



Cabot School

Respect.Responsibility.Kindness.Engagement.

Our playground planning is well underway. Several members of our 3rd and 4th grade community met with Ron King of Natural Playgrounds to see how the design was coming along. Ron showed them the topographical images of our playground space and they were able to describe the space to him and continue to contribute their ideas. This is work the 3rd and 4th graders began last year with a design day in which they used natural materials to create inspiration for the design that Ron will create for us. The students then met with him to describe what they would like to see in a natural playground. All of this work will culminate in a comprehensive design that students will begin to consider how to build. When we get to that stage, they will need your help and the help of our entire community to make this happen. Students who met with Ron several weeks ago shared the following information with their classmates:

- A natural playground is built into the landscape. We talked about the basketball court and wanting to keep that, but perhaps doing something with the fencing to make it more inviting. We asked for some water play area (the younger students love this). We communicated that it would be great to have a slide, balance beam logs that you can hop onto, natural steps, a bridge and a quiet spot for reflection. We love to climb, so we talked to Ron about making sure there were plenty of places for us to continue to climb. We were able to see the elevation and layout on the map and that was helpful for knowing where different structures might go.

In the meantime, our $\frac{3}{4}$ class is continuing to learn about play around the world and to adventure into understanding how different cultures engage in play and what playgrounds look like in different parts of the world. Through this project students are learning about world geography and identifying continents and countries around the world (an important aspect of our 3rd and 4th grade social studies standards). They are also engaging in reading about the benefits of natural play. When I visited their classroom last week, they had just read a piece about the benefits of play. Each student shared some benefits of playing outside using the natural environment. Some of their ideas were:

- It fosters creativity
- It can help with self-regulation
- Students learn problem solving skills
- And, it's fun!

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This week, our 3rd and 4th grade team met with Ron just before break and he shared the preliminary design with them. We will have a roll out to the whole community once the design is finalized completely.

Our 3rd and 4th grade project about play is just one area in which project-based learning is positively impacting our students' learning. For those of you who may not yet be familiar with the design of our high school program, I would encourage you to visit either of our exhibitions of learning in the coming weeks:

- On Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 6:30 p.m., our Musics of The World high school students will be hosting their final exhibition of learning for the trimester. The format for this exhibition will be an "informance" — part performance, part informative — definitely entertaining and thought provoking! In addition to performing music from Indonesia, West Africa and the Middle East, the students will share, discuss and teach the audience about these musical cultures. You'll even get a chance to try out the instruments for yourself.
- Students in our Where's Walden class will share their nature writing inspired by the work of Henry David Thoreau and other nature writers as well as their backpacking excursion on the Long Trail when the book has been published.
- Be on the lookout for soap from our Chemistry of Soap class just in time for the holiday season. Sales will happen at the Holiday Market.

We started the tradition of the Harvest Meal in buddy crews last week and together younger and older students shared a meal together.

I fully expect that December will bring varied attendance with both faculty, staff, and students (we have a number of illnesses going around coming out of the latest break) and I don't expect that to end.

We are currently looking for three positions going into the winter and spring:

- [Kindergarten](#) long-term sub (Starting in March)
- [% Long-term sub](#) (starting in March)
- [Paraeducator](#) (starting immediately)



Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Office of Student Services

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Student Services Board Report November 2022

1. Hiring

- a. We have an unfilled special educator position for which we are recruiting.
- b. We have a few paraprofessional openings throughout the SU.

2. Transportation Challenges

- a. We are in the process of securing a lease on a wheelchair accessible minivan. This will enable us to fulfill our obligation of getting all students to school for their full school day.

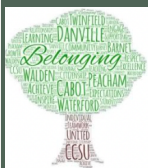
3. Financial Reports

- a. Financial information and estimates of anticipated extraordinary costs for the 2023-2024 school year were provided to the AOE.
- b. Census block grant amounts for FY24 have been released by the AOE. The FY24 census grant total for CCSU is expected to be \$3,696,034.59
- c. I am working closely with Mike Concessi in the business office to develop the budget for next year.

