

TOWN OF BERKSHIRE



**2019
ANNUAL REPORT**

**RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTY OWNERS**

**FILE FORM: HS 122
(HOMESTEAD DECLARATION)**

**BEFORE APRIL 15, 2020
IF THIS FORM IS NOT FILED YOU WILL
BE CHARGED AT THE NON-RESIDENTIAL
RATE ON YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILL**

&

**FILE FORM: HI 144
(Household Income)**

BEFORE APRIL 15, 2020

**TO GET THE PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENT
ON YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILL**

**WE HAVE A FEW OF THESE
FORMS AT THE OFFICE**

AUDITORS'
ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF
BERKSHIRE
VERMONT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2019

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS

**Berkshire Town Annual Meeting
Monday, March 02, 2020**

&

**Northern Mountain Valley Unified Union School District
Annual Meeting February 19, 2020 @ Montgomery
(Warning Page 37)**

**VOTE AT THE BERKSHIRE TOWN OFFICE
TUESDAY, MARCH 03, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

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RABIES CLINIC

**Stowe Veterinary Clinic will hold a rabies vaccine clinic at the
Berkshire Town Garage
Saturday, March 14, 2020 @ 2pm**

DOG LICENSE

**Dog License are due Wednesday, April 01, 2020.
A 50% penalty fee added thereafter. No advance
notice is sent. It is the responsibility of the owner to
register his or her dog.**

LICENSE FEES INCLUDE \$5.00 STATE FEE

Females	\$13.00	Spayed Females	\$9.00
Males	\$13.00	Neutered Males	\$9.00

Dogs six months of age and up to one year of age must have a current rabies certificate. Dogs one year of age up to two years of age must have rabies certificate dated in the last twelve (12) months. Dogs two years of age must have rabies certificate in the last three years.

DOG LICENSE ACCOUNT 2019

258 Dogs were registered in 2019

**BERKSHIRE HAS A DOG ORDINANCE WHICH STATES
ALL DOGS MUST BE CONTAINED BY SOME TYPE OF LEASH**

ATTENTION

TOWN OF BERKSHIRE RESIDENTS

All residents of the Town of Berkshire are hereby reminded that they are not to plow snow across the road. It is in violation of Vermont Statutes, Title 23 vsa section 1126 and Title 19 vsa section 1105, to plow or blow snow on the town highway. Violators are subject to a fine up to \$1000.00. The violators can be held liable for the actual cost of repairing any damage and for reasonable Attorney's fees. The snow can turn to ice causing a safety hazard for all motorists. When a plow hits these ridges of ice or frozen banks, severe damage can result to the snow removal equipment. All residents and private plow operators are asked to refrain from plowing snow across the road.

Development Review Board & Planning Commission

If you have ever thought about getting involved now is a great time, Berkshire needs more members on both boards which meet once a month.

NEW TOWN GARAGE

The Berkshire Selectboard would like to inform the residents of Berkshire of their proposed plans to build a new town garage in 2021. The Selectboard is in the process of designing the garage and their plan is to send the design out to bid later this year. The proposed start date is sometime next year.

The board has budgeted \$25,000.00 a year for the past 5 years for this project and to date there is a CD at the Community National Bank with \$128,532.77 reserved for this project. The project is estimated to cost \$500,000.00 which would result in yearly payments of approximately \$28,000.00 per year for 15 years. That would be a \$3,000.00 difference from what is already being set aside.

The Selectboard encourages residents to get involved in this project.

NOTES OF INTEREST

**EVERYONE PLEASE PUT YOUR 911 NUMBER
WHERE IT MAY BE SEEN FROM THE ROAD**

**Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes are Due October 02, 2020
At 5:00pm. We do not accept postmarks!!!!!!**

Taxes received after this date will be subject to delinquent fees and interest. **Please Mail Early To Arrive In The Clerk's Office On Or Before The Due Date.** Partial payments may be made on property taxes before the tax notices are mailed out. Payments may be made on current taxes any time until the due date. We will give you a receipt for any payments made. No discount or interest given for early payments.

OFFICE HOURS

**MONDAY thru THURSDAY 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.
CLOSED FROM 12:00-1:00 FOR LUNCH
CLOSED ON FRIDAYS**

ADDRESS

**Berkshire Town Clerk's Office
4454 Watertower Rd, Enosburg Falls, Vt 05450
Phone (802)933-2335 Fax (802)933-5913
Email: townclerk@berkshirevt.com**

VITAL STATISTICS FOR BERKSHIRE

Births:	Males 8	Females 8
Deaths:	Males 10	Females 4
Marriages:	16	

TOWN OFFICERS

Loren Doe	Moderator		
Emily Fecteau	Town Clerk/Treasurer	Term Expires	2020
Todd Kinney	Selectperson	Term Expires	2022
Andy Smith	Selectperson	Term Expires	2020
Anthony Lussier	Selectperson	Term Expires	2020
Tony Archambault	Selectperson	Term Expires	2021
Vincent Hickey	Selectperson	Term Expires	2021
Virginia Messier	Lister	Term Expires	2020
Rachel Roy	Lister	Term Expires	2022
Barbara Field	Auditor	Term Expires	2020
Carol Hickey	Auditor	Term Expires	2021
Linda Sweetser	Auditor	Term Expires	2022
Virginia Messier	Delinquent Tax Collector	Term Expires	2021
Douglas Weld	Town Agent		
Troy Masse	Town Grand Juror		
Charen Fegard	Solid Waste Representative		
Todd Kinney	Health Officer		
Vincent Hickey	Deputy Health Officer		
Anthony Lussier	Inspector of Wood Shingles & Lumber		
Vincent Hickey	Service Organization of the Selectperson		
Vincent Hickey	Energy Coordinator		
Anthony Lussier	Road Commissioner		
Claude Charron	Fire Warden		
Tony Archambault	Deputy Fire Warden		
District Representatives	Charen Fegard		
	Lisa Hango		
State Senators	Corey Parent		
	Randy Brock		

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Vincent Hickey Carol Hickey Barbara Field Paul Hatch
Jeannette Trayah-Messier Jeanne Norris Marilyn "Lynn" Lauffer

FENCE VIEWERS

Claude Charron Orlyn Thompson William Chates

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Ann Lavery

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Carl Ruprecht, Chairperson Claude Charron Margo Sherwood
Jason Jutras Russell Ford Jason Doe

PLANNING BOARD

Russell Ford Claude Charron Jay Tremblay
James Lariviere Margo Sherwood Chairperson
Kristine Koch Walter Elander

TOWN OFFICERS' BOND

VLCT Insurance Agency

Emily Fecteau	Town Clerk	\$50,000
Emily Fecteau	Treasurer	\$50,000
Virginia Messier	Asst Town Clerk	\$2,000
Virginia Messier	Del. Tax Collector	\$2,000
Tony Archambault	Selectperson	\$1,000
Vincent Hickey	Selectperson	\$1,000
Anthony Lussier	Selectperson	\$1,000
Todd Kinney	Selectperson	\$1,000
Andy Smith	Selectperson	\$1,000
Danny Kennison	Road Foreman	\$1,000

WARNING 2020 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The legally qualified Voters of the Town of Berkshire are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Berkshire Elementary School on **Monday, March 02, 2020 at 7:00 PM** to transact the following business:

Articles 2 and 4 pertaining to the election of officers, and budget will be voted on by **Australian Ballot at the Berkshire Town Clerk's Office Tuesday, March 03, 2020** at which time the polls will open at 10:00 AM in the forenoon and will close at 7:00 PM in the afternoon.

Article 1: To receive and act on the report of the Town Officers for the past year.

Article 2: (A) A Town Moderator for the ensuing year.
(B) A Town Clerk/Treasurer for a term of three years.
(C) A Selectperson for a term of three years.
(D) A Selectperson for a term of two years.
(E) An Auditor for a term of three years.
(F) A Lister for a term of three years.
(G) A Lister for a term of two years.
(H) A Town Agent for a term of one year.
(I) A Town Grand Juror for a term of one year.

Article 3: Shall the Town of Berkshire authorize and empower the Selectboard to borrow money on credit for the Town for current expenditures in anticipation of taxes and to meet any deficit of the Town if expenditures exceed the estimated revenues and further authorize the issuance of notes?

Article 4: Shall the Town of Berkshire approve the proposed 2020 budget in the amount of **\$1,026,874.00** to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing year to cover any present indebtedness of the Town and other loans, State and County taxes and other ordinary expenses with amount of **\$726,936.23** to be raised by taxes?

Article 5: Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to receive and expend for the Town purpose any additional revenue in excess of those calculated in determining the proposed budget for the year beginning January 01, 2020?

Article 6: To transact any other non-binding business properly coming before this meeting.

Dated

Selectboard

Attest: Town Clerk

Jan. 20, 2020

Vincent Hechey
Andrew Smith
Wesley
Todd Kinney

TOWN ASSETS

Checkbook Balance December 31, 2019	\$ 171,544.48
Delinquent Taxes	<u>\$ 53,624.91</u>
Total Assets:	\$ 225,169.39

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE

Liabilities

Taxes Owed to School	\$ 60,000.00
Paving Reserve	\$ 107,014.40
Land Record Reserve	\$ 4,624.22
Planning Reserve	<u>\$ 2,678.00</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ 174,316.62

Available Cash Forward	\$ 50,852.77
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COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

12/31/2019

CURRENT ASSETS

	12/31/2018	12/31/2019
Delinquent Taxes	\$ 76,706.48	\$ 53,624.91
Checking Account	<u>\$ 86,703.25</u>	<u>\$ 171,544.48</u>
	\$ 163,409.73	\$ 225,169.39

CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2018	2019
Total Assets	\$ 163,409.73	\$ 225,169.39
Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 64,166.89</u>	<u>\$ 174,316.62</u>
	\$ 99,242.84	\$ 50,852.77

Taxes Billed 2019

	Grand List	Tax Rate	Taxes Raised
Municipal Grand List	\$1,281,045.42	0.0899	\$115,166.01
Highway Grand List	\$1,281,045.42	0.4069	\$521,257.39
Local Agreement	\$1,281,045.42	0.0046	\$5,892.81
Homestead Education	\$856,091.00	1.2901	\$1,104,443.02
Non Residential Education	\$423,655.55	1.5489	\$656,200.05
Late Homestead Penalty			<u>\$208.07</u>
		Total Tax	\$2,403,167.35

Taxes as Billed

Taxes Collected as of October 04, 2019	\$2,238,568.13
Net delinquent for October 04, 2019	\$128,637.12
Taxes Collected After October 4, 2019	\$83,109.25
Total Delinquent December 31, 2019	\$53,624.91

2019 Taxes	\$2,238,568.13
School Taxes Paid by Town	\$1,429,055.95
State Paid School Tax	<u>\$333,472.72</u>
	\$476,039.46

Town Report Budget 2019

	A	B	C	D
1		2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
2	Taxes Revenue			
3	Current taxes	\$636,537.84	\$476,039.46	\$726,936.23
4	Unreserved Fund Balance	\$99,242.84	\$0.00	\$50,852.77
5	Delinquent Taxes collected	\$0.00	\$151,725.02	\$0.00
6	Int. on Delinquent Taxes	\$7,000.00	\$10,807.78	\$7,000.00
7	School Tax Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$35,066.23	\$0.00
8	Hold Harmless	\$90,000.00	\$95,697.00	\$95,000.00
9	Total Tax Revenue	\$832,780.68	\$769,335.49	\$879,789.00
10				
11				
12	Zoning Fees			
13	Zoning Permits	\$1,500.00	\$1,015.00	\$1,300.00
14	Occupancy/Compliance Permits	\$1,000.00	\$1,152.00	\$1,000.00
15	Variances/Subdivision	\$1,000.00	\$756.00	\$1,000.00
16	Highway Permits	\$400.00	\$460.00	\$450.00
17	Driveway Permits	\$100.00	\$195.00	\$100.00
18	Total Zoning Fees	\$4,000.00	\$3,578.00	\$3,850.00
19				
20	Other Revenue			
21	Recording Fees	\$13,500.00	\$14,061.25	\$14,000.00
22	Dog Licenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,235.00	\$1,000.00
23	Liquor Licenses	\$185.00	\$185.00	\$185.00
24	State Reappraisal Funds	\$7,000.00	\$7,125.00	\$7,000.00
25	Interest on Statements	\$750.00	\$1,973.27	\$1,000.00
26	Town Report Reimburse	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
27	Land Use Change Tax	\$0.00	\$2,366.50	\$0.00
28	Civil Fines	\$200.00	\$38.50	\$100.00
29	Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$1,137.14	\$500.00
30	Total Other Revenue	\$23,135.00	\$28,121.66	\$24,235.00
31				
32	Total REVENUES	\$859,915.68	\$801,035.15	\$907,874.00
33				
34	Other Revenue			
35	St. Aid-Roads	\$118,000.00	\$119,311.73	\$119,000.00
36	North Rd Project	\$0.00	\$5,697.06	\$0.00
37	Total Other Revenue	\$118,000.00	\$125,008.79	\$119,000.00
38				
39	Total All Funds	\$977,915.68	\$926,043.94	\$1,026,874.00
40				

