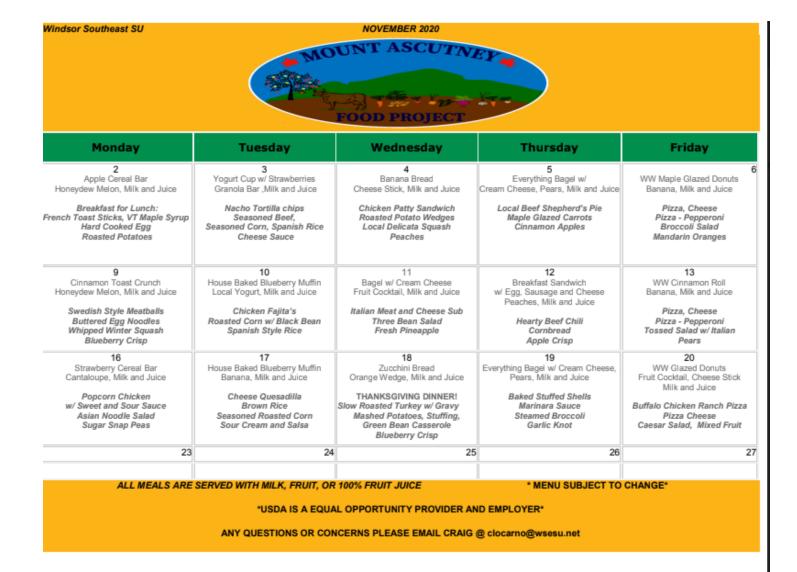
WSESU 2020-2021 School Calendar

Health & Safety Handbook

VT Dept. of Health - Travel Guidelines

Mt. Ascutney School Board Meetings & Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union School Board Meetings

November Lunch Menu:



We thank all of you for your continued commitment to the safety and health of our students and staff.