



November 3, 2023

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff,

As we transition from the vibrant colors of fall to the quiet beauty of winter, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the changing seasons and how they resonate with our educational journey. Just as leaves fall and make way for new growth, our students continue to learn, adapt and grow. With the winter season comes the promise of new experiences, opportunities and challenges. Thank you for your continued dedication to our students' growth and success and your collaboration with our tremendous staff.



Please see important dates set forth below*:

November 4, 2023, Lamoille Union High School, Legally Blonde the Musical, 7:00 pm, Auditorium

November 5, 2023, Lamoille Union High School, Legally Blonde the Musical, 2:00 pm, Auditorium

November 6, 2023, Lamoille Union High School, National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, 7:00 pm, Auditorium

November 6-9, 2023, Waterville Elementary School, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:00-5:30 pm

November 8, 2023, GMTCC, Community Open House, 5:30-7:00 pm

November 8, 2023, Lamoille Union Middle/High School, Music Department Fall Concert, 6:00-7:30 pm, Auditorium

November 9, 2023, Cambridge Elementary School, Fall Harvest Meal, PreK-K, 10:40-11:15 am; Grades 3-4, 11:30 am-12:05 pm; Grades 1-2, 12:15-12:50 pm; Grades 5-6, 1:00-1:35 pm

November 9, 2023, Hyde Park Elementary School, Grandparent Dinner at Lunch, 11:00 am

November 10, 2023, LNSU, No School

November 11, 2023, Cambridge Elementary School, Family Dance, 6:30-8:30 pm, CES Gym

November 13, 2023, LNSU/LNMUUSD Special School Board Meeting, GMTCC, 6:30 pm

November 16, 2023, Lamoille Union Athletic Department Winter Sports Meeting, 5:30 pm, Auditorium

****Please make sure you check for updated changes or additions to dates of events listed on your school(s) website. Your school website is updated daily.***

EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHTS

Please read the following press release about our very own Sara Reed!



“Sara Reed, a social studies teacher at Lamoille Union High School, has received a Fulbright Teacher Award to the United Kingdom from the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. The Fulbright Program is the United States’ flagship program of international educational and cultural exchange, and offers passionate educators the opportunity to study, teach, research, exchange ideas, and contribute to mutual understanding. Participants come from all backgrounds to inspire, innovate, and contribute to finding solutions to challenges facing local communities and the world.

Reed will be researching modern slavery, a human rights issue that has grown over the last few decades to ensnare approximately 40 million people worldwide today

in various forms such as debt bondage, forced labor, domestic servitude, sex trafficking, descent-based slavery, and child marriage. She intends to conduct extensive interviews with experts throughout the UK, including ex-slaves themselves. The UK is considered a leader in attempting to abolish all forms of slavery. Her research will result in a curriculum for a new course on ancient and modern slavery.

Reed is thrilled to have won the award, and is quick to thank her principal, superintendent, and school board for their support and flexibility. She will soon be trading the snow of Vermont for the rain of Glasgow, Scotland, where she will be based.”

Outstanding Vermont Educator Award

Dedra Dolan and Nick Lodge, elementary educators from Johnson Elementary School, will receive University of Vermont’s 43rd Vermont Outstanding Educator Award at a reception at the University on November 14, 2023. This award is given to those who exemplify excellence in their profession. Please see below what David Manning, principal of JES, had to say in his nomination of them both:

This year, I have the privilege of nominating someone from Johnson Elementary School to receive the University of Vermont 2023 Outstanding Educator Award. When I started trying to determine which teacher was the right candidate to select, I could not decide between two incredibly qualified people. So, I talked to UVM and was able to convince them that JES needed to be able to nominate two Co-Outstanding Teachers this year. I am pleased to announce that Dedra Dolan and Nick Lodge will be honored at a ceremony at UVM on November 14th. Here is what I wrote about them on the nomination form:

Dedra Dolan

“Multiple generations of Johnson children have been fortunate enough to have Dedra as their teacher. Although her students learn to read, write, and count while in her class, the most important lessons she imparts on them are about how they can be part of a classroom and school community. Dedra’s students learn to be kind to each other, to wait their turn, and to be respectful of each other. The great work she does every year makes the job of our first through sixth grade teachers much easier.”

Nick Lodge

“Nick creates a wonderful sense of community in his classroom every year. Beginning with the class constitution they create, all students and educators in the classroom have a voice as they grow together as a learning community throughout the year. Rather than sending students to the office for misbehavior, the class community processes these situations together using Restorative Practice circles. It is no surprise that years later many of his students still remember him as one of their favorite teachers.”

I am pleased to honor them at this reception, having started my career at JES and having had the good fortune of receiving the expertise and guidance of them both as a new educator at the school. Congratulations to Dedra and Nick!