Town Report Budget 2019

	A	B	C	D
41		2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
42	Office Payroll			
43	Town Clerk Pay	\$24,947.00	\$24,985.96	\$25,447.00
44	Town Treasurer Pay	\$14,285.00	\$14,246.04	\$14,570.00
45	Assistant Pay	\$20,500.00	\$19,678.22	\$20,500.00
46	Lister Pay	\$15,000.00	\$12,263.50	\$15,000.00
47	Auditors Pay	\$600.00	\$364.00	\$600.00
48	Selectperson Pay	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
49	Health Officer Pay	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
50	BCA Pay	\$400.00	\$75.00	\$400.00
51	Planning & Zoning	\$1,300.00	\$780.00	\$1,300.00
52	Custodian Pay	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
53	Zoning Administrator	\$5,000.00	\$3,673.00	\$5,000.00
54	General Share FICA/MEDI	\$7,000.00	\$7,548.35	\$8,000.00
55	Retirement	\$2,100.00	\$1,015.61	\$2,100.00
56	Health Insurance	\$16,181.52	\$16,181.52	\$18,662.40
57	Total Office Payroll	\$114,613.52	\$108,111.20	\$118,879.40
58				
59	Office Expenses			
60	Postage	\$2,000.00	\$1,837.85	\$2,250.00
61	Advertising	\$500.00	\$828.90	\$750.00
62	Copier	\$2,900.00	\$2,489.11	\$2,500.00
63	Computer Expense	\$4,000.00	\$3,226.52	\$3,000.00
64	Office Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$1,753.37	\$2,000.00
65	Listers Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$166.28	\$500.00
66	Training/Seminars	\$3,000.00	\$3,192.44	\$2,000.00
67	Nemrc Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
68	Mileage	\$1,200.00	\$586.00	\$800.00
69	Office Telephone	\$2,000.00	\$1,686.32	\$2,000.00
70	Office Heat	\$2,500.00	\$3,002.01	\$3,000.00
71	Office Electricity	\$1,500.00	\$1,106.61	\$1,500.00
72	Lawn Mowing	\$2,500.00	\$876.00	\$2,500.00
73	Microfilming	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
74	Office Maintenance	\$4,500.00	\$4,512.75	\$4,500.00
75	Total Office Expense	\$31,600.00	\$27,264.16	\$35,300.00
76				
77	General Expenses			
78	Street Lights	\$7,500.00	\$7,358.24	\$7,500.00
79	Franklin County Tax	\$10,801.56	\$10,803.72	\$11,000.00
80	Vt. League of Cities & Towns	\$3,050.00	\$3,050.00	\$3,175.00
81	NW Regional Planning	\$1,874.00	\$1,874.00	\$1,929.00
82	Legal Fees	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
83	Fire Department	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00
84	Ambulance Enosburg	\$41,165.55	\$41,162.31	\$41,987.79
85	Dispatch Fee	\$16,100.00	\$16,469.00	\$20,532.00
86	Elections Expenses	\$700.00	\$520.00	\$1,500.00
87	Town Report Expense	\$1,500.00	\$1,480.25	\$1,500.00
88	Dog Expense	\$3,500.00	\$3,310.11	\$3,500.00
89	Property/Casualty Insurance	\$42,076.00	\$42,504.00	\$45,457.00
90	Northwest Solid Waste	\$1,711.00	\$1,711.00	\$1,728.00
91	Planning Expense	\$1,000.00	\$901.60	\$1,000.00

Town Report Budget 2019

	A	B	C	D
92		2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
93	Reappraisal	\$7,000.00	\$7,125.00	\$7,000.00
94	Interest Line of Credit	\$2,000.00	\$3,335.78	\$3,000.00
95	Unemployment Fund	\$1,200.00	\$1,005.06	\$1,200.00
96	Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	\$678.04	\$1,000.00
97	Total General Expenses	\$174,178.11	\$170,288.11	\$185,008.79
98				
99	Total General & Office Expense	\$320,391.63	\$305,663.47	\$339,188.19
100				
101	Voted Appropriations			
102	Franklin County Home Health	\$3,553.00	\$3,553.00	\$3,553.00
103	Northwest Counseling	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
104	St. Albans Family Center	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
105	Age Well (formerly CVAA)	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00
106	Franklin County Ind. Develop. Corp	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
107	Green Mountain Transit Agency	\$1,319.00	\$1,319.00	\$1,319.00
108	Vt Ctr for Independent Living	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00
109	Franklin County Animal Rescue	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
110	Voice Against Violence	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
111	Richford Summer Camp	\$2,900.00	\$2,900.00	\$2,900.00
112	Northwest Unit Investigation	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
113	Berkshire Recreation Committee	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
114	Care Partners Adult Daycare	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
115	VT Rural Fire Protection Force	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
116	Green Up	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
117	Total Voted Appropriations	\$17,102.00	\$17,102.00	\$17,102.00
118				
119	Total Office & General	\$337,493.63	\$322,765.47	\$356,290.19
120				
121	Highway Payroll	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
122	Highway Pay	\$172,000.00	\$179,576.46	\$180,000.00
123	Highway FICA/Medi	\$14,000.00	\$13,228.58	\$14,000.00
124	Retirement	\$9,000.00	\$3,863.58	\$9,000.00
125	Health Insurance	\$32,363.04	\$31,014.58	\$37,324.80
126	Total Highway Payroll	\$227,363.04	\$227,683.20	\$240,324.80
127				
128	Highway Utilities			
129	Highway Telephone	\$1,100.00	\$1,204.99	\$1,300.00
130	Highway Heat	\$3,000.00	\$4,016.52	\$3,500.00
131	Highway Electricity	\$2,000.00	\$1,486.15	\$1,500.00
132	Highway Garbage Removal	\$1,500.00	\$1,337.00	\$1,500.00
133	Total Highway Utilities	\$7,600.00	\$8,044.66	\$7,800.00
134				
135	Highway Outside Services			
136	Hired Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$2,110.00	\$5,000.00
137	Rented Equipment	\$10,000.00	\$8,845.00	\$10,000.00
138	Stripping	\$4,000.00	\$1,750.00	\$2,000.00
139	Crushing	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00
140	Paving/resurfacing	\$110,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$125,000.00
141	Total Highway Outside Services	\$142,000.00	\$137,705.00	\$149,500.00

Town Report Budget 2019

	A	B	C	D
142	Special Projects	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
143	Tax Mapping	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	\$1,000.00
144	Garage Septic/Water	\$10,000.00	\$4,600.00	\$10,000.00
145	New Garage Reserve	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
146	Thompson Culvert Project	\$0.00	\$945.39	\$0.00
147	North Rd Project	\$0.00	\$1,559.98	\$0.00
148	Municipal General Roads Permit	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
149	Total Special Projects	\$38,000.00	\$32,905.37	\$38,000.00
150				
151	Maintenance			
152	Garage Maintenance/Supplies	\$7,500.00	\$9,844.57	\$8,500.00
153	Truck 3 (2017)	\$6,000.00	\$5,406.43	\$6,000.00
154	Truck 1 (2007)	\$15,000.00	\$18,561.74	\$15,000.00
155	Truck 2 (2012)	\$6,000.00	\$14,689.82	\$8,500.00
156	Loader (2015)	\$1,500.00	\$1,875.40	\$1,500.00
157	Mower/ Tractor /Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$698.86	\$1,000.00
158	Sifter (1990)	\$2,000.00	\$1,181.57	\$2,000.00
159	Plows & Sanders	\$8,000.00	\$7,909.06	\$8,000.00
160	Trailer	\$1,000.00	\$186.11	\$1,000.00
161	Chipper (1984)	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
162	Grader (2013)	\$4,000.00	\$2,660.10	\$4,000.00
163	Minor Equipment	\$2,000.00	\$921.22	\$2,000.00
164	General Vehicle Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$5,931.21	\$6,000.00
165	Diesel	\$35,000.00	\$36,542.46	\$40,000.00
166	Gasoline	\$2,000.00	\$888.49	\$2,000.00
167	Radio Repair & Testing	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
168	Equipment Fund	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
169	Total Maintenance	\$128,000.00	\$137,297.04	\$136,500.00
170				
171	Materials			
172	Salt	\$25,000.00	\$32,283.07	\$30,000.00
173	Chloride	\$30,000.00	\$22,450.39	\$25,000.00
174	Highway Materials	\$5,000.00	\$2,074.43	\$5,000.00
175	Culverts	\$5,000.00	\$4,767.60	\$10,000.00
176	Road Signs	\$2,000.00	\$2,455.02	\$2,000.00
177	Guard Rails	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
178	Total Materials	\$72,000.00	\$64,030.51	\$73,000.00
179				
180	Total Highway	\$614,963.04	\$607,665.78	\$645,124.80
181				
182	Debt Services			
183	Truck Payment/Interest (2017)	\$25,459.01	\$25,459.01	\$25,459.01
184	Total Debt Services	\$25,459.01	\$25,459.01	\$25,459.01
185				
186	Total Expenditures debt/highway	\$640,422.05	\$633,124.79	\$670,583.81
187	=====	=====	=====	=====
188	TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$977,915.68	\$955,890.26	\$1,026,874.00

General Ledger Long Term Debt

12/31/2019

Truck 2017	Interest Rate 2%	Maturity	4/7/2021
	Balance January 01, 2019	\$	72,000.00
	Principal Payment	\$	24,000.00
	Balance December 31, 2019	\$	48,000.00

Restricted Funds

Reappraisal CD's	Balance	December 31, 2019	\$	75,180.63
Equipment CD	Balance	December 31, 2019	\$	62,123.81
New Garage CD	Balance	December 31, 2019	\$	128,532.77

Cemeteries

Collected from Florence E Gibson Estate

\$ 196.24

East Berkshire Cemetery Assoc. \$98.12

Berkshire Ctr. Cemetery Assoc. \$98.12

TREASURER REPORT

General

Current Taxes	\$476,039.46
Zoning Fees	\$3,578.00
Other Revenue	\$28,121.66
Interest Delinquent Taxes	\$10,807.78
Delinquent Taxes	\$151,725.02
School Tax Refund	\$35,066.23
Hold Harmless	\$95,697.00
Total	\$801,035.15

Highway

State Aide to Roads	\$119,311.73
North Rd Grant	\$5,697.06
Total	\$125,008.79

Grand Total	\$926,043.94
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SELECTBOARD REPORT

Salaries	\$262,942.18
FICA	\$20,776.93
Office Expense	\$27,264.16
General Expense	\$170,288.11
Health Insurance	\$47,196.10
Retirement	\$4,879.19
Appropriations	\$17,102.00
Highway Utilities	\$8,044.66
Highway Outside Services	\$137,705.00
Highway Maintenance	\$137,297.04
Highway Materials	\$64,030.51
Truck 2017 Payment/Interest	\$25,459.01
Special Projects	<u>\$32,905.37</u>
Grand Total	\$955,890.26

Statement of Delinquent Taxes

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

YEAR	TAX Balance	Collections	Abated	Balance
2016	\$2,463.68	\$2,463.68		\$0.00
2017	\$13,923.31	\$11,949.22		\$1,974.09
2018	\$60,286.47	\$54,163.52		\$6,122.95
2019	\$128,637.12	\$83,109.25		\$45,527.87
	\$205,310.58	\$151,685.67		\$53,624.91

2017

Aldrich Rodney
 Bessette Anthony
 Johnson/Fliss
 Nichols Leonard

2018

Aldrich Rodney
 Bessette Anthony
 Donna Ryan & Bailey
 Friot Anita & Randy
 L Esperance Steven
 Lahue Bryan & Jessie
 Nichols Leonard

2019

Aldrich Rodney
 Aubut Patrice
 Bessette Anthony
 Blake Mark
 Byam Arnold & Louise
 Carr Roger
 Conger Sr Robert & Sheila
 Conger III Robert
 Davenport James
 Desmarais Richard
 Donna Bailey & Ryan
 Friot Randy
 Greenwood Paul
 Hardy Jonas
 L'Esperance Steven
 Lahue Bryan & Jessica

Lontine Shannon
Malloy Timothy
Martin Robert
Martin Ronald
Myott Dean
Nichols Leonard
Paquette Tira
Peters Jr Robert
Randall Mikeal
Rondeau Ketih
Shea Sheila
St Cyr John & Amanda
Tessier Paul

SUMMARY

Taxes Received for Collection

Delinquent	\$68,576.42
Current Late	\$83,109.25
Total	\$151,685.67

Interest

Interest Received as of December 31,2019	\$10,807.78
Interest Due as of December 31, 2019	\$2,397.10

BERKSHIRE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

REVENUE 2019

January 1, 2019	Balance on Hand	\$149,894.45
Income 2019		
Town of Berkshire	\$27,000.00	
Marcy Estate	\$756.07	
Interest on CD	\$615.03	
Donations	\$1,380.00	
Total:	\$29,751.10	<u>\$29,751.10</u>
		Total: <u>\$179,645.55</u>
Office	\$182.00	
Electric	\$951.44	
Telephone	\$870.67	
Heat	\$4,324.71	
Equipment	\$937.26	
Dues & Licenses	\$125.00	
Truck Repairs	\$2,245.78	
Misc.	\$3,590.34	
Radio	<u>\$2,025.00</u>	
	\$15,252.20	Total: <u>\$15,252.20</u>
December 31, 2019	Balance on Hand	\$164,393.35

To anyone interested in joining the Fire Department, we meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at the Fire Station. We do have some new faces and are looking for more.

To report a fire: Dial 911. Be prepared to give the dispatcher **your name, location and a telephone number where you can be reached** for call back information if necessary. Do not assume that the Fire Department will automatically know where you are located. For this reason, we suggest that property owners give thought to what information is necessary so police, fire departments, and ambulances can arrive as quickly as possible when the need arises. Additional information that is helpful: town road names and numbers, highway route numbers, local land marks, or the name of neighbors who are well known in the community.

Respectfully submitted: Berkshire Volunteer Fire Department

OFFICERS

Tony Archambault-Chief	Jamie Archambault-Asst. Chief
Taylor Laplant-Captain	Andy Smith-Treasurer
Chris Smith-Captain	

FIREFIGHTERS

Robert Archambault	Eric Benware	David Kennison
Joey Judd	Dustin Broe	Jason Jutras
Josh Randall	Brad St.Pierre	Claude Charron
Dean Randall	Chris Dudley	James Noel
Adam LeClair	Nathan Moore	

Town of Berkshire Vermont

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

ZONING OFFICE

4454 WATER TOWER ROAD

Berkshire, Vermont 05450

Ann E. Lavery, Zoning Administrator

2019

The Berkshire Zoning Office received 41 various applications during 2019.

This is the first year in my ten years as Zoning Administrator that there has not been an application for a new home.

The 41 applications were broken down into the following categories:

- *Fifteen Certificates of Compliance
- *Four Subdivisions
- *Two Additions to current dwellings
- *Twelve Accessory Use Structures
- *One Renewal
- *Two Agricultural Buildings
- *Two Boundary Line Adjustments
- *Three requiring No Action. This due to the change in By-Laws.

Jason Jutras was appointed to the Development Review Board in May.

The DRB welcomes Jason! Current members of the DRB are: Carl Ruprecht; Chair, Claude Charron, Jason Doe, Russell Ford, Jason Jutras, and Margo Sherwood.

