



**Colleen DeSchamp, Interim Co-Principal**  
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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.*

January 15, 2021

Dear Windsor Parents, Guardians, & Caregivers,

We hope this weekend is a relaxing one for you and your family. There is no school this Monday, January 18th, 2021 in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King. We are wrapping up the first semester and the second semester will begin on January 25th. This brings an extended day for our K-8 students. The 9th -12th grade schedule will continue to stay the same moving into semester two. We are maintaining a closed pod structure and cannot extend the day at the same time. This is due to the nature of a high school schedule. We are hopeful for relief from this pandemic and thankful for everyone's commitment to safety.

Colleen DeSchamp & Kate Ryan

### **New Information:**

**K-8 Extended Day:** On Monday January 25th, we will extend our school day. We are asking **ALL** car riders and walkers to arrive between 8 and 8:15. Dismissal will be at 1:15pm. There may be slight changes to the bus schedule and we will communicate them as soon as it is finalized. The longer day will provide students with longer Math and ELA instruction. All students grades K-4 will have a 30 minute recess as well as short breaks throughout the day. Students in grades 5-8 will also have a recess and short breaks throughout the day. Teachers are working on scheduling and will be in touch with parents of any changes.

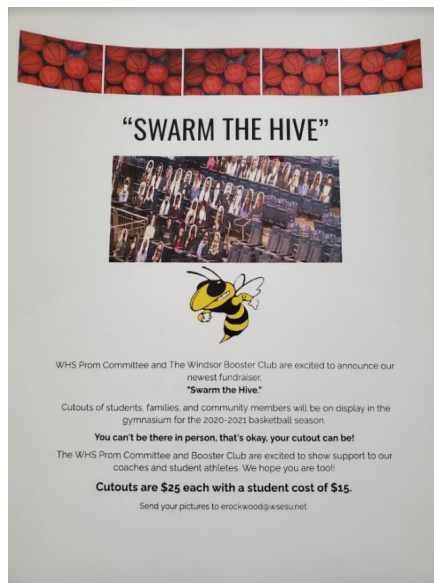
**Welcome:** We are pleased to partner with Mount Ascutney Hospital and now have Natalie Thorne on our staff as a part time student mentor. She will be housed in student services and work closely with our school counselors. We take this opportunity to remind you that the mental health of our

students and families is very important to us. We have many resources and encourage you to reach out at any time.

**Community News:** Ascutney Outdoors is excited to host on Friday afternoons, from 2-4:30pm, a free community ski time on the rope tow. This will happen every Friday afternoon SNOW dependent. This is open to everyone in our local communities. Please come join the fun afternoon of skiing with your friends for free.

Please check the Ascutney Outdoors website Friday mornings to be sure the snow conditions allow us to run the rope tow. If you have any questions or want information on equipment please email Laura Farrell at [jlfarrell0@gmail.com](mailto:jlfarrell0@gmail.com)

### **Windsor Fundraiser:**



### **Reminders for all:**

#### **Parking Lot Update:**

Sophomores parking is at the soccer field.  
Juniors and Seniors park in the back row.  
Faculty park in the first 3 rows.  
Please make sure you have a parking permit.

#### **Upcoming Dates**

January 18 - MLK Day, no school  
Week of January 19 - Senior Capstones  
January 25 - Semester 2 begins  
January 29 High School Asynchronous Day

**Employment Opportunity:**

WSESU is hiring for part time support staff positions working with students in several grades. If interested please apply directly with your cover letter, resume and three references directly to Katie Ahern, Interim Director of Special Services, [katie.ahern@wsesu.net](mailto:katie.ahern@wsesu.net), 674-8108

**From Nurse Martens:**

Questions at health check:

Do you have any of the following symptoms of COVID? (Chronic conditions such as seasonal allergies do not need to be counted)

Chills

Shortness of breath

Fatigue

Muscle aches

Headache

Loss of taste or smell

Congestion/runny nose

Nausea/Vomiting

Diarrhea

New rash

Have you come into contact with anyone who has COVID within the past 14 days?

Please remember that students should not bring medications of any kind into the school. This includes both prescription and over the counter medications along with vitamins. All medications that need to be taken during the school day require written permission from parents/guardians and must be kept in the health office. Students should never share medications with other students at any time. If you have any questions please contact the school nurse at 802-674-8313 or [elizabeth.martens@wsesu.net](mailto:elizabeth.martens@wsesu.net). Thank you for keeping our school healthy and safe.

**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.

<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>

**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](#)

[Vermont Physician Groups Letter](#)