



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
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Superintendent's Report September 2023

1. Open Positions

Barnet School

- Administrative Assistant (to start immediately)
- Custodian (to start immediately)
- Paraprofessional
- Elementary Teacher (Grade 5)

Cabot School

- Special Education Paraeducators
- Bus Driver

Central Office

- 2 High School Paraeducators at the St. Johnsbury Academy
- Deaf/Blind Intervener (willing to pay for certification)
- Technology Support Technician

Danville School

- High School paraeducator
- Special education paraeducators

Peacham School

- No open positions at this time

Twinfield School

- Bus Driver
- Health Elementary Paraeducator
- Elementary Paraeducators
- High School Paraeducators
- Food Service
- After School Site Director

Walden School

- Special education paraeducator
- Preschool paraeducator
- Custodian school year
- Life skills paraeducator

Waterford School

- Special education paraeducators

“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.”

2. **Medical Leave** – As previously announced, I am expecting to be on medical leave through much of September following a scheduled surgery on September 6th. I hope to be able to resume work by the end of the month (from home for an undetermined period).
3. **State of Vermont School Facility Analysis** – All remaining schools in CCSU were reviewed this summer. The final report is supposed to be finished in October, but I have no idea if this deadline will be met or when we will see the report.
4. **PCB Testing** – Still waiting for a Corrective Action Plan in Cabot. Twinfield and Danville are still in the source testing phase. The Legislature included language in the Appropriations bill to fully fund all PCB testing, mitigation and remediation, and it was approved in a veto session after the Governor vetoed to budget bill. We will be able to have all mitigation and remediation work paid for 100%, and previous cost sharing expenses (20% of the charges) will be returned to the Districts that incurred those expenses prior to the approval of 100% funding.
5. **New Statewide Testing** – Individual student reports of test results came out in mid-August and are shareable with families. Comprehensive reporting across Districts – the level of reports of interest to the Boards – will not be available until December.
6. **Required Policy Work following Legislative Session** – S.138 – the School Safety Bill, required us to adopt two policies by August 2023. The SU Board adopted those policies on behalf of the Districts at its June meeting. We are still waiting for guidelines for developing the required Emergency Operation Plans spelled out in the legislation – these have been delayed by the July flooding, which distracted attention by the State Emergency Operations Center.
7. **Family Income Data Collection** – Despite our hopes for an improved data collection using a different form (the Family Income Declaration), the Agency threw us a curveball by requiring all schools to repeat a Food Service Data collection done last year. This forced us, due to federal food service guidelines to revert back to the old Free & Reduced Lunch data collection form that has been problematic in the past since families already receive free breakfast and lunch for their students. We are redoubling our efforts to get maximum response to this data collection, as it impacts our eligibility for Title I. An example of the Agency’s left hand not knowing what its right hand is doing, IMHO.
8. **Project AWARE** – We received notice that Vermont received the Project AWARE grant that I first wrote about in May. CCSU is one of three SU/SD’s in Vermont approved for participation. AWARE will provide us with access to additional mental health resource support for our students over the next five years. I will have more details forthcoming later this fall.

Mark Tucker, M.A.
Superintendent of Schools

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Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
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Anne Landry
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Student Services Board Report
September 2023

1. CCSU Updates

- a. We filled some vacancies with remote providers, including the school psychologists for the entire SU as well as the speech pathologists for Twinfield and Cabot. While this may pose some challenges, I am relieved that at least we have secured contracts for these positions. We had no candidates apply for these jobs in person.
- b. I welcome Laura Cavarretta to the central office as the case manager for students placed out of district.
- c. The beginning of the year is busy for all. We are busy ensuring special educator caseloads are accurate, ordering supplies and materials, setting up specialized transportation, and preparing for the final phase of rule change implementation.
- d. Allie and I have scheduled zoom check in meetings with all special educators twice monthly, as well as twice monthly full department meetings. This time will be used to provide guidance, support, and training to all special educators. This will enable both of us the opportunity to work with all the schools and school communities, rather than dividing up the SU as we did this past year.

2. AOE Updates

- a. We will work with the AOE as part of Selective Monitoring this year, which will entail submitting reports and verification that we are following mandated timelines for evaluations.