The DRB is still seeking new members...Are you interested ? The Board meets the second Thursday of every month at 7PM.

It is a pleasure to work with the residents of Berkshire. I look forward to another productive year. If at anytime you need assistance please contact me. Regular office hours are Mondays from 9-Noon, or anytime by request.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann E. Lavery



Enosburgh Ambulance Service
PO Box 465
Enosburg Falls, Vermont 05450



Annual Subscription

MEMBERSHIP

The Cost is \$65 per household / Per Year (membership fee provides local emergency medical ambulance service to you and your listed dependents as medically needed in the Enosburgh Ambulance 911 response area.)

The principal subscriber and all persons living in the household residing in our normal call area will be covered under this membership.

Enosburgh Ambulance Service reserves the right to bill any available third party insurance agency. Additional donations are tax deductible.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

The Cost is \$65 per business and \$5 per Employee (Please list employees on a separate sheet)

Enosburgh Ambulance Subscription Application

☐

NEW

☐

RENEWAL

Please Print

Subscriber _____

Mailing Address _____ **Apt #** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____

PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE AGREEMENT BELOW

List Current Dependents

I hereby apply for Enosburgh Ambulance Service membership for myself and my dependents listed.

I understand that the \$65 per family per year membership fee provides local emergency medical ambulance service to me and my listed dependents as medically needed in the Enosburgh Ambulance 911 response area. The membership fee will cover any applicable deductible or co-payments. I understand that this membership permits Enosburgh Ambulance Service to collect directly from any third party agency whatever benefits may be available at no charge to me or my family, and that this membership is nonrefundable and is nontransferable. I request payment of authorized Medicare benefits and/or other insurance benefits be made on my behalf to Enosburgh Ambulance Service, for any ambulance services and supplies furnished to me by Enosburgh Ambulance Service whether in the past, present or in the future. I authorize any holder of medical information about me or other relevant documentation about me to be released to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and its agents and contractors, and all appropriate third party payers, whether in the past, present or in the future.

Please send application and check to: Enosburgh Ambulance Service, PO Box 465, Enosburg Falls, VT 05450



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

**White River Junction VA Medical Center
215 North Main Street
White River Junction, VT 05009
866-687-8387 (Toll Free)
802-295-9363 (Commercial)**

In Reply Refer to: 405/00

December 23rd, 2019

Dear Veteran,

The White River Junction VA Medical Center is attempting to contact all Veterans in our catchment area of Vermont and New Hampshire who are not enrolled or are enrolled and no longer utilizing our services. If you currently receive our services, please pass this note on to a Veteran who may benefit.

We offer a wide variety of services including assistance to Veterans who are homeless or unemployed to providing primary and specialty care. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support, group sessions, and more. There is a designated treatment area for our women Veterans at the Women's Comprehensive Care Clinic; a safe space.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community-based outpatient clinics. They are located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. We are here to serve all Veterans, please do not hesitate to contact us, if for no other reason than to register/enroll with us in case of future need.

Our eligibility office in White River Junction can be reached at 802-295-9363 extension 5118. A single form - VA form 10-10EZ – and a copy of the DD214 is all that is needed.

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have full time service officers that are knowledgeable about our programs. These independent organizations serve all Veterans including nonmembers in processing disability and pension claims. They can be reached in White River Junction at:

American Legion	802-296-5166
Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168

Thank you for your service to our nation. On behalf of the White River Junction VA Medical Center team, we look forward to serving you.

Respectfully;

**Becky Rhoads, Au.D.
Associate Medical Center Director**



NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Town Report, 2019 - Berkshire

Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) is a multi-purpose governmental organization created by the municipalities of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. NRPC implements a variety of projects and programs tailored to local, regional and statewide needs. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by two locally appointed members to the Board of Commissioners.

2019 BERKSHIRE TOWN PROJECTS

- Provided technical assistance in planning and zoning.
- Completed revisions to the Land Development Regulations, including the development of a municipal buildout analysis and completion of a municipal survey.
- Compiled updates for the Local Emergency Management Plan and ensured compliance with state standards.
- Updated the E-911 maps.
- Drafted a municipal energy plan including the data and maps required by the Vermont Department of Public Service standards
- Compiled data updates and revisions to the Town Plan which will expire in 2020.
- Consulted with local officials, identified projects and provided technical assistance for Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid construction projects and equipment purchase.

This year the Commission will assist our member municipalities with Municipal Roads General Permit compliance, water quality project implementation, local energy planning, emergency preparedness, brownfields redevelopment and other needed services. NRPC will implement the new marketing plan for the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail and grow the Healthy Roots Collaborative - a local food and farm viability program now coordinated by NRPC. The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; however, each year we do request a per capita assessment in support of local and regional activities and to provide matching funds for state and federal programs.

Your continued support for local and regional planning is greatly appreciated. NRPC is your resource - please call on us for assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, mapping or other needs.

Berkshire Town Regional Commissioners - Claude Charron & Vincent Hickey

Transportation Advisory Committee - Anthony Lussier

Clean Water Advisory Committee - Jason Doe

NRPC Projects & Programs

Municipal plan and bylaw updates, technical assistance for local permitting

Brownfields site assessments, clean-ups and redevelopment plans

Transportation planning, coordination, and project development

Bike and pedestrian planning and project management

Emergency preparedness, disaster recovery and resilience

Energy conservation, renewable energy plans and projects

Watershed planning and stormwater project management

Regional plans for growth and development

Geographic Information System maps and data

Downtown and village revitalization and community development

Grant writing and administration

Associated Projects & Programs Managed by NRPC

Healthy Roots Collaborative

Northern Vermont Economic Development District

Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail

Northwest Vermont Regional Foundation, Inc.

Address: 75 Fairfield Street,
St. Albans, VT 05478

Phone: (802) 524-5958

Fax: (802) 527-2948

Website: www.nrpcvt.com

Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District 2019 Supervisors' Report

The Northwest Solid Waste District's (NWSWD) mission is to provide for the efficient, economical, and environmentally-sound reduction, reuse, recycling, and finally disposal of solid waste. 2019 was a great year for waste reduction and recycling in the NWSWD - our efforts resulted in the District successfully diverting more waste from the landfill than any year before! Waste diverted was recycled or reused and helped conserve resources and keep toxic materials out of Vermont landfills.

The District increased our programs and services like composting, hazardous waste disposal, and reuse. We also offered more workshops and increased our ability to pass on useful information through channels like farmers' markets, fairs, and the internet. These efforts helped Franklin and Grand Isle Counties reduce the waste they sent to the landfill. We measure our success by looking at the weight of waste that we sent to the landfill and what we were able to divert through reuse and recycling. All of this work shows in the amount of waste we diverted from the landfill this year. Some of this year's highlights include:

- District communities collectively diverted 31% of their waste from the landfill.
- **District operations diverted 1,860 tons of waste from the landfill in 2019! This is an over 7% increase from 2018!!**
- NWSWD facilities recycled over 97 tons of e-waste.
- Staff held seven "Backyard Composting" classes for residents.
- Engaged member communities and businesses through our outreach program that made contact with over 300 businesses in our region.
- Collected almost 40 tons of hazardous material from 1936 households through our Household Hazardous Waste program. That's almost 25% more households served than last year!
- Our Close the Loop compost program experienced incredible growth and we collected 420 tons of food scraps from businesses, institutions, and residents to be turned into compost.

NWSWD by the Numbers

In the NWSWD, five District operated recycling drop-off sites in Georgia, Montgomery, Bakersfield, St. Albans, and North Hero, two member town run sites (Alburgh and Grand Isle), and mandatory curbside recycling by registered waste haulers allows easy access to recycling for all residents. Overall in 2019, through recycling, reuse and composting, District residents were able to divert 31% of waste created from the landfill! After all of this work the average NWSWD resident sent just 3.3 pounds of waste to the landfill per day. The national average is over 4.5 pounds per day. Way to go!

Through our District operated sites and programs, this year we disposed of 875 tons of trash and recycled or diverted 1,860 tons of material including 595 tons of blue-bin recyclables. This sets the diversion rate for District services at 68%.

All District staff members are available through the District office at (802)524-5986 or info@nswsd.org. For more information about the District and our services, how to reduce and recycle your waste, or how to get involved, call District staff at the above number or come visit at 158 Morse Drive in Georgia (we even give tours of our Recycling Center). You can also visit us on the web at www.nswsd.org, find us on Facebook, and sign-up for our e-mail updates. More information can also be found in our newsletter available at your Town Meeting.

NWSWD Board of Supervisors

**THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
TOWN OF BERKSHIRE
SUMMARY REPORT**

Request Amount: \$180.00

For the last 40 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'19 (10/2018-9/2019) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **250** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **6** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **163** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **122** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **86** individuals with information on assistive technology; **46** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **499** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) which served **40** people and provided **31** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont. Our Windham County office also houses the Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS) (previously under the VT Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) and provides statewide interpreter referral services for sign language, spoken English and CART services for assignments in medical, legal, mental health, employment, educational, civil and recreational settings.

During FY'19, VCIL provided direct services to Vermont residents utilizing the following programs/services:

- Information, Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)
- Home Access Program (HAP)
- Meals on Wheels (MOW)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling (PAC)
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)
- Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at:
1-800-639-1522, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc.
Information Sheet
Berkshire
FY 2019

What is Franklin County Home Health Agency?

Franklin County Home Health Agency is a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation that has proudly provided residents Franklin County with high quality, comprehensive home health, hospice, long term care and wellness services since 1969.

What is the Agency's Mission and Purpose?

We provide high quality health care services in home and community settings. We are committed to excellence. We meet the needs of our clients in a professional manner that promotes health, independence, comfort, dignity and quality of life.

What is the Agency's service area?

The Agency serves all 15 towns in Franklin County through our two offices – one in St. Albans and one in Enosburg Falls. We serve people of all ages.

How many patients did the Agency serve in 2019?

The Agency made a total of 67,415 visits to 2,208 Franklin County residents.

We made the 927 visits to 52 residents of Berkshire:

494	Nursing
161	Physical Therapy
20	Speech Language Pathology
19	Occupational Therapy
14	Medical Social Work
92	Licensed Nursing Assistant
27	Personal Care Attendants
1	Volunteers
1	Volunteer Coordinator
98	Long Term Care Coordinator

How many people does the Agency employ?

The Agency currently has a staff of 170 Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Medical Social Workers, Licensed Nursing Assistants, Care Attendants, Homemakers, and Office Support Staff.

What are the Agency's Programs and Services?

Home Care: We provide medically necessary home health services to people of all ages. Examples include individuals who need wound care, a person newly diagnosed with diabetes needing insulin administration and instruction, or a mother and newborn newly discharged from the hospital.

Home Telemonitoring Program: We use state of the art technology to remotely monitor our patients' weight, blood pressure, heart rate and oxygen status to help improve their health condition and avoid hospitalization.

Hospice: We care for people with serious illness for whom the prognosis is less than six months of life. The focus of this care is on achieving comfort and quality of life.

Palliative Care: This program balances advanced medical technology with the wishes of each individual client by focusing on psychological, physical, social and spiritual needs by providing a strong support system to help the client and family cope during the serious illness. This program understands that maintaining quality of life is an important aspect of care.

Long Term Care: We help disabled and older members of our community with personal care, housekeeping, meal preparation, errands and shopping to allow them to stay independent in their own home.

Maternal Child Health Program and Childbirth Education Program: We help to prepare pregnant women for a healthy pregnancy, labor and delivery, breastfeeding and new infant care.

In addition, we offer infusion therapy, foot clinics, grief and bereavement services and wellness services to our community.

How are services paid for?

As a Medicare certified Agency, we receive reimbursement from Medicare, Medicaid and other third party insurances. In 2019 we received 79 percent of our revenue from Medicare and Medicaid.

We are committed to providing medically necessary home care services to all those in need regardless of their ability to pay. Without individual town appropriations and donor gifts, our ability to provide care could be adversely impacted.

Why does the Agency need money from towns?

The Agency depends on the money received from towns to subsidize the cost of care provided to patients who are uninsured or underinsured. Last year the Agency provided more than \$170,190 in free and subsidized care.

Where can you call for more information about Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc.?

For more information about the Agency or the services we provide please call (802) 527-7531 or visit our website at www.fchha.org.



Berkshire FY19 Annual Report

Who We Are

GMT is the public transportation provider for the northwest and central regions of Vermont, offering a variety of services to the communities in which we serve. GMT is proud to offer traditional public transportation services like commuter, deviated fixed routes and demand response shuttles, while providing individualized services such as shopping and health care shuttles, Medicaid, Elderly and Disabled services to both urban and rural communities.

Our Services

Elderly/Disabled/Medicaid Individual Service

GMT, in partnership with Champlain Valley Agency on Aging and CIDER, provides ongoing individual medical and non-medical transportation service to those who qualify for Medicaid, Elderly and Disabled funds and/ or both. GMT offers the scheduling and payment of rides provided through volunteer drivers, special shuttle, bus and/or cab service. GMT also provides transportation for critical care such as radiation and dialysis treatments regardless of age or disability. Individual service offers access to:

- Medical appointments
- Meal site programs
- Senior Center/Adult Day Care
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Prescription and Shopping
- Mental Health and Human Services
- Radiation and Dialysis Treatment
- Physical Therapy

GMT provided 70 rides to residents of Berkshire

General Public Transportation Service

GMT provides the Franklin Grand Isle region with traditional public transportation service through deviated fixed route, commuter routes, weekly shopping shuttle and direct regional connections to Chittenden County. These services directly support regional economic development, individual savings and environmental stewardship. Current routes for the region include:

- St. Albans LINK Express
- St. Albans Shuttle
- Alburgh-Georgia Commuter
- Richford-St. Albans Commuter
- Price Chopper Shopping Shuttle

GMT Volunteer Driver Program

In addition to shuttle vehicles, GMT uses an extensive network of Volunteer Drivers to provide coordinated and caring rides throughout our rural service area. Volunteer Drivers are essential in providing cost effective and community driven services, and are the foundation of our special services. Drivers are reimbursed for the miles they drive and provide services under the management of GMT.

