

October 21, 2022

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff,

What beautiful days we have had! I never take for granted this gorgeous place and remind myself often that people travel to New England from all over the world just to see what we have the good fortune to experience every day. Vermont is a treasure for us!



Please take note of the following upcoming events:

October 24, 2022 – Picture Day, Eden Central School October 26, 2022 – LNSU Early Release Day October 26, 2022 – GMTCC Open House, 6:00-7:30 PM, and Spaghetti Dinner, 5:30-6:30 PM, \$7 for adults, \$6 for ages 6-12, and under 5 eat free. October 28, 2022 – Celebration of Learners, Cambridge Elementary School, 8:20-9:20 AM October 28, 2022 – Lancer Pride Assembly, Lamoille Union Middle School, 11:00-11:40 AM October 28, 2022 – Haunted High, Lamoille Union High School, 6:00-9:00 PM

In addition to these events, please be on the lookout for newsletters from principals of all of our Lamoille North Schools that highlight all of the exciting things happening in each of our schools!

On another important note, as I communicated last week, the Vermont Agency of Education (VTAOE) recently sent schools a memo regarding a very recent decision to change the statewide mandated assessment from SBAC to Cognia for this school year. Trainings for testing administrators for statewide summative assessments typically take place in September/October. This year, due to the procurement timeline, trainings will take place later in winter. Once dates and times have been finalized, an announcement will go out to all District testing administrators.



The testing window for our students for the 2022-2023 school year will open on **April 12**, **2023**, **for general assessments and end on June 9**, **2023**. The delayed testing window will allow more time for engaging with trainings and practice tests.

The VTAOE is also finalizing its procurement process for an Alternate Assessment vendor for the 2022-23 school year and when we have more information from them, we will communicate with you. Stay tuned!

In community news, please see the following information from Northern Vermont University (NVU) about their four upcoming Open Houses, one at each of their Vermont campuses:



*"Our Fall Open Houses are in full swing and we hope you will encourage your students to attend at their campus of interest. Students and their families are welcome to join us and discover what* 

makes Vermont State a remarkable place to live and learn! For more information and to sign up to attend at one of our four locations:"

Johnson, October 22, 2022 Randolph, October 29, 2022 Lyndon, November 5, 2022 Castleton, November 11, 2022

As we have communicated, we are always interested in learning more about our towns and how best to connect with community voices. We are committed to meaningful engagement with our communities. In preparation for the work of the Community Advisory Group and other members of our school teams in our efforts to meet the needs of our communities, please take a moment to complete a survey by clicking <u>HERE</u>. This survey will be open until October 31, 2022.



On a similar note, I want to highlight another way to help support our schools. It is incredibly difficult to find adequate substitute teachers in order to cover the "normal" absence load of a school system. So, if you or someone you know has any time available, please consider signing up to be a substitute teacher! You can choose to work in any of the

Lamoille North Supervisory Union schools. It is a great way for those with flexible schedules to spend some time with all members of our school communities and would be an immense help for our hard working faculty, staff and administrators. If you are interested in this role, please contact our Human Resources Coordinator, Rachel Crawford, at <u>rcrawford@Insd.org</u>, or (802) 851-1173.

Lastly, and in greater community news, our hearts go out to the family, friends and communities of Hardwick and neighboring towns as they grieve the death of Hazen Union High school's Athletic Director, Jared Cushing. We are here to listen and respond to the needs of Hazen Union students and families and all other individuals who need our support during this time.

I continue to be so grateful for our Lamoille North community members and the strong relationships we have built together. Thank you again for your collaboration, compassion and dedication to the wellbeing of our students, staff and families.

I hope all of you have a wonderful weekend!

My best to you,

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