In more educator news, each year our Community Partner, Healthy Lamoille Valley, honors individuals and groups that have made significant contributions in time and effort to supporting a healthy Lamoille Valley community and working towards the reduction of youth substance misuse. Honorees represent the full engagement of the Healthy Lamoille Valley coalition across individuals, businesses, organizations, and volunteer collaborations. We congratulate GMTCC Allied Health Instructor, Heidi Richard, for having received this award! Those who nominated Heidi had this to say about her:

Heidi Richard

Heidi is a dedicated Allied Health instructor, always creating and finding amazing experiential opportunities for her students. Despite her busy schedule, she has prioritized substance prevention and connecting with Healthy Lamoille Valley (HLV). Last school year, Heidi brought her class to our Tobacco Prevention Taskforce meeting, co-led a Getting to Y team with her class, and connected community members and students with HLV resources through tabling at events like their blood drive and health fair. This school year, she has already brought her students through our Strategic Planning series, and there are many other prevention-related initiatives in the works. She truly helps to foster the passion her students have for prevention and the health and well-being of youth. We look forward to seeing all the great projects you and your students do this year!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Our student and community member, Nate Bickford, has also received this prestigious award from Healthy Lamoille Valley for his dedication to his community and excellence in work to support a drug-free community. The team at Healthy Lamoille Valley had this to say about Nate:

Nate started with the Healthy Lamoille Valley Coalition as a nine-year-old. He created a cartoon about two students making plans for afterschool and choosing a substance-free activity. His work has quietly evolved, often behind the scenes, in areas like data research and input, hiring committees, and design. Nate has consistently engaged in outreach-based activities as well, such as: tabling at community events, co-facilitating Askable Adult trainings, Sticker Shock, refusal skills workshops, forums and prevention day participation. He has been a steadfast advocate and prevention leader for many.

Also, Nate will be one of four youth on a panel with Dr. Gupta, the Director of ONDCP, on Monday as part of ONDCP's celebration of 25 years of the Drug-Free Communities Grant efforts. The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) has been funding youth substance-use prevention coalitions across the country for 25 years. In honor of the 25th anniversary of the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program, ONDCP will host a celebration to recognize the accomplishments of the program, and honor this year's Blue Ribbon Coalitions, high-performing youth substance-use prevention coalitions that have achieved measurable community-level outcomes.



Green Mountain Technology & Career Center (GMTCC) is hosting its Community Open House! See the following information from our team at GMTCC as follows:

GMTCC Students Put Skills on Display at 2023 Community Open House

Mark your calendars and join GMTCC on Wednesday, November 8th, 2023, for their Community Open House.

This is a great chance for community members and prospective students to get a behind-the-scenes look at the cutting-edge educational opportunities offered by GMTCC - the Lamoille Valley's only career and technical education center.

The open house, running from 5:30-7:00 pm, is an opportunity to meet educators, see classrooms and labs, and gain insights into becoming a tech center student.

Attendees will also have the chance to see current students demonstrating skills through live demos in their program areas.

In more GMTCC news, our students in the construction and electrical trade programs are donating their labor to Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity to build affordable homes for those who need them, including a home now under construction in Morrisville. We are proud of their work and dedication to helping members of our communities! Please read the News & Citizen article, written by our media partner, Aaron Calvin: [Tech Students Help Build Habitat Homes](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS

We are happy to share that our Community Gathering at Jenna's House was a tremendous success! We were joined by many community partners, including Senator Rich Westman and Representatives Melanie Carpenter and Dan Noyes. The evening was filled with joy as students and staff from each school presented what it means to be part of a community. We enjoyed a meal beautifully prepared by Karyl Kent and her team, and we were graced with the musical talents of the Jamtones and Jazz Band from Lamoille middle and high school. Our student athletes talked about being part of a team and how their collective efforts were far better than individual ones. It is wonderful and important to note that we had a record turnout for this gathering and look forward to many more this year!

We extend our thanks to all of our partners and a special thank you to the Tatro family for allowing us to host this event at Jenna's House.



STORYTIME

I am planning to start an evening "storytime" beginning the second week in November. Each Wednesday evening, I will read a children's book to anyone who might be interested in listening to a story before bedtime. The recording of this will air at 7:00 pm and a link to the recording will be posted. Stories will be geared toward our youngest children, but are available for anyone who would like to listen to the reading of the stories. The first airing will be on **Wednesday, November 8th, at 7:00 pm**. Stay tuned for information on how to listen!



Lastly, I am grateful every day for our community. We have so much to celebrate given the unique and many strengths of our communities. I invite you to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, and help us continue to create a learning environment that nurtures the hearts and minds of our students and all members of our school community. In closing, we appreciate your support for our work with your children and youth. Thank you again for your collaboration, compassion and dedication to the wellbeing of our students, staff and families.

My very best to you,

Catherine Gallagher M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools
Lamoille North Supervisory Union