Thank You

Thank you to Berkshire taxpayers and officials for your continued financial support of GMT's public transportation service and for your commitment to efficient transportation solutions.

Information

Please feel free to contact Jenn Wood, Public Affairs & Community Relations Manager with questions or to request additional information on GMT services at 802.864.2282 or jwood@RideGMT.com.

101 Queen City Park Road, Burlington, VT 05401 | T: 802-864-2282 F: 802-864-5564
6088 VT Route 12, Berlin, VT 05602 | T: 802-223-7287 F: 802-223-6236
375 Lake Road, Suite 5, St. Albans, VT 05478 | T: 802-527-2181 F: 802-527-5302

Voices Against Violence

Annual Report 2018/2019



Social justice work is the cornerstone of our mission. While we work with individual survivors, family members and friends on a daily basis, we work in partnership with the greater community, state, country to strive towards social and systemic change to better address the needs of survivors. In my 40 years doing this work that I care so deeply about, I have learned so much from survivors about resilience, courage, hopefulness and strength enriching my life in ways I never could have imagined. And I have seen much change.

But our work in transforming a world where all people can live in peace and safety in big and small ways is never done. Awareness plus Action = Social Change! It takes the collective voice and power of individuals, families, communities and systems—each of which adds a valuable component to this important work.

Thank you for all you do to make our community a better place for all!

#believesurvivors

Kris Lukens

Mission

Voices Against Violence works toward the elimination of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking through direct service, prevention and social change.



HIGHLIGHTS AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Our Outreach and Education Coordinator partnered with BFA Technical Center to create opportunities for student internships with Voices. It has allowed 2 students interested in our mission to work along side of us to create meaningful messages and events geared to youth in our community.
- An outcome of a collaborative project with The Pride Center, Migrant Justice, and our sister programs in Chittenden and Addison Counties, was a website focused on services and resources available in English and Spanish.
- In addition to providing shelter in Laurie's House, staff worked with over 100 additional survivors in alternative emergency housing throughout the year. We saw the biggest increase in requests for safe housing in our history.
- Our Advocacy Coordinator, along with other advocates across the state provided testimony for housing protections for survivors. As a result, a comprehensive Housing Bill was passed!
- Advocates are doing more work around the intersectionality of domestic violence, substance use and mental health leading to stronger collaborations with community partners and more trauma informed options for survivors.

VOICES STAFF

Kendell Kamansky—Legal Services
Sophia Papka—Outreach & Education
Hannah Hudson—Family Services
Shannon McMahon—Advocacy Services
Kris Lukens—Director
Cheri Westover—Transitional Housing

Stephanie McCarthy/Kristen Smith/Leah Barnett—Advocate
Martha Snyder—All About Kids Coord.
Tim Moran—AAK Monitor
Nancy West, Amanda Hilliker, Jessica Emch, Stephanie McCarthy—After Hour Hotline Advocates
Midge and Lisa—Office Assistants thru Vermont Associates



Working Together to End Domestic and Sexual Violence in our Community

PROGRAMS

Voices provides a variety of services that strive to meet the needs of all people experiencing stalking, sexual assault, dating violence and domestic violence. We provide emotional support, information/referral and advocacy in the following areas:

Housing and economic advocacy (shelter and Transitional) • Children/Youth Services • Civil and Criminal Legal • Medical and Hospital

We also provide community outreach, education and training; engage in Social justice and advocacy; and provide supervised visitation through All About Kids.

BY THE NUMBERS

- ✂ Served 602 unduplicated victims/survivors and 73 children directly
- ✂ 1633 hotline calls received
- ✂ 1971 contacts on behalf of a person experiencing domestic or sexual violence (children and adults)
- ✂ 3221 instances of advocacy (legal, hospital, housing, social service)
- ✂ 6385 Instances of support, safety planning, crisis intervention
- ✂ Reached over 1836 students, professionals and community members through our school and community education programs; and trainings and awareness events
- ✂ 52 people (24 women and 28 children) were provided safety and support in Laurie's House for a total of 3489 bed nights
- ✂ Received 206 calls for shelter which we were unable to accommodate due to full capacity (duplicated)
- ✂ Served 10 adults and 16 children in Transitional Housing with supports

All About Kids

- ✂ Served 53 families including 77 children
- ✂ 981 visits scheduled, 633 completed

Shelter Resident

"If I didn't have this place, I wouldn't be as far along with my healing as I am."

Voices Against Violence
P.O. Box 72
St. Albans, VT 05478
802.524.8538 Office
802.524.6575 Hotline
voices@cvoeo.org

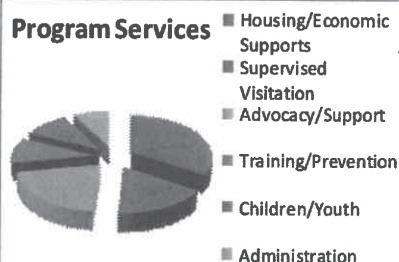
FINANCIAL

We acknowledge the important and critical role volunteers play in our organization and recognize the work they do in such a caring and compassionate manner.

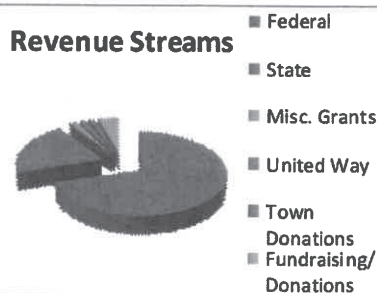
- ◆ This past year, volunteers contributed **2425 hours of service** at an estimated value of **\$36,375**
- ◆ **\$9,085 in kind donations** which helps us leverage other funding

THANK YOU to our many friends, donors and partners for their continued support and commitment to ending domestic and sexual violence in our community.

Program Services



Revenue Streams



All About Kids

95 S. Main St.
P.O. Box 1092
St. Albans, VT 05478
802.370.2851
allaboutkids@cvoeo.org

A Program of  **CVOEO**
CHAMPLAIN VALLEY OFFICE
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Telephone: 802-524-5993

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
VERMONT STATE POLICE

FAX: 802-527-1150



St. Albans Field Station
140 Fisher Pond Rd
St. Albans, VT 05478

January 7th 2020

On behalf of the Vermont State Police, St. Albans Barracks, we are providing our 2019 Annual Report. This report will provide you information reference current staffing issues and detail the specialty services provided by the Troopers assigned to the St. Albans Barracks.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Vermont State Police is to individually and collectively serve and protect by providing the highest quality of professional law enforcement services. The mission of the Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks is to protect the citizens of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. We also plan to work with local law enforcement to establish viable *Intelligence Based Policing (IBP)* teams. By unity of effort and criminal intelligence gathering, we will detect, disrupt, degrade and dismantle criminal activity. It is the goal of the St Albans Barracks to achieve this with, and through interagency, community, and private enterprise cooperation. By working together, we can educate, empower and foster trust while simultaneously identifying criminal networks within our communities. We will strive to reduce crime and enforce the laws of our roadways through criminal investigations, as well as, aggressive highway safety enforcement.

Specialty Services Provided by Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks

In addition to their field primary responsibilities, many of the troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks are members of special response teams that provide expert response capabilities in a variety of areas to address critical needs throughout Vermont.

The breakdown of these responses is as follows:

- 1 Trooper – Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)
- 3 Troopers – on the Tactical Services Unit (TSU)
- 1 Trooper – on the Crime Scene Search Team (CSST)
- 1 Trooper – on the Search and Rescue Team (SAR)
- 1 Trooper – on the Bomb Squad (EOD)
- 4 Troopers - on the CLAN lab team
- 1 Trooper – on the Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU)

“Your Safety Is Our Business”

Annual Crime Statistics for the St. Albans Barracks:

Total Cases: 6292

Total Arrests: 542

Total Tickets Issued: 1762

Total Warnings Issued: 4362

Fatal Accidents: 3

Total Burglaries Investigated: 41

Total DUI's: 100

Local Community Report: Berkshire

Total Cases: 265

Total Arrests: 17

Total DUI's: 7

Total Accidents – Property Damage: 7

Total Accidents – Injury: 2

Total Vandalisms: 1

Total Alarms: 10

Total Burglaries: 2

Total Tickets: 42

Total Warnings: 124

We will continue to make our communities safer through enforcement, directed patrols, Intelligence Based Policing, outreach and community programs. It is our privilege to serve the citizens of this community.

Respectfully,



**Lieutenant Jerry Partin
Station commander**

WARNING
NORTHERN MOUNTAIN VALLEY UUSD
ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, February 19, 2020 and Tuesday, March 3, 2020

The legal voters of the Northern Mountain Valley Unified Union School District, consisting of the Towns of Bakersfield, Berkshire, Montgomery, and Sheldon, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Montgomery Elementary School in Montgomery, Vermont, on **Wednesday, February 19, 2020**, at 7:00pm, to transact the following business, viz:

Articles 3 through 5 will be voted on by Australian ballot in the respective polling places and times hereinafter named on **Tuesday, March 3, 2020**.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To elect a Clerk.

ARTICLE 3. To elect one (1) school director for a three-year term, ending March 2023, who resides in the Town of Bakersfield.

To elect one (1) school director for a three-year term, ending March 2023, who resides in the Town of Berkshire.

To elect one (1) school director for a three-year term, ending March 2023, who resides in the Town of Sheldon.

ARTICLE 4. Shall the voters of the District approve the school board to expend \$16,834,820, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$14,838 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.93% higher than spending for the current year.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters of the District authorize the Board of Directors to borrow money not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year, pursuant to Title 16 V.S.A. 562(9)?

ARTICLE 6. To transact any other nonbinding business thought proper.

Polling Places and Times

Bakersfield Residents – Bakersfield Town Hall, polls open at 10:00am and close at 7:00pm.

Berkshire Residents – Berkshire Town Office, polls open at 10:00am and close at 7:00pm.

Montgomery Residents – Montgomery Grange Hall, polls open at 10:00am and close at 7:00pm.


Sheldon Residents – Sheldon Elementary School, polls open at 7:00am and close at 7:00pm.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Board of School Directors duly noticed, called, and held for that purpose on January 8, 2020.


Katherine Barnard


Lisa Hango



Mary Nilēs


Erin Paquette


Jean-Marie Clark


Chelsea Mends-Cole


Emily Norris


Lianne Trombley

**NORTHERN MOUNTAIN VALLEY UNIFIED UNION
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**JOINT REPORT OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
AND
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

2019-2020

Enrollment as of October 1, 2019

School	PK-3	PK-4	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Bakersfield	7	10	15	15	12	14	20	11	10	16	9	139
Berkshire	13	11	24	14	25	25	17	22	18	26	19	214
Montgomery	10	8	16	17	12	12	10	18	14	13	12	142
Sheldon	12	15	29	29	29	27	35	29	29	33	23	290

NMV High School Enrollments as of October 1, 2019

	9	10	11	12	Total
Enosburg Falls Middle and High School	40	53	37	34	164
BFA St. Albans	18	20	14	15	67
Richford Jr-Sr High School	12	10	4	6	32
Missiquoi Valley Union High School	3	1	3	5	12
American School	3	4	0	2	9
North Country Union High School	1	2	0	1	4
Stanstead College	1	1	0	2	4
St. Johnsbury Academy	0	1	1	1	3
BFA Fairfax	0	2	0	0	2
Lamoille Union High School	0	0	1	0	1
Mount Mansfield Union High School	0	1	0	0	1
Oak Meadow	0	0	1	0	1
The Governors Academy	0	1	0	0	1
The Gunnery	0	0	1	0	1
Vermont Commons School	1	0	0	0	1

Enrollment as of October 1, 2018

School	PK-3	PK-4	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Bakersfield	6	16	18	10	14	18	11	11	17	10	15	146
Berkshire	8	20	14	20	22	17	22	17	25	17	27	209
Montgomery	6	15	18	10	10	13	17	13	13	13	11	139
Sheldon	9	16	28	27	26	37	31	29	33	26	24	286

FNESU Instructional Leadership Joint Report

Lynn Cota, Superintendent

Jody Vaillancourt, Director of Instruction and Learning

Michelle Theberge, Director of Student Services

Dear Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union Community Members,

It is our honor to submit this annual report as a joint effort by the Superintendent, the Director of Instruction and Learning, and the Director of Student Services. This collaboration is a reflection of the strong commitments we have made to align our work and efforts in order to improve opportunities for all students throughout the FNESU system. This year we welcomed Sheldon into our FNESU family, as a result of the Vermont State Board of Education's adjustment of Supervisory Union boundaries in 2019. In addition, we now function as a partially consolidated Supervisory Union with two separate districts. The Northern Mountain Valley Unified Union School District is comprised of the PK-8 operating, 9-12 tuitioning towns of Bakersfield, Berkshire, Montgomery, and Sheldon. The Enosburgh Richford Unified Union School District is comprised of the PK-12 operating towns of Enosburg and Richford. The FNESU community serves nearly 2,000 students in ten schools located in our six towns.

The 2019-2020 school year has been a year of reimagining the system we need to design in order to reach the goals we have for the students of FNESU. It is our priority to ensure our system is designed to meet the unique needs of every child in each of our schools. Geographically, socially, and economically many of our students face tremendous barriers. Our efforts are aimed at providing equitable learning opportunities and interventions for all learners throughout FNESU.

In addition to the demographic information on the first page of our annual report, the following is a comparison of the percentage of students who are economically disadvantaged and the percentage of students who receive special education services in each of our schools.

School	% Economically Disadvantaged	% IEP Eligible
Bakersfield	39%	16%
Berkshire	41%	16%
Montgomery	46%	8%
Sheldon	45%	19%
Richford Elementary	82%	28%
Richford Junior Senior High School	82%	22%
Enosburg Elementary	62%	24%
Enosburg Middle	-	17%
Enosburg High School	41%	9%

The percentage of students in the following categories are too small to report; race/ethnicity, English learners, and migrant students.

Continuous Improvement Plans

Every school and the supervisory union conducted a comprehensive needs assessment by examining multiple data sets representing levels of performance in: academic proficiency, personalization, safe & healthy schools, high-quality staffing, and investment priorities. Based on results from the assessment, goals for improvement were set. You can find the improvement plans on the FNESU website: <http://www.fnesu.net/continuous-improvement-plans.html>

Our continuous improvement plans are aligned to the public accountability measures in the Vermont Agency of Education reporting tool, called the Annual Snapshot.