3. Of Note

- a. I look forward to starting my second year here at CCSU. I couldn't ask for a better team of colleagues who always have the best interest of students as priority #1.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Landry
Director of Student Services

Caledonia Cooperative School District

September 11th, 2023 Report

		
<p>Barnet School 163 Kid Row, Barnet, VT 05821</p>	<p>Walden School 135 Cahoon Farm Road, West Danville, VT 05873</p>	<p>Waterford School 276 Duck Pond Road, Waterford, VT 05819</p>

Principals Report to School Board

Meeting of September 11th, 2023

Place: Barnet School and on Zoom

Time: 6:00 pm

CCSD Cooperation

The team of administrators attended a week-long conference hosted by Vermont's Principals Association, (VPA), in Killington, VT at the beginning of August. The themes of the meeting included: inclusion, promoting a positive environment, deepening connections among the stakeholders within school communities, and response to trauma.

Our admin team had multiple opportunities to come together as a team and discuss their new learning, as well as spend some bonding time together at the various dinner locations. It truly was a good team-building time overall. The three principals are already planning the events for the beginning of the school year, such as Open House, Meet and Greet the teachers, and some cultural events. The three CCSD schools will be sending 8th grade students to Hulbert Outdoor Center in Fairlee on September 11, 12 and 13th for team building activities that include high ropes course, wilderness skills, and canoeing. This is a great opportunity for our students to get to know each other and learn with each other!

Barnet School

Updates:

- Very good beginning of the year with in-service days for our staff
- Students returned to the building with a lot of positive energy, which is great to see/experience every day
- We have about 13 new students across prek-8. Our preschool classrooms are full
- Our new preschool teacher, Mrs. Tiffany Stacey, is doing extremely well and is very happy with her new students and her classroom
- We hosted a Meet and Greet the teachers on August 23 which was well attended and well received. Our PTF organization took part in the event. We had some light refreshments for the students which were very popular.
- On August 28 we had a preschool screening day with students spending some hours in their new classrooms.
- On August 29, Mrs. Pilner and Mrs. Stacey, preschool teachers, organized a family day at the corn maze in Danville. I will post some pictures in my next newsletter. The weather was wonderful and they all enjoyed the outdoors.
- We have already met with several families to review 504 plans and accommodations for students.
- Our Teacher of the Year is Mrs. Tammy Carpenter, one of our special education teachers and a well-renowned member of the Barnet community. Tammy serves the Barnet community in many different roles, from teaching at Barnet School to volunteering for the local food shelter, local church events, fundraising, and so much more. We are lucky to have her on our staff.
- Our PBIS team is leading a school-wide initiative to re-write our BARKS agreements for middle school students to make them more current and more relevant to older students. We have started meeting with all of the middle school students using a Think Tank format and we will soon summarize all of the students' input into new agreements. I will share them with the Board and the Community when they are ready. We anticipate this work to be done within the month of September.
- I will be attending the Women in Leadership Conference in Killington on September 15, one of the first leadership meetings held in Vermont for women in education
- Open House: September 20 at 5:00 pm

Walden School

Updates:

- What an exciting start to the school year we've had at Walden! The school has been buzzing with excited energy from all the students, faculty and staff alike. There are so many amazing opportunities planned for our students this year so that we can make this a successful year for each and every student at Walden.

- We are excited to continue to look for ways to increase the community involvement that we have built over the last two years since opening things back up from Covid. We are currently creating new partnerships with Black Dirt Farm for students across all grade levels, Nature's Classroom, and the University of Toledo to remotely access and control amazing things like their electron microscopes. We are continuing our partnerships with organizations like the Montshire Museum, Siskin Outdoor Learning Center, Hulbert, Burke Mountain, and Harvest Hill Farm.
- We are especially excited to share that message with the larger community and demonstrate to everyone the amazing things going on here at Walden School. Please help us share this newsletter and encourage community members to subscribe to it to stay informed of all the happenings at the school and in the community. We will continue to try to pack every upcoming newsletter with pictures and write ups from all the different classrooms, as well as community and student/parent resources that the school can help offer.
- We are excited to partner with the Walden Community Library to bring Jon Gailmor to Walden for a whole school presentation on Sept. 7th. Jon is a songwriter, singer, and entertainer from Elmore with a specific affinity for children's music, and I am excited to welcome him to Walden as a CLiF presenter. He will be working with students for 45-60 min in an engaging highly interactive musical program. CLiF will be providing free books to give away to all participating students.
- This year's theme continues to evolve and build right off of last year's theme of "If you develop the WILL, the SKILL will follow". The theme this year is "Nurturing Explorers + Fostering Confidence = A Pathway to Autonomy and Belonging". The faculty and staff worked hard to create this theme that will encompass our goal of developing unique, independent, life-long learners using Universal Design for Learning as our compass for implementing strategies and best practices best suited to each and every student in our school.
- A big congratulations to Tamara Thompson, who is not only the Walden Teacher of the Year, but I received notification that she was voted as the CCSU Teacher of the Year and will be in the running for the UVM Teacher of the Year. Congratulations Tamara, the honor is very well deserved!

