

## **Board Report: September 8th, 2023**

It has been great to see everyone back at school, both staff and students. All staff and students have been working hard at reviewing school and bus expectations to keep everyone safe and ready to learn.

### **Happenings around our building:**

Mr. Wanzer's high school science class is already venturing outdoors to study the impact from the flood. Middle school is starting a unit on identity and exploration of self. Mr. Eddy's fifth grade has been working on some creative community building challenges. In elementary classrooms, students are building up their classroom community by meeting new students and learning new things about each other. Elementary classrooms are also working to establish routines for success. PreK started on Tuesday, September 5th and are already learning routines and exploring the classrooms and play areas.

### **PBIS Update:**

Elementary students have been earning tokens to track their positive behavior anchored to Taking care of themselves, Understanding others, and Safely learning together. Each classroom has a goal that they are working towards. Already this week, multiple classrooms have met their goal. As of Friday, our elementary wing has met 11 token goals. It is so great to see the awesome collaboration, communication, creativity, and kindness!

### **Schedule Update:**

Starting October 2, 2023, all PK-12 students will be arriving at school at 8:20 and departing at 2:50, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday dismissal will be 2:00. After care will be provided on Wednesdays only from 2:00 to 2:50 until TLC is staffed. Updated bus routes and class schedules will be shared soon. We sent a letter to families on Friday. Letter is included below.

### **Sports:**

Our Athletic Director left after the start of the school year. Randy Rathburn is now the athletic director for Danville, Twinfield, and Cabot. We currently also have an interim Athletic Director, Dana Welch. Our participation in sports is down due to transportation challenges.

### **Staffing**

We are making progress with para staffing. We still need bus drivers, some elementary paras, and TLC staff. We have also posted an opening for an additional custodian.

## High School Visit

In the spring, Next Generation Learning Challenges are coming to Twinfield. They host learning excursions to different schools offering engaging and progressive learning opportunities for students. They are very curious about the community partnerships that we have to support student learning.

## Upcoming Events:

Happening Now: Playing Fields event @Danville 6:30-8:30

Sep 13, 2023

- TUS Open House 5:00-6:00

Sep 20, 2023 Wednesday

- Bioblitz

Sep 28, 2023

- Picture Day

Oct 2, 2023

- New School Day Schedule 8:20-2:50

Nov 17, 2023

- Picture Make-Up

## Letter to Community re: Schedule Change

### Twinfield Union School

106 Nasmith Brook Road, Plainfield, VT 05667

802-426-3213

[www.twinfield.net](http://www.twinfield.net)

Rachel Hartman  
Elementary Principal

Stephanie Ainslie  
Secondary Principal

September 8, 2023

Dear Twinfield Families,

We look forward to writing a letter to you that says everything has gone according to plan. That was not the case this summer, and unfortunately, it is not the case now.

**Starting October 2, 2023, all PK-12 students will be arriving at school at 8:20 and departing at 2:50, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday dismissal will be 2:00; arrival time will still be 8:20 for all students. After care will be provided on Wednesdays only from 2:00 to 2:50 until TLC is staffed. Updated bus routes and class schedules will be shared soon.**

We still strongly believe that the split schedule benefited students and had a positive impact on the learning and culture at Twinfield. Our plan to continue the split schedule was made in the spring with the assumption that all of our open positions would be filled. That has not happened, and we are not able to maintain this structure. We are minimally staffed with bus drivers, after-school program staff, and educational support staff. Our bus drivers in particular have worked incredibly hard to make the split schedule work, but it is not sustainable without a full staff.

We know that making this switch after school has already started is not ideal for anyone. Our hope is that families will be able to rely on routines and structures that were effective before our schedule split, and if that is not the case, that new supports are found. Here are the supports we are able to provide:

- Twinfield's doors will be open for students starting at 7:30. Students may wait in the cafeteria until class begins.
- We are staffed for the secondary after-school program offering enrichment opportunities for students in 6th-12th grades. Please contact Matt Hartman for more information.

[matthew.hartman@ccsuvt.net](mailto:matthew.hartman@ccsuvt.net)

802-426-3213 ext 280

Our elementary after-school program is not available at this time. We are still in need of a director and instructional staff. If you or someone you know is interested, the job is posted on <https://www.schoolspring.com/> Search "Twinfield" to view this and other openings we have. We know TLC is a valuable resource for many families, and as soon as we are staffed, we will restart this program.

We know this is a community that cares for and helps their neighbors. We are asking for that community support to continue as families make plans to accommodate this shift. This may take the form of playdates to help with childcare, car pooling, or sharing information about after-school opportunities in the community. If you have additional ideas regarding communal transportation, please join us at Open House to brainstorm and collaborate.

As always, we are available during the school day via phone, email, or a visit at school.

Rachel Hartman and Stephanie Ainslie, Twinfield Co-Principals



**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  
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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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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

**“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.”**



**Caledonia Central Supervisory Union**  
**Office of Student Services**  
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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