According to the Vermont Agency of Education, “The Annual Snapshot is a way for Vermonters to better understand how their schools are performing and find opportunities for growth and improvement. The Annual Snapshot reports a school’s current performance, improvement over the past year and success in achieving an equitable education for all students. It was developed in concert with educators to reflect Vermont’s philosophy of continuous improvement.”

The Annual Snapshot for FNESU, and each school, is available on the Vermont Agency of Education website: <https://schoolsnapshot.vermont.gov/>

In order to increase academic proficiency, personalization, and safe & healthy schools, the Superintendent Lynn Cota, Director of Student Services Michelle Theberge, and Director of Instruction and Learning Jody Vaillancourt have been collaborating closely to align and coordinate professional learning for all of our teachers, staff and administrators. We are working hard with the building leaders to increase the effectiveness of universal instruction in every classroom and strengthen our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support.

Academic Proficiency: FNESU

In 2019, FNESU Students scored at or above state average in ten of 14 measures on the Smarter Balanced Assessment.

	SBAC 2019 ELA Percent Proficient and Above		SBAC 2019 Math Percent Proficient and Above	
Grade	Vermont	FNESU	Vermont	FNESU
3	50	44	53	55
4	51	54	47	57
5	56	52	42	49
6	53	56	38	51
7	56	69	43	57
8	53	61	40	47
9	57	41	35	32

Literacy, By School: Percent Proficient									
Grade	VT	BEMS	Berk	EES	EFMH S	MES	RES	RJSHS	SES
3	50	47	44	53		33	33		50
4	51	90	36	70		82	22		50
5	56	50	63	45		86	38		45
6	53	56	56		73	75		31	43
7	56		69		78	100		53	55
8	53	47	72		64	91		45	67
9	57				45			31	

Math, By School: Percent Proficient									
Grade	VT	BEMS	Berk	EES	EFMH S	MES	RES	RJSHS	SES
3	53	65	50	59		50	48		62
4	47	80	59	70		82	13		47
5	42	70	56	50		71	21		30
6	38	38	48		83	58		28	37
7	43		56		57	85		47	55
8	40	20	64		50	91		29	67
9	35				31			36	

Science, By School: Percent Proficient										
Grade	VT	FNESU	BEMS	Berk	EES	EFMHS	MES	RES	RJSHS	Sheldon
5	37	27	20	29	30		36	17		15
8	39	42	33	40		39	82		35	33
11	41	18				18			19	

Standardized assessments are one measure of performance. Our continuous improvement efforts and the Vermont accountability system rely on multiple measures to plan for improvement. Although this data demonstrates that FNESU performs above the state measures in several categories, we will continue to work with building leaders and teachers to improve student learning outcomes and develop the systems and resources all students need in order to succeed.

Building Capacity for Student Services within FNESU

In FNESU, and throughout Vermont, we are facing a shortage of alternative program options for students who are struggling with intensive behavior and mental health challenges. There is such a need throughout the state that our options include long waitlists or limited outside resources. We are working to explore ways we can design options internally to best meet the needs of our students. Our students have complex academic, social, emotional, and behavior needs. We are working to build the capacity within our system to offer a variety of supports to students. We offer data driven assessments of behavior with recommendations for team consideration, with ongoing support for implementation of the recommendations and the behavior plans. Our team is also working to support teachers with classwide behavior

interventions. We are assessing communication, academic, social, motor skills and adaptive skills. In addition, we offer paraprofessional in-service trainings, training of planning room staff and professional development on behavior strategies for other staff members, with weekly support staff meetings. Our behavior team offers support with social skills groups and student support workshops for parents and families.

Currently, we have an alternative program for high school students which is staffed with Behavior Technicians in both of our high schools. Students are placed in this program when they are struggling behaviorally and need additional support to be successful within the school setting. They learn coping and life skills within a smaller classroom setting with additional adult support. Students in this program are supported by behavior intervention plans and other incentives programs. This is an in-house intervention aimed at preventing students from having to be enrolled in alternative schools and programs outside of the public school. Student support may be behavioral and/or academic in nature. We are looking to expand this alternative program to include students in grades K-6. Additionally, we have an alternative program for students with developmental delays, like autism, to learn academic, social and adaptive skills.

Special educators are working closely with classroom teachers to define their roles as access specialists for all students. We are creating and implementing strategies to increase learning for all children. Furthermore, special educators are being trained in research based programs to systematically teach math and reading to struggling learners. The model below is what we are striving for and will ensure that all students receive the best quality instruction possible in FNESU.



High Quality Staff Celebrations:

We are very proud of our dedicated team of educators who work tirelessly each and every day to design opportunities for all students to learn, grow, and explore. The FNESU faculty and staff work hard, believe in our students, and are committed to the important work of educating our youth. Many of our teachers, staff, and administrators stand out in the crowd. Earlier this year Berkshire teacher, Jessica Litchfield, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching. Baxter Weed, Cold Hollow Automotive teacher, received a national

award from Harbor Freight Tools for Schools: the 2nd place Prize for Teaching Excellence. In December, Richford Junior Senior High School teacher, Kris Hoyt and Enosburg Elementary teacher, Lisa Robtoy were recognized as FNESU's UVM Outstanding Teacher recipients. Many of our leaders serve in leadership roles throughout the state. Beth O'Brien, RJSHS Principal, is the president-elect of the Vermont Principals Association. Nathan Demar, Cold Hollow Career Center Director, is the president of the Vermont Career and Technical Center Directors Association. Morgan Daybell, FNESU Business Manager, serves on the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System Board. Jody Vaillancourt, FNESU Director of Instruction and Learning, serves on the Vermont Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Board. Lynn Cota, FNESU Superintendent, serves on the Rise VT Executive Committee and the Champlain Valley Educator Development Center Advisory Board. Many others also serve on boards and in leadership roles throughout the state.

Challenges

One of the things we struggle with the most is **teacher retention**. Each year we are turning over approximately 25% of our teachers. We have begun to study this data in order to determine the root cause for this turnover. Some of the trends we have discovered are connected to teacher pay, geography, workload and expectations of the job. The work of sustaining organizational improvement efforts is made even more challenging by our teacher turnover rates.

Another factor that is equally as challenging is **recruiting teachers and administrators** to work in FNESU. In the last ten years, we have seen the number of candidates applying for each open position dwindle. In fact, at the time this report was written we still have openings from the start of the year that have had zero candidates apply. Here in FNESU, and in Vermont as a whole, we are feeling the effects of a teacher shortage.

Goals and Next Steps

We have been working to think creatively about solving our **teacher retention** challenges and have strategically worked to align our starting salary to be more competitive with other Franklin County schools. In addition, our data shows that if teachers stay in FNESU through their fourth year, they tend to stay long term. We have used that data in order to imbed attractive benefits in our Master Agreement including longevity bonuses and being able to use a portion of tuition reimbursement money to offset student loans in the first five years of employment in FNESU.

In order to address our challenges with **recruiting new teachers**, we have teamed up with the Upper Valley Educator Institute to design a local Teacher Intern Program to begin in the fall of 2020. For those interested in pursuing a career in education, UVEI will be offering a blended program that will be held online, in FNESU, and at UVEI from August, 2020 - June, 2021. This program will lead participants on a path to teacher licensure in just 11 months. All candidates must already hold a Bachelor's degree, in any field, in order to enroll.

For those in the education field interested in pursuing a future in school leadership, UVEI will be offering a program that will lead to **administrator licensure**.

If you are interested in learning more about either of these options, please join us for an information session at Enosburg Falls High School on March 23 at 6:30, or email Courtney Fletcher at courtney.fletcher@fnesu.org.

Included in this budget is an Early Childhood Director position for FNESU. The regulations for our preschool programs are under the oversight of both the Agency of Education and the Agency of Human Services. The new director will be tasked with leading curriculum, instruction, learning, assessment, regulations, and licensing expectations for all of the early childhood programs in our six towns. We believe this is an integral next step in supporting and improving our children's first experiences in our public schools.

Portrait of a Graduate

The FNESU Board has committed to a process of engaging our community members and other stakeholders to participate in work targeted at identifying what we want for all graduates of FNESU. This winter we will begin the work of engaging community members in the development of a Portrait of an FNESU Graduate. The board intends to use this Portrait of a Graduate work as a springboard to articulate an updated mission, vision, and goals for the supervisory union. Please watch for more information, we would love for you to participate in this important work.

As we hope you can see, there is much to be proud of in the work we are doing in Franklin Northeast. We are honored to serve as instructional leaders in FNESU and we will continue to do our best to support the needs of all students and staff members within our system. Thank you for your continued support of all our schools and all our students.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lynn Cota, Superintendent
Michelle Theberge, Director of Student Services
Jody Vaillancourt, Director of Instruction and Learning

Technology Report

Dominic DeRosia, Technology Director

In Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union, we strive to prepare students for the technology infused world that awaits them. The tools we provide for students maximize their exposure to various educational opportunities, as well as providing the connectivity to become global learners.

FNESU schools offers 1:1 computing, where the majority of students are given their "own" device to use by their school. 1:1 computing is a broad term based around the idea of having one device per student. As the cost of mobile devices has continued to decrease, FNESU schools have been able to continue to grow our 1:1 programs. We regularly evaluate devices as new options become available to try to provide our students with the best learning experience possible, while at the same time keeping our budgets and local taxpayers in mind.

While we have a variety of devices available to students, including laptops, iPads and Chromebooks, it's the Chromebooks that have emerged as the main computing device within FNESU. At this point, all of our schools are either already using Chromebooks as their main student device or are in the process of transitioning from iPads to Chromebooks. The lower price of Chromebooks compared to iPads, along with the ease of maintenance, larger screen

and physical keyboard have made them a very attractive option. FNESU is far from alone in this thinking, as Chromebooks have become the most popular device in schools nationwide in recent years.

The act 46 school consolidations brought about a lot of change to schools, including within the technology realm. In our case, FNESU gained an additional school as we welcomed Sheldon Elementary School. While this already made for a busy summer with the need to integrate all of Sheldon's staff and student data with various systems, we decided to take advantage of the opportunity to make changes across the SU as well. The biggest was consolidating all of our separate G Suite domains into one. Where in the past, each school had their own G Suite domain, all users in FNESU now share a single domain. This makes data sharing and collaboration across schools easier, as well as allowing students who move from one town to another within FNESU the ability to keep their existing account and any work they have done. In a similar fashion, we have also started to consider how a more unified approach can lead to cost savings as well. For example, consolidating purchases for hardware or software into a single larger purchase for the whole SU rather than making a smaller purchase for each school can lead to better per unit costs and result in savings for all schools.

As the use of technology continues to grow, safety must be kept as a focus. Both teachers and students need to be educated in safe and appropriate use of technology. The first link in the list below is a good resource for anyone looking for tips on Internet safety.

Technology Education Resources:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/> (Internet safety/digital citizenship resource)

<https://www.google.com/edu/products/productivity-tools/> (G Suite for Education)

<http://hourofcode.com/us> (The Hour of Code)

Please feel free to contact me via email with any questions pertaining to technology in FNESU schools at dominic.derosia@fnesu.org or by phone at 848-7661 x21.

LEAPS

(Learning and Enrichment Activities that build Positive relationships and Self-esteem)

A 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC)

Heather Moore, 21st CCLC Project Director

LEAPS connects afterschool programming, supplemental instruction, and skill development with the local school system and community. The mission of LEAPS is to improve student achievement in math, science, reading/language arts, self-esteem, social skills, and to reduce high-risk behaviors and attitudes. LEAPS currently offers programming to youth in grades K-8 in Bakersfield Elementary & Middle, Berkshire Elementary, Montgomery Elementary, and Sheldon Elementary Schools. LEAPS also offers programming to youth in grades K-4 in Enosburg Elementary School, to youth in K-5 in Richford Elementary School, and to youth in grades 5 – 12 at Enosburg Middle & High School and Richford Junior & Senior High School.

Since 2004, LEAPS Afterschool Programs have been designed to enrich the lives of the whole child. Each site has a unique set of offerings tailored to address the needs and desires of their youth population. Classes range from traditional classroom settings to nature-based classroom

instruction. Each day the course offerings vary to ensure our youth are provided with opportunities to find connections and interests that they will carry with them as they develop relationships, add to their education, or plan for the future.

Last spring, FNESU was awarded a new five-year grant to continue the LEAPS programs. The 21st CCLC is the largest funding source of our programs. Due to the continued success of the program, the Agency of Education agreed to fund a summer program at the Montgomery and Richford Elementary Schools. The summer programs ran during the same weeks as the other LEAPS programs for youth at Bakersfield Elementary and Middle School, Berkshire Elementary, Enosburg Elementary, Sheldon Elementary School, and Enosburg Middle & High School. LEAPS also received an Afterschool for All grant from Vermont Afterschool, Inc. to develop an afterschool program at Richford Junior & Senior High School.

Also new this year, FNESU has partnered with Vermont Afterschool Inc. in the Vermont Youth Project (VYP). This is a five-year positive youth development initiative that surveys youth in grades 7-12 at both EFMHS and RJSHS. Survey results were released to the Vermont Youth Project teams and community engagement opportunities are underway. Community organizations are using the data to help enhance, or develop, youth and family programs that will benefit all six towns in our supervisory union. Please visit our website at www.fnesuleaps.wordpress.com for up-to-date information on the VYP and other LEAPS news.

During the 2018-2019 school year, our project served 66% of students (963 students total) in the seven programs that ran last year. We are excited to include youth in RJSHS in the number of served youth in next year's report. Programs are generally well-attended with 68% of all FNESU participants attending 30 days or more throughout the school year.

Our programs would not have been as successful without the continued and growing support of our Community Partners: Arvin A. Brown Library, Local Motion, LJW Memorial Fund, Green Heron Farm, UVM Extension Service, Snyder's Academy of TKD, Hannaford, Montgomery Recreation Department, the VT Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, VT Department of Fish/Wildlife, Bakersfield Historical Society, Franklin County Caring Communities, Enosburgh Community Center, RiseVT, VT Department of Health, NOTCH Program, and the local school communities. Thank you for all of your support.