Waterford School

Updates:

- Open Houses - On August 24 we held an Open House for Kindergarten through Grade 5 families. On August 30 we held an Open House for Middle School families. On August 30 and 31st we hosted our Preschool families for an Open House.
- Teacher of the Year - We are proud to announce Tiffany Lasnier as our Teacher of the Year. Some quotes from Tiffany's colleagues:
 - She supports her students' best needs.
 - She has the ability to make all of her students feel safe and loved at school.

- Students are always excited for their year with her!
- This teacher teaches students at a critical juncture in their educational journey. Their classroom is equal parts rigorous and challenging as well as caring and flexible.
- Communication with families always begins with positive, proactive messages that help families feel safe as well. No matter the concern, challenge or need they work to find the best in all students and bring that out during the school year. Because of this students are happy, engaged learners.
- It's not every day that a teacher encourages a student to correspond with a President and have them write back!
- Support Staff of the Year - We are proud to announce Jessi Hudson as our Support Staff of the Year. Some quotes from Jessi's colleagues:
 - She has been such a big part of students' successes throughout the year. She is always willing to tackle anything.
 - She is so supportive of students and has a natural understanding of what they need. She is always checking in to make sure both students and staff are supported and she does it all with such a positive attitude. They took on a new job. She does her job and does it well.
 - Her skills took her in many directions wearing many hats and doing each job well. She became a lot to many.
 - This support staff had big shoes to fill and has done it with without hesitation. Their space has become a safe place for students across the school from Pre-k to middle school. They are excited to learn new things and not afraid to do some of the most challenging work in the school.
- New Science Teacher - We are excited to announce Laura Morely as our new Middle School Science Teacher. Laura is excited to join the Waterford School community. She brings with her a broad range of experience from teaching Middle School Science in rural Eastern Oregon, to teaching environmental education in classrooms in Scotland and Canada, and nature education in the forests of Washington and Oregon. Laura grew up in England and went to the University of Edinburgh in Scotland where she met her now husband, Jake, who is from New Hampshire. Their two young children, Anders and Meredith, were born in Oregon but they are fast becoming New Englanders! Laura has a passion for helping children fall in love with nature so that they will instinctively want to protect it. She is looking forward to getting to know you all!
- New Support Staff - We have been fortunate to hire three new support staff and welcome Gabbi Potts, Chelsea Beland and Cordell Willey to our school.
- After School Program - Our Afterschool Program begins Monday September 11. Tiffany Lasnier is coordinating the program again this year.
- NVU Practicum Student - We are happy to partner with Vermont State University to have Morgan Darrell joining our Kindergarten and Special Education programs this fall.
- Wood Pellet Boiler Installed - Lyme Green Heat has installed a new wood pellet boiler at the school.

Upcoming Events:

Sept 7: Jon Gailmor whole school presentation 9am @ Walden School

Sept 7: Walden School Open House for all parents and community members 6pm-7pm

Sept 11: CCSD School Board Meeting @ Barnet 6pm

Sept 11-13: CCSD-wide 8th grade field trip to Hulbert Outdoor Learning Center 9:00-2:00 each day

Sept 12: Free performance for CCSU families of *Playing Fields* sponsored by the Flynn Theatre at Danville School 6:30pm

Sept 15: Women in Leadership conference for admins, Killington

Sept 20: Open House, Barnet School

Sept 22: Early release day (noon) for teacher in-service

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Luisa Millington, Barnet School

Anthony Fontana, Walden School

Christopher Miller, Waterford School