



Friday, March 24, 2023

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff,

**Please note important upcoming events set forth below:**



- March 24, 2023 – Hyde Park Elementary School, Spring Dance, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- March 24, 2023 – Johnson Elementary School, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- March 25, 2023 – Hyde Park Elementary School, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Bottle Drive, 9:00 am - noon
- March 25, 2023 – Eden Central School, Family Fun Day, 9:00 am – 11:00 am
- March 31, 2023 – Cambridge Elementary School, Celebration of Learners, 8:20 am
- March 31, 2023 – Johnson Elementary School, Family Movie Night, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- March 31, 2023 – Lamoille Union Middle/High School/GMTCC, Quarter 3 Ends
- March 31, 2023 – GMTCC, Red Cross Blood Drive in the CEC, 7:00 am – 1:00 pm
- April 1, 2023 – Lamoille Union High School – District Band/Chorus Festival, All Day



It is finally starting to feel like spring and I take so much joy in the birds singing each morning. I think we are probably not quite finished with the last of the snow, but spring is definitely in the air. With that said, we are experiencing the onset of “mud” season as is typical for this time of year. Some of our back roads will be worse than others and we will keep you posted in the event any of our bus routes need to be temporarily modified. We recognize that this is an inconvenience for families and staff, and we will try to keep any disruptions that may occur to a minimum.

In district news, our school calendar for the 2023-2024 year has been approved and is on our website for your reference. Please see [HERE](#) for the calendar and important dates. The new school year will officially begin on **Monday, August 28, 2023.**



In more news, you may recall that I foreshadowed in a previous newsletter the replacement for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). This year, Vermont will be implementing the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment Program (VTCAP) provided by Cognia. This assessment replaces the Smarter Balanced Assessment and Vermont Science Assessment (VTSA) administered in recent years. This new assessment provides improvements to our assessment system in terms of equity and accessibility (e.g., translations, embedded speech-to-text). The new modality will be computer-based, and all three subjects will be adaptive (new for science) and will assess our state standards for ELA, math, and science.

These assessments include VTCAP Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3-9 and VTCAP Science for students in grades 5, 8, and 11. **The testing window for these assessments is between April 12 and May 26, 2023. The specific testing schedule for the school your student attends will be shared by the school principal or school testing coordinator.** After testing is completed, Individual Student Reports will be sent directly to families. These reports will provide information on what your student(s) learned in relation to the statewide academic standards.

To learn more about the VTCAP, please visit the Vermont Agency of Education state website [HERE](#).



Join us on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, for the Lamoille Valley Vape Awareness Town Hall. We have received feedback from families requesting education about vaping, vape devices and impacts to health, and are very excited to co-host this evening with our community partner, Healthy Lamoille Valley. The event will take place from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Community Education Center at GMTCC.

The Town Hall is an opportunity to hear from health professionals from Healthy Lamoille Valley and school leaders from Lamoille North. The event on May 8<sup>th</sup> is a chance to learn about the rise of vaping, its health impacts, the ways in which Lamoille North is preventing its use within our student body, and what we can all do to make our communities as safe and healthy as possible.

Registration opens on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



#### **Let's Talk: Take our Lamoille North Communication Survey**

We need your input! As we work to dial in our communication efforts across our Supervisory Union, we want to know how and where you turn for information. Please take our short survey [HERE](#) to let us know how we can better communicate our updates and the great learning and opportunities happening across Lamoille North.

Lastly, I continue to be so grateful for our Lamoille North community members and the strong relationships we have built together. We appreciate your support for our work with your children and youth. Thank you again for your collaboration, compassion and dedication to the wellbeing of our students, staff and families. I hope all of you have a wonderful weekend!

My best to you,

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