Northern Mountain Valley USD Principal Reports

Berkshire Elementary School (BES) Leonard Badeau, Principal

Berkshire Elementary School continues to strive to be a school that provides equitable experiences that nurture the development of the "whole child". Our community's motto continues to be "give every child what they need when they need it." This mentality requires a comprehensive and systematic approach to education that involves all community stakeholders to collaborate in a manner that enables all of us to share our collective expertise and resources to help every student succeed.

Academic Proficiency

Celebrations: One key component in the success of all our students is to achieve Academic Proficiency in all our students, and our school has taken many proactive and effective steps



towards that goal. We have invested in professional development to improve our ability to deliver high quality first instruction through our continued work and consultation with Sandy Stanhope, the Vermont Mathematics Initiative, and the All Learners Initiative which have collectively enhanced our staff's capacity to plan and deliver high quality mathematics instruction across all grade levels. We have continued to dedicate 90 to 120

minutes of Mathematics and Literacy instruction for all students. To further respond to and mitigate students lagging in progress we have dedicated intervention learning time for all students to receive a double dose of learning, as well as targeted and intensive below grade level instruction to help students not only keep up, but catch up in their learning. Lastly, we have created more professional collaboration and support time for all teachers to design effective, differentiated, and engaging learning.

Goals: Many of the above steps are ongoing, and our Goals/Next Steps are to continue to support or enhance those steps. We will continue to invest in providing professional learning that helps ensure that all students are engaged in effective tier 1 learning opportunities. This includes preserving our 90-120 daily minutes of math and ELA instruction, ensuring that all students have equitable access to effective and targeted tier 2 supports both during and beyond the school day, as well as, increasing opportunities for professional learning and common planning time for teachers and academic interventionists to design and implement research based high quality instruction.



Personalization

Celebrations: Another component necessary to achieve success for all of our students is to improve our teacher's capacity to implement student Personalized Learning. This year our Middle School staff has dedicated their Professional Learning time to research, design, and implement "Genius Hour" time for our students, which will enable students to practice self-guided inquiry, research, designing, building, and presenting skills.

Goals: While this year will be primarily a research year for our staff as they seek to learn how to best design and implement Genius hour, we intend to pilot this model/structure this spring and hope to have this structure fully implemented in the 2020-2021 academic year.



Safe & Healthy Schools

Celebrations: Providing and maintaining a Safe & Healthy school is also necessary to ensure success for all, and Berkshire has taken multiple steps to achieve this goal. We have partnered with RISE VT to provide instruction and learning around healthy lifestyles and eating habits, as well as to identify and implement ways to bring in more movement and activity into our daily learning routines. Every teacher has attended the Responsive Classroom training to enhance their ability to create a safe, kind, and positive learning environment for all students. Ten teachers completed a week long intensive "Life-Space Crisis Intervention"

training to improve their capacity to respond to, remediate, and support students when they experience big feelings or struggle behaviorally. We continue to partner with professional mental health service agencies such as NCSS and Franklin-Grande Isle Restorative Justice Center (FGIRJC) to provide high skilled staff that can effectively support students in the development of Social-Emotional skills, as well as to provide professional development for our staff to improve our capacity to support students in their development of Social-Emotional Skills. Lastly, our school is continuing to develop and implement ALICE practices to create a school that is resistant to acts of violence.

Goals: Moving forward we hope to continue and build upon these steps. We added a NCSS School Based Consultant last school year to provide a highly skilled member of our staff that has the expertise and knowledge in how to support and develop social emotional skills in our students.

We will continue to develop our ability to implement and support Restorative Practices through our multi-year collaboration with the Franklin-Grande Isle Restorative Justice Center and will

continue to seek out opportunities for professional development for all of our staff to create safe, kind, positive places of learning.

High Quality Staffing

Celebrations: Related to the above actions to create a school environment where all students can succeed is the need to have High Quality Staff, and we have successfully enacted multiple steps to progress in this area. Our middle school model now allows for a content expert to provide high quality instruction for 5th-8th grade students through having a dedicated teacher for Science, and another teacher for Global Citizenship - formerly referred to as Social Studies. Our new middle school structure also allows us to have a dedicated Literacy Interventionist and a Mathematics Interventionist for all four middle school grades (5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th). We also staffed a full time P.E. teacher for prek-8th grade. Lastly, to help our less seasoned staff become more proficient in planning and designing instruction, we have created professional collaboration time for those newer teachers to meet and work with grade level content experts, and we are piloting a professional learning plan where-in our newer teachers are able to observe and learn from exemplary teachers in our school.

Goal: Our school will continue to strive to find ways to develop our new teachers, as well as deepen the capacity of our veteran staff, and we hope to expand the professional collaboration time and professional learning plans next year to all of our staff.

Respectfully submitted by,
Leonard Badeau

Bakersfield Elementary Middle School (BEMS) Rhoda McLure, Principal

It has been an incredible pleasure to serve the students, staff, and greater community of Bakersfield this school year. I am so grateful for this wonderful opportunity. I want to take this time to share with you the amazing work and dedication I have seen and been involved with at BEMS over the last few months. Below you will find an update on what the BEMS students and staff have been working on this year. This work has been centered around the goals that our school has been focusing on as outlined in the BEMS Continuous Improvement Plan. An abbreviated look at these goals can be found on our school website <https://www.bakersfieldschool.net/> under the tab that says click to read our school improvement plan. Please feel free to contact me for more information at rhoda.mclure@fnesu.org.



Academic Proficiency Celebrations: BEMS has been working hard at increasing engaging and meaningful academic experiences for students at every grade level over the last few years. Teachers have worked hard in grade-level district teams at the SU level

and as a school team to align instruction, design assessment tools that assess skills and growth, and to focus on building foundational skills of reading and mathematics using the Lucy Calkins Units of Study and Bridges Math along with the use of Math Menus. This year, teachers have continued to work hard on this academic goal through a variety of ways from MTSS structural changes, to intentional coaching and PLC sessions, to professional development opportunities such as the supervisory-wide training on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) which focuses on helping teachers design and implement instruction that meets the needs of all learners by providing choice and various strategies for engagement.

This year we made some scheduling changes that allowed for our MTSS system to have a structure for collaboration and teaming, as well as a built in WIN (What I Need) time for intervention and extension opportunities for students. These changes allowed us to have dedicated time during the school day for grade cluster teams to have PLC (professional learning community) meetings once a week with coaches and interventionists to look at data and make instructional shifts based on that data. This allowed us to schedule weekly grade cluster team meetings at which teachers look at individual data in order to make suggestions for WIN groups and provide interventions both in and out of the classroom for students who need this level of support. We have also built in dedicated time for coaching meetings weekly. This allows teachers access to academic and behavioral coaching to improve their practice and support all learners. Once a month we have dedicated afterschool staff time for SST (student support team) meetings designed to dig deep into the academic and behavioral needs of students who need support. As well as monthly broader PLC time designed to dig deep into developing professional expertise around math and literacy and think about engaging all learners through the use of UDL practices. Through these scheduling changes and the work that has been happening among staff, we are developing an MTSS structure that allows us to look at data and meet the needs of all learners.

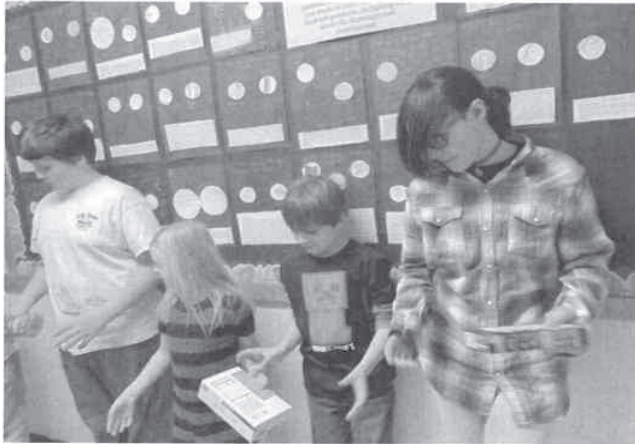


Goals/Next Steps: While this year's structural changes around teaming and WIN time have been successful in many ways, there are areas of improvement that we need to focus on. Currently WIN time is only happening three days a week for all students due to not everyone being available on Mondays and Fridays. This leaves a gap in our tier two instruction. We need to work on increasing this time especially for our struggling students. It is

also important that we have efficient ways of tracking the progress of students during this time, and that this data is intentionally used in team meeting time to further understand the needs of our students in order to help them grow.

We are currently looking at our coaching model right now as well in an effort to utilize coaching at BEMS in the best way possible to increase teacher expertise for the benefit of students, while at the same time looking at equity across the schools in the NMV district. Our

next steps around this are to look at our needs at BEMS around academic coaching and to assess whether or not we can share coaching resources.



Personalization

Celebrations: This year the middle school team has taken a new approach to our PLP process. We created a new platform for the plans using the new google sites. This website is where students include information about themselves, their community, their goals, their learning, and their explorations and reflections. Students update these plans as needed throughout each

quarter and do a final update at the end of each quarter to record and reflect on their progress. Students are also always welcome to make updates to their site during their weekly What I Need (WIN) time. To specifically address students reaching proficiency for their Responsibility for Learning standard, we have been having students self-assess themselves on their personal development standards, compare their assessment to their teacher's assessment, and write a reflection. We have also been having students write responses to their report card comments and set goals based on their teacher's reflections of their progress. We have also conducted various lessons on brain health, metacognition, the survival brain vs. the learning brain, personal values, and career explorations. All of these lessons have helped students better understand themselves as people and learners.

Goals/Next Steps: The platform that students are using in Google sites has been very successful. We would love to share this with other schools in the SU. We will continue to monitor the success of our PLP work and make adjustments as needed. One thing that is challenging for students is learning how to reflect in a meaningful way. We will continue to work with students as they write their reflections.

Another goal around personalization that we want to work on in the future is how we prepare students in grades K-5 for the PLP work in the middle school. We are working on ways to help students create goals for themselves, think about their own learning, and express their interests in various ways that are age appropriate.

Safe & Healthy Schools

Celebrations: Over the last few years, BEMS has been on a journey to becoming a restorative school. This year we have continued on the journey and worked hard to create a positive culture that supports one another to learn and grow. We have revisited what it means to be a restorative school and the why behind Restorative Practices. We have also looked at PBiS and how PBiS and Restorative Practices can go hand-in-hand with one another. We have implemented a mindfulness time in the middle of the day that allows students and staff to have

a quiet reset time in order to reduce stress and anxiety. Teachers have continued to work with Camille Koosmann from the Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Center in coaching sessions and through professional development opportunities to understand Restorative Practices and how to use positive restorative language in their classrooms and with students to promote a sense of community and belonging. This year we have also put together an RP Tier Two Team that looks at the process for repairing harm grades 4-8 and encourages students to be involved as circle keepers in their classes. For more information on RP at BEMS, please go to our website and click on the Restorative Practices tab under School Info.

We have also worked this year on updating our school's safety plan, and on promoting a welcoming environment for families and the community. Early in the year I went to a Safety and Security training on how to write a comprehensive safety plan. I have been using the information to update our old plan. We have been keeping up to date on safety and security drills and have had several walk home from school days which allow our students to get to



know our school's reunification spot. Our PTCO has planned several successful events for our community to come together. We continue to be involved with Farm to School and Four Winds which allows for our students to learn and come together with community members in a unique way. This year we have also put together an Events Team that works on planning school wide events for students, teachers, and the greater community.

Goals/Next Steps: While we have worked hard this year on continuing our understandings of restorative practices and PBiS and we have made room for mindfulness in our day, we realize that social-emotional learning is an important part of today's educational experience. Helping students to regulate their emotions must be a part of our school's curriculum, as well as giving teachers the tools needed to understand trauma and adverse childhood experiences (of which we are seeing the effects of more and more). Over the next year we need to invest in professional development related to trauma and continue to investigate and implement a social-emotional learning curriculum for the whole school. We are also investigating resources available through NCSS.

Respectfully submitted by,
Rhoda McLure

Montgomery Elementary School Sandy Alexander, Principal

Montgomery Elementary is holding strong with a consistent enrollment of 140 students from PreK through 8th grade. It is a year of new beginnings at MES, as we have now joined with Berkshire, Bakersfield, and Sheldon to become part of the Northern Mountain Valley Unified Union School District. With that said, we are getting to know our partners in this important work and fine tuning our collaborative efforts. Another new beginning to celebrate is the



expansion of our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). A group of enthusiastic members have stepped up to try some new ventures while also maintaining the long-standing traditions. A huge thank you goes out to three original PTO members who have been running the show for upwards of 30 years: Robin Pelkey, Carol Clokey and Lisa Baker. Your efforts are much appreciated and never forgotten!

Academic Proficiency

Celebrations: Academic proficiency is always at the forefront at Montgomery Elementary. MES staff members provide learning opportunities that effectively teach students how to take responsibility for their own learning in a manner that is age appropriate across grade levels. In addition, students are empowered to take over their own learning through student choice in many academic areas from elementary math workplaces and learning

centers to middle school projects such as science investigations and “Zed Talks.” Student interest level makes the learning relevant and teachers and staff members provide the rigor, high expectations, and accountability so that students can reach the target.

Goals: While we continue to maintain solid test scores, our focus is always on improvement. We believe in the importance of early education instruction and will continue to provide this instruction beyond the mandated ten hours per week. In addition, staff members will continue to attend professional development opportunities aimed at improving practices. We have also adopted a “Laser Focus” approach to focus on the unique needs of our struggling learners with the belief that all students can succeed.

Personalization

Celebrations: As everyone knows, there is a lot that goes on within a school, and a valuable component is connecting with our families. With personalized learning, students have the opportunity to set goals, express their hopes and dreams, complete interest inventories, and connect their learning to experiences that are meaningful and valuable. Families are invited in for two evenings in March to attend Student Led Conferences, at which time each and every student has the opportunity to showcase what they’ve done well and what they may need to improve on. Students and staff work hard to put together a clear picture of student learning, and



students take great pride in sharing this with their families. We are proud to say that MES has had 100% attendance at our Student Led Conferences for the past two years and hope to continue the trend.