4. Special Education Department

- a. I would like to recognize a few people who have gone above and beyond in the central office. First though, I want to send congratulations to Chelsea DeWitt, executive assistant, on the birth of her beautiful daughter. In Chelsea's absence, Tracy Davidson, Suzanne Martin, and Ellie Keefe have all taken on additional responsibilities. Their dedication to the department and to CCSU has made a world of difference. I would not have been able to possibly keep up with everything without their help. This is truly a wonderful team, and I'm so honored to be here.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Landry
Director of Student Services



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

Lately, I have been curious about birds. Some of my questions include:

- Why are so many red tailed hawks by the highways and roads on my commute from Burke to Danville in September and October?
- What do the calls of the barred owls mean that I hear outside my bedroom window?
- Do pileated woodpeckers migrate? I never see them in the winter.

These questions have led to some googling, dinner conversations with my self-identified “bird nerd” partner, and not surprisingly, more questions as I engage in some new learning.

On my visits to schools in our CCSU community, students are engaged in their learning. Sometimes it comes from curiosity, sometimes through a just-right challenging problem, sometimes through joy and connection to others or the content. I played with preschoolers who imagined themselves on a magic wagon taking them to the moon to buy treats, (I was the space horse). They were engaged in storytelling and joyful play. At another school, fourth graders were engaged in searching for and marking crocus bulbs, as part of a collaborative project with UVM investigating the sustainability of saffron as a VT crop. They knew what they were learning and why. High school students last spring wrote and performed their own play. Finally, at another school, students recently extracted chlorophyll from tree leaves which led to a series of questions about the different shades of color and why it glows under a black light. These are just a few examples of how we actively engage our learners.

Student engagement can feel buzz-wordy and can be easily mistaken for compliance. Sometimes engagement can be quiet or sometimes noisy and messy. Engagement is the feeling when you can't wait to get back to your project or work, you can't wait to tell someone else about what you are learning, you have so many more questions, you are in the zone and jazzed about it! It is magical when you see it as a teacher in your students and feel it yourself as a learner.

Thank you for the important work you all do each and every day.

Yours in curiosity and learning,

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WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- 35 Years at CCSU
- Upcoming Professional Development
- Photos from the Field
- Welcome to CCSU





We thank you for your many years of continued service. We value your positive contributions to our local communities!

Carolyn Ennis	Twinfield
Melinda Johnson	Danville
Melanie Maiola	Twinfield
Terri Vest	Twinfield

Most of the people were hired **between 1974-1987**

The average yearly salary for a new teacher in 1976 was **\$8,500.**

Upcoming Professional Development in the Region and Beyond



Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Early Years and After School		
Supporting Families Experiencing Homelessness	11/8 6-8 online	Free
Helpful Hints and Simple Tools to Create your IPDP	11/14 5:30-7:30 online	Free
Exploring Difficult Emotions in Children's Literature	11/17 6-7:30 online	Free
Supporting Families Experiencing Homelessness (repeat session)	11/30 6-8 online	Free
Check out other training opportunities that meet the child care licensing requirements here		

Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Global Citizenship		
Vermont Alliance for Social Studies Annual Conference	Dec. 7 In Person; Montpelier	\$135

Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Literacy		
Foundations Workshops: Launching the Programs <i>From: Wilson</i>	Offered several times a month virtually	\$299
Supporting Students with Dyslexia in Reading Workshop across the school day <i>From: Teachers College Reading and Writing Project</i>	Nov. 2-4 (3 days) 11am-5pm Virtual	\$700
Teaching towards Social Justice, Civic Engagement and Project Based Learning <i>From: Teachers College Reading and Writing Project</i>	Nov. 28-30 (3 days) 11am-5pm Virtual	\$700
Building a Science of Reading System: Demystifying MTSS <i>From: Amplify Webinar Series</i>	Nov. 7 3pm	Free
Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Reading Comprehension, & Assessment Webinars with Dr. Melissa Farrall <i>From the Stern Center</i>	Starts Nov. 9 -Dec 13 (up to 6 courses) 4:00-5:30	\$95 per webinar or \$350 for all five
Free Webinar: Heggerty: Phonemic Awareness in the Dark or In Print	Nov. 7	Free
Free Watch: Amplify Webinar: Science of Reading Meets Tier 1 instruction		

Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Teaching and Learning		
Middle Grades Instruction and Assessment	Oct. 29 to Dec. 3, 2022 (online) 3 Credits from Castleton University	\$1,195

Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Math		
Teaching Mathematics through Big Ideas in the Elementary Years: Jo Boaler <i>From: Stanford University and Youcubed</i> Note: This course starts at 9am PST—so time reflected is adjusted to meet EST time zone.	Nov. 15 12pm-6:30pm (EST) Virtual	\$595
All Learner's Network Professional Learning (in person options available on their website)		
Middle School Math Workshop	Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 9am-3:30 In person-Burlington	\$600
Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Math Workshop	Nov. 7 3:30-6:30; Virtual	\$150
Number Sense Routines	Nov. 10 8:00-4:00; Virtual	\$300
Math and Social Emotional Learning	Nov. 16 12-3; Virtual	\$150
Making the Most of a 30 minute Math Intervention Block	Nov. 16 3-4; Virtual	Free
Student Work Sort: Data and Analyzing	Nov. 17 12-3; Virtual	\$150
Getting Started with Math Menu	Nov. 28 12-3; Virtual	\$150
Low Floor, High Ceiling Math Games	Nov. 29 4-7; Virtual	\$150
Illustrative Math Workshops and Resources		
IM K-2 Adapting a Lesson Using Learning Goals <i>From Michigan Math and Science Leadership Network</i>	Nov. 15 4:30-6:30: Virtual	\$200
IM 3-5 Adapting a Lesson Using Learning Goals <i>From Michigan Math and Science Leadership Network</i>	Nov. 16 4:30-6:30; Virtual	\$200
IM K-5 Adapting a Lesson Using Learning Goals <i>From: IM and Mathematics Institute of Wisconsin</i>	Dec. 8 12-2; Virtual	\$200

Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Science		
<u>NGSX- Next Generation Science</u>	Multiple different professional learning pathways	
<u>VEEP - VT Energy Education Program</u>	Multiple different professional learning pathways	

Topic and Link	When/How	Cost
Student Services		
<u>Using Learner Profile Data to Support Interventions: Monthly Case Study Webinar Series -Jen Patenaude</u>	6 sessions Nov. 3, Dec.8, Jan 12, March 9, Apr. 6 8:30-2:30	\$270
<u>SENIA (Special Education Network & Inclusion Association) Global Conference</u>	Virtual Conference Dec. 2-4 (sessions will be recorded and available for 4 months)	\$250



Know of some great PD?
[Please share it with us!](#)

Click the link for the
google form.



Kate Messner author visit @ Waterford

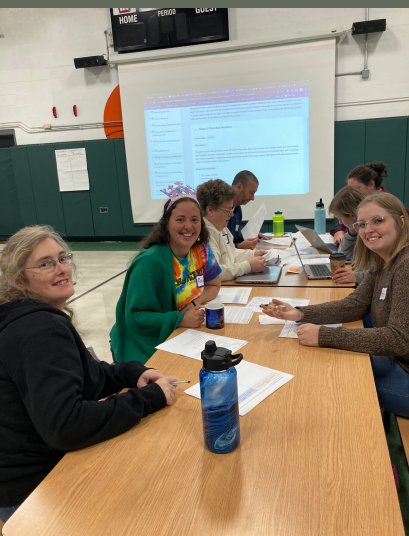


Walden students @ Harvest Hill farm





Stone Soup @
Peacham



Yurt Building @ Danville



Welcome to CCSU!

Alice Ruffner	Special Ed Para @ Barnet
Beth Hoffman	Site Director for ASP @ Cabot
Candice Snay	Special Ed Para @ Cabot
Cora Lopez	Special Ed Para @ Danville
Courteney Simpson	SLPa
David Conover	Athletics/Activity Director @ Twinfield/Cabot
Diane Frost	Food Service @ Barnet
Hailey Parrish	Special Ed Para @ Waterford
Heather Brill	Life Skills Para @ Danville MS/HS
Ireland Austin	Special Ed Para @ Barnet
James Heath Jr.	Custodian @ Waterford
Jason Warner	Technology
Jessica Waldron	Board Certified Behavior Analyst
Meagan Ferris	Special Ed Para @ Danville HS
Michelle Delaney	ASP Elementary Site Director @ Twinfield
Miriam Yachfine	Food Service @ Twinfield part-time
Naomi Vincent	PE/Health teacher @ Walden
Pamela Young	Guidance Counselor 50% @ Peacham
Thomas Edson	Custodian @ Twinfield