Goals: Personalizing learning also comes in the form of intervention. Montgomery Elementary School incorporates a reteach time for students who may need a “double dose” on a certain topic. If that isn’t enough, other interventions are put into place in an effort to bring all students to proficiency. A few years ago we increased our expertise by creating a Reading Specialist position to assist those students having difficulty with reading, and the results have been outstanding. Our top priority moving forward is to mirror this success in the subject of math by increasing the availability of math intervention time for students that is specific to individual need.



Safe & Healthy Schools Celebrations: At Montgomery Elementary, we strive to promote a safe and healthy school. This year MES has partnered with UP for Learning to introduce Restorative Practices to our school. This is a philosophy that focuses on finding positive and effective ways to build community, address needs, and repair relationships. Our partnership with UP for Learning will offer the

Montgomery Elementary School community an opportunity to integrate Restorative Practices into our day-to-day work by involving students as partners and change agents in shaping our school culture. The MES Restorative Practices team consists of five adults and eight middle school students who are receiving direct training from Up for Learning. This group will then be responsible for sharing information with the whole school community for future implementation of Restorative Practices.

Goals: Safety is of utmost importance to us at MES, so in addition to Restorative Practices, we will continue to focus on ways to maintain a safe environment for everyone. Throughout the

year we will consistently practice our ALICE drills, which is our options-based school safety plan. In addition, thanks to the receipt grant funding, we look forward to revamping our telephone system to comply with mandated 9-1-1 requirements. Please keep in mind that although we are continually adding and implementing new safety precautions, we still maintain our open door policy to the community. We take pride in our community connection here at MES and are thankful for those who support us.

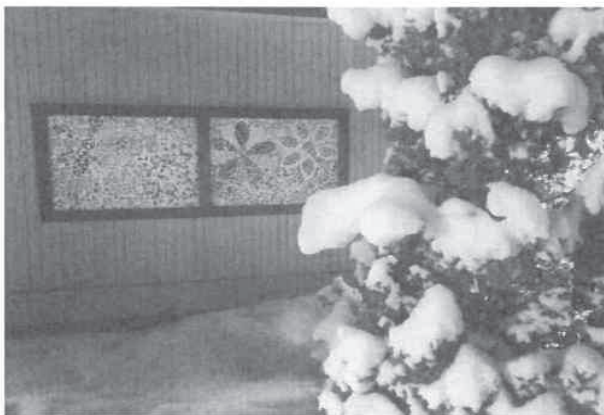
Respectfully submitted by,
Sandy Alexander

Sheldon Elementary School
Christie Martin, Principal

Dear Northern Mountain Valley School District Community Members,
Once again, I am pleased to be able to share Sheldon Elementary School's Annual Educational Report. I am proud to help lead a school that is such an important part of its community; your partnership and support continue to be critical to our collective mission.

Sheldon Elementary continues to work, in partnership with our families and our community, to prepare students for continuous learning, growth, and independence. Together, we support all learners to problem solve, make wise decisions, persevere in meeting challenges, and understand the impact of our actions. By ensuring that our students have the skills and character to learn, lead, and succeed, they are equipped to make a difference as caring, responsible, and well-informed citizens.

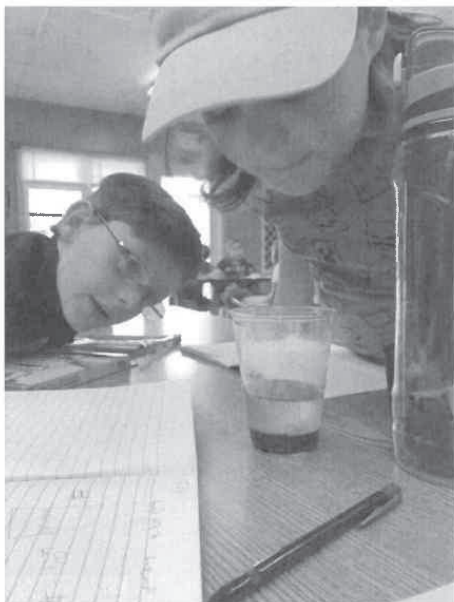
The 2019-2020 school year has brought many new opportunities to Sheldon Elementary. Our inclusion in the expanded NMV School District has added Bakersfield, Berkshire, and



Montgomery to our school community and our alignment with Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union has increased the number of professional colleagues, resources, and partnerships to our work. While the transition has not been without a few bumps, we have come together to ensure equity, excellence and are embracing the mission: "All our students are all OUR students!"

Academic Proficiency Celebrations: Sheldon

Elementary continues to make gains in the areas of academic proficiency and student readiness for high school. In particular, one measure of achievement trending in the right direction is in



grade 8. This whole school effort, over time, is an indicator of the hard work of the entire staff.

In addition, Sheldon, as part of the FNWSU, participated in an Integrated Field Review visit last spring and in the area of academic proficiency our program received two noteworthy commendations:

1. The development of the K-12 district-wide curriculum process is collaborative, giving teachers the opportunity to build common language, as well as a clearly defined scope and sequence of learning expectations for all students, at every grade level, for Mathematics and ELA.

2. In collaboration with the Curriculum Director and other stakeholders, teachers and

instructional coaches collaboratively built evidence-based sets of instructional practices, instructional frameworks, and intervention models in an effort to support all learners.

Goals: Though achievement is trending upward, in some instances and for some cohorts of students, this progress is slow. Sheldon staff will continue to develop and strengthen our proficiency-based learning practices to ensure consistent and effective implementation of those practices across all schools. In light of our inclusion in Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union, Sheldon will work with our new colleagues to align our practices and assessments and share resources and expertise especially in the areas of math, science, and language arts.



Safe & Healthy Schools

Celebrations: The Sheldon Elementary community works hard to foster an environment that encourages the growth and development of all our members. A commendation from the Vermont AOE based on data from our field review visit and schoolwide behavior and discipline data found Sheldon Elementary “demonstrates consistent and purposeful attention to student appreciation and working toward goals as a school community. Examples included

prominent display of student work, positive messaging, PBIS charts and expectations, recognition of students and classrooms, and creating visual reminders of school cultural expectations. In addition, for the third year in a row, Sheldon Elementary was selected by the VTPBIS Acknowledgements Review Committee to receive a VTPBIS Exemplar award for the 2018-2019 school year. This recognition is the result of a significant commitment on the part of you and your staff to implement PBIS with fidelity over time. In order to achieve the VTPBIS Exemplar School status, Sheldon demonstrated:

- Fidelity of PBIS implementation over two years based on the School-wide Evaluation Tool (SET) and the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI);
- Use of data in decision making and problem solving around behavior;
- Completion of the annual Self-Assessment Survey (SAS); and
- Evidence that sustained implementation has had a positive impact on academic and behavioral outcomes.

We continue to fine-tune our ability to respond swiftly to student social-emotional needs and provide the types of supports our learners need to feel safe, cared for and connected. Our work at the Supervisory Union level around building a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS), our partnership with RISE Vermont and our commitment to promoting locally harvested fresh fruits and vegetables daily are all in service of a safe and healthy school.

Goals: Sheldon Elementary is also embarking on an exciting building renovation. Work will begin in the spring to bring school codes up to ADA standards, replace the original flooring in the lobby and the gymnasium, replace siding, windows and exterior doors and remodel the front entrance. I look forward to sharing more about this work as it nears.

I am honored to lead the work of Sheldon Elementary School and serve your children. Thank you for all your support again this past year.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christie M. Martin



Cold Hollow Career Center

Nathan Demar, Director

Skills · Pride · Excellence

“Where do you want to go in life? We'll help get you there!”

More and more students are getting a jump start on their future by attending Cold Hollow Career Center (CHCC). With the expense of college reaching ridiculous levels students are beginning to look for more advantageous ways to pursue educational opportunities. Career and technical education is a viable option. With a strong mix of technical and academic training CHCC has a simple mission. We get students to where they want to go. Some students come to us with a very specific goal, maybe they want to be a nurse or an electrician. If that's the case, we build a program of study for the student and get them on that track. The current slogan on the state level is: “College and career ready”, we simplify that to: “Ready”. If a student knows what he/she wants to do, we do everything we can to make sure they are “ready” for the next step. Many careers will need a college education or degree, so we make sure students are ready

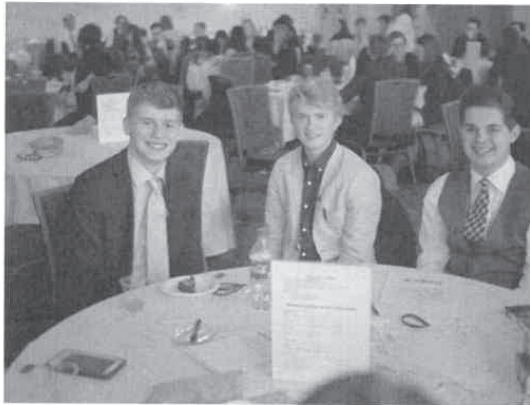
for that next step. Other careers like electrician or welder, need some other form of post-secondary education, so we make sure our students are ready for that too. Some students want to get into the work-force and start making money as soon as possible so we make sure they have the knowledge and skill set to be successful there. Whatever the goals are we try to do everything in our power to make sure they are prepared when they get there.

To this end we offer college credits within our programs, some students that take advantage of the high school's dual-enrollment vouchers, coupled with CHCC credits can graduate with 12+ college credits.

We provide high quality on the job work experience with our outstanding co-op program coordinator Sarah Downes.

Lastly, all of our teachers and programs offer opportunities for our students to earn credentials of value that are recognized by industry and employers.

At CHCC, we offer hands on and traditional learning opportunities. In the traditional sense students have the ability to earn college credits while enrolled in CHCC programs. For example, in Medical Careers students can earn 3 college credits for successfully completing a Medical Terminology course embedded in the program. Students in all programs can earn credentials and certificates that are offered in the real world and are recognized and recommended by industry and employers.



This year alone students have already earned the following industry recognized credentials:

- OSHA 10
- Game of Logging (The premier chainsaw safety and productivity training in the country)
- Defensive Driving (Sponsored by the American General Contractors)
- First Aid, CPR, AED, Blood borne pathogens
- VT State inspection certification (Vermont Department of Transportation)
- Licensed Nurse Assistant (Vermont Board of Nursing)
- Adobe Suite
- Dale Carnegie Leadership Training



In this new era of proficiency based learning many schools have struggled with what this looks like or means for schools. In truth, Career and Technical Centers have been doing this type of learning for years, as it just makes sense. The most basic way to understand this is simply that people who want to succeed keep learning, working, and practicing something until they “get it”. We cannot build a house, fix brakes, or take someone’s vital signs and tell them that we only did

“C-“or “B-“ work. We need to get to a level that is acceptable or in today’s terminology “proficient”.

Our goal at CHCC is that our teachers communicate the expectations of their program to all students and through various teaching, learning and assessments we, as accurately as possible based on the evidence we have, make sure students know exactly where they are with each skill or content concept. If our students are exceeding expectations, we provide additional opportunities, if they are not there yet we provide additional support or interventions.

Personalization

CHCC prides itself on personalizing learning to meet the needs of our students. Our mission is; “We get students to where they want to go.” We have been extremely successful with this mission and many of our students come back and let us know that we had a positive role in their education.

Our main goal is for students to be successful after they leave us. To meet this endeavor, we provide as many opportunities as possible. We encourage participation in Student Organizations such as DECA, FFA, and SKILLS USA. Students compete in state events and recently we have had great success allowing our students to then go on and compete at Nationals. Students also engage in leadership conferences and workshops to enhance their skills in a variety of areas.

Another key aspect to personalizing our learning is our work-based learning program.



Currently we have students in the field working and learning from local experts. Here are a few of our placements to date:

- NAPA
- Connor Contracting
- Vaillancourt Transport
- Bennett Plumbing
- Stone's Automotive
- Champlain Chevrolet
- Alpha Electric

A big thank you to all the employers who open their doors and their businesses to help train and teach our students. This partnership is greatly appreciated.

We will continue to strive for excellence at CHCC. We are committed to making sure our students are ready for the “real” world. With our utmost focus on our employability skills; Dependability, Self Direction, Communication, Teamwork, Problem Solving, and Attitude.

We are also committed to continually meeting the needs of the Vermont labor market, as all of our programs are in the priority sectors of VT. The outlook for our students is bright and we know we are doing everything we can to help ensure our students' future success.

Thanks again for all your support, we at CHCC truly appreciate it.

Respectfully submitted by,
Nathan Demar

Business Manager's Update
Morgan Daybell, Business Manager

District Budget

The Northern Mountain Valley UUSD proposed budget is up \$538,937 from the budget approved last year. Increases are due primarily to increases in health insurance premiums, addition of a Math Interventionist position at Montgomery Elementary, and increase in nursing at Berkshire Elementary, a district-wide Facilities Manager, and an increase in the Supervisory Union assessment, driven primarily by loss of revenue due to the Universal meals program. The board is currently negotiating a new agreement with both the teachers and the support staff. They have made projections on salaries, although Act 11 of 2018 now prohibits the board from negotiating health insurance benefits at the local level.

The district is also anticipating a decrease in revenue compared to last year, primarily due to a reduction in the fund balance available (from FY19).

Residential Tax Rates

Four factors go into setting the *equalized residential tax rate*, the rate you see on your property tax bill for homesteads.

- **Education Spending** is the spending plan approved by voters each year, lowered by any expected revenues (like grants and interest). *As Education Spending increases, the tax rate increases. This is the only part of the formula impacted by local boards and voters.*
- The **Equalized Pupil Count** is a weighted count of the number of students in a district. *As the Equalized Pupil Count increases, the tax rate decreases.*
- The **Property Dollar Equivalent Yield** is an amount set by statute and revised annually by the Legislature. *As the dollar yield increases, the tax rate decreases.* This budget uses \$10,883, the amount recommended by the tax commissioner on December 2. The final figure will be set by the Legislature.
- The **Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)** measures the difference between listed property values and market value. A CLA below 100% means that on average, properties are selling above their assessed value. *As the CLA increases, the tax rate decreases. As the CLA decreases, the tax rate increases.*

The unified District has a single residential tax rate, but each town maintains a separate CLA, and so the Equalized Residential Education Tax Rate (the rate homeowners see on their bill) is different in each town.

Households with income below \$136,500 may be eligible for a credit on their residential property tax bill. According to the Vermont Tax Department, in Tax Year 2018, 1443 district property owners had their school taxes reduced based on income and 36 renters received a renter rebate. All Vermont residents who own and occupy a Vermont homestead must file a Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment Claim (HS-122) with the VT Department of Taxes by April 15.

Non-Residential Tax Rates

Non-residential tax rates are set by the legislature and change based on the CLA. *Local budget decisions do not change the non-residential tax rate assessed by the state.*

Sheldon Elementary Construction Project

In March of 2019, voters in Sheldon approved bonding for a construction project to make repairs to Sheldon Elementary School, including siding, window, and exterior door replacement, asbestos abatement, HVAC and fire/safety system upgrades, and gym floor repairs. This project is expected to be bid out in February, with the bulk of the work happening over the summer. The district will be seeking additional grant funds where possible to include additional recommended security upgrades.

Audit

Bakersfield, Berkshire, Montgomery, and Sheldon Town School Districts were audited by RHR Smith & Company for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Copies of the audits can be obtained by calling the Supervisory Union office at 802-848-7661.

Respectfully submitted by,

NMV UUSD School Directors

Jean-Marie Clark, Chair (Bakersfield)
Mary Niles, Vice Chair (Montgomery)
Erin Paquette, Clerk (Bakersfield)
Katherine Barnard (Montgomery)
Chelsea Mends-Cole (Sheldon)
Lisa Hango (Berkshire)
Emily Norris (Sheldon)
Lianne Trombley (Berkshire)

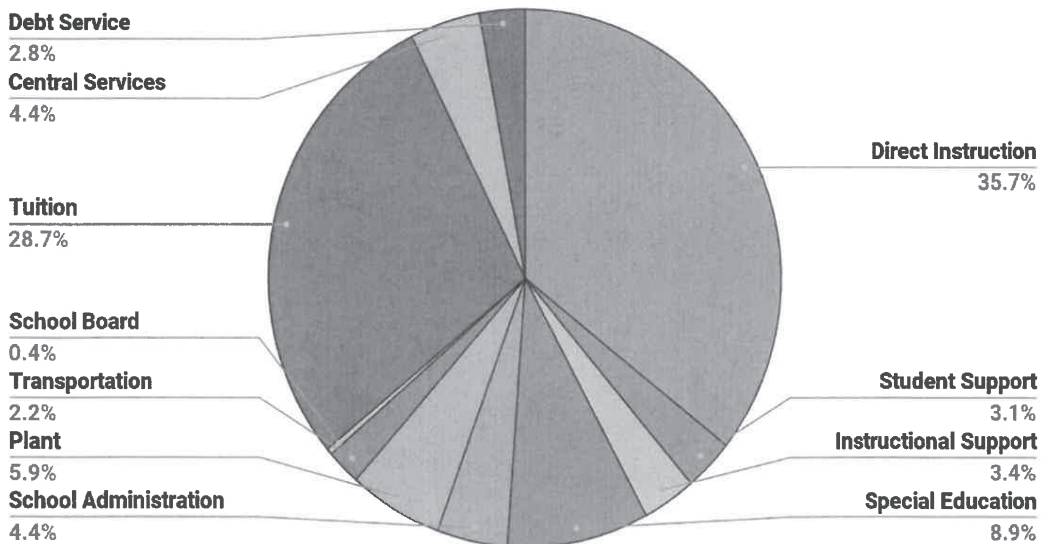
Administration

Lynn Cota, Superintendent
Jody Vaillancourt,
Director of Instruction & Learning
Michelle Theberge,
Director of Student Services
Dominic DeRosia, Technology Director
Heather Moore, LEAPS Project Director
Leonard Badeau, Berkshire Principal
Rhoda McLure, Bakersfield Principal
Sandy Alexander, Montgomery Principal
Christie Martin, Sheldon Principal
Nathan Demar,
Cold Hollow Career Center Director
Morgan Daybell, Business Manager

NORTHERN MOUNTAIN VALLEY PROPOSED FY21 BUDGET

PROJECTED TAX RATE	FY20 WARNED	FY21 PROPOSED	CHANGE
Budgeted Expenditures	\$16,295,883	\$16,834,820	\$538,937
less Local and Grant Revenue	\$1,298,551	\$1,092,211	-\$206,340
equals Education Spending	\$14,997,332	\$15,742,609	\$745,277
divided by Equalized Pupils	1060.63	1060.98	0.35
equals Per Pupil Education Spending	\$14,140	\$14,838	\$698
divided by Dollar Yield	\$10,666	\$10,883	\$217
equals Equalized residential school tax rate	\$1.3257	\$1.3634	\$0.0377
divided by Bakersfield CLA	98.70%	94.90%	-3.80%
equals Bakersfield Residential Education Tax Rate	\$1.3432	\$1.4367	\$0.0935
divided by Berkshire CLA	102.91%	100.56%	-2.35%
equals Berkshire Residential Education Tax Rate	\$1.2882	\$1.3558	\$0.0676
divided by Montgomery CLA	103.59%	103.40%	-0.19%
equals Montgomery Residential Education Tax Rate	\$1.2798	\$1.3186	\$0.0388
divided by Sheldon CLA	100.33%	96.54%	-3.79%
equals Sheldon Residential Education Tax Rate	\$1.3213	\$1.4123	\$0.0909

As the CLA decreases for a town, that town's Residential Education Tax Rate increases.

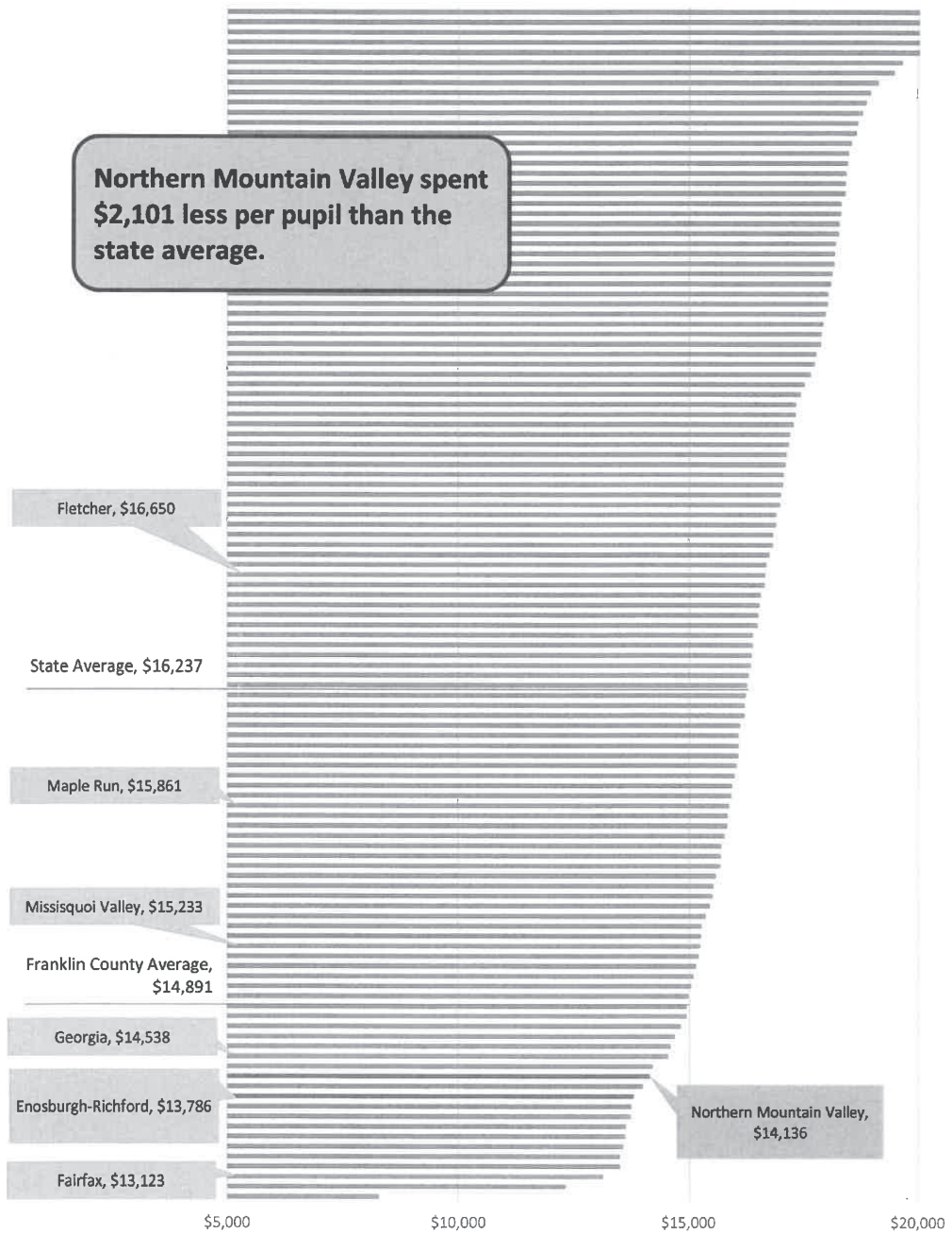


Northern Mountain Valley FY21 General Fund Budget

	FY19 Actual	FY20 Approved	FY21 Proposed	FY20-21 Change
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES				
PRE-KINDERGARTEN				
Regular Education				
Direct Instruction	\$226,021	\$349,810	\$284,664	(\$65,146)
Pre-K Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$34,450	\$34,450
Total Regular Education	\$226,021	\$349,810	\$319,114	(\$30,696)
Special Education				
Direct Instruction	\$17,656	\$43,067	\$26,972	(\$16,095)
Central Services	\$142,539	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Special Education	\$17,656	\$43,067	\$26,972	(\$16,095)
TOTAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN	\$386,216	\$392,877	\$346,086	(\$46,791)
K-12				
Regular Education				
Direct Instruction	\$5,125,041	\$5,153,591	\$5,547,294	\$393,703
Secondary Tuition	\$4,684,566	\$4,922,697	\$4,796,960	(\$125,737)
Athletics	\$33,915	\$54,695	\$33,981	(\$20,714)
Co-Curricular	\$26,489	\$142,000	\$142,000	\$0
Student Support	\$359,257	\$420,544	\$525,118	\$104,574
Instructional Support	\$315,518	\$664,583	\$566,695	(\$97,888)
General Administration	\$71,992	\$60,483	\$62,862	\$2,379
School Administration	\$696,685	\$730,946	\$745,312	\$14,366
Central Services	\$532,312	\$565,702	\$747,245	\$181,543
Plant	\$900,399	\$883,432	\$997,304	\$113,872
Student Transportation	\$381,447	\$390,800	\$365,611	(\$25,189)
Debt Service	\$450,374	\$486,130	\$479,113	(\$7,017)
Total Regular Education	\$13,577,997	\$14,475,603	\$15,009,495	\$533,892
Special Education				
Direct Instruction	\$590,501	\$702,053	\$689,281	(\$12,772)
Central Services	\$880,184	\$725,350	\$789,958	\$64,608
Total Special Education	\$1,470,685	\$1,427,403	\$1,479,239	\$51,836
TOTAL K-12	\$15,048,682	\$15,903,006	\$16,488,734	\$585,728
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$15,434,897	\$16,295,883	\$16,834,820	\$538,937

A more detailed expenditure budget is available at www.fnesu.org

FY20 Ed Spending Per Pupil



[illegible]

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$10,883 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$13,396 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of 1.654. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.
- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
- The base income percentage can be 2.0%.

Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union FY21 Budget

	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budget	FY21 Proposed	FY20-21 Change
GENERAL FUND REVENUE				
Local Revenue	\$1,791	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
Transportation Assessment	\$532,214	\$654,300	\$585,666	(\$68,634)
Central Office Assessment	\$1,150,933	\$1,379,762	\$1,798,545	\$418,783
Subgranted	\$26,576	\$25,000	\$26,000	\$1,000
State Revenue	\$489,220	\$545,000	\$604,000	\$59,000
Food Service	\$0	\$1,256,600	\$982,000	(\$274,600)
Other Revenue	\$847	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	\$2,201,581	\$3,861,662	\$3,998,211	\$136,549

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

Regular Education				
Improvement of Instruction	\$110,239	\$140,473	\$157,005	\$16,532
General Administration	\$584,536	\$645,710	\$698,510	\$52,800
School Administration	\$0	\$0	\$81,290	\$81,290
Central Services	\$398,244	\$422,922	\$445,621	\$22,699
Operation of Plant	\$23,996	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$0
Student Transportation	\$1,003,221	\$1,196,848	\$1,189,666	(\$7,182)
Food Service Operations	\$1,819	\$1,403,487	\$1,373,851	(\$29,636)
Total Regular Education	\$2,122,055	\$3,833,440	\$3,969,943	\$136,503
Other Instruction				
Direct Instruction	\$26,274	\$28,222	\$28,268	\$46
Total Other Instruction	\$26,274	\$28,222	\$28,268	\$46
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$2,148,329	\$3,861,662	\$3,998,211	\$136,549

SPECIAL EDUCATION REVENUE

Local Revenue	\$1,448,675	\$1,769,147	\$1,926,728	\$157,581
State Revenue	\$1,922,086	\$3,081,441	\$3,187,959	\$106,518
Federal Revenue	\$571,873	\$731,610	\$697,000	(\$34,610)
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION REVENUE	\$3,942,634	\$5,582,198	\$5,811,687	\$229,489

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Special Education				
Direct Instruction	\$3,150,980	\$3,883,169	\$3,973,629	\$90,460
Student Support	\$340,745	\$745,351	\$929,046	\$183,695
Improvement of Instruction	\$169,681	\$332,232	\$295,422	(\$36,810)
General Administration	\$368,434	\$357,946	\$390,590	\$32,644
Student Transportation	\$251	\$263,500	\$223,000	(\$40,500)
Total Special Education	\$4,030,091	\$5,582,198	\$5,811,687	\$229,489
TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUND EXPEN	\$4,030,091	\$5,582,198	\$5,811,687	\$229,489

**Town of Berkshire
4454 Water Tower Rd.
Berkshire, VT 05450**

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