

Winnacunnet High School Accomplishments 2017 – 2018

The 2017 – 2018 school year was a very successful one. With the continuing support and interest of everyone involved in the school community, Winnacunnet High School has been able to achieve the accomplishments listed below:

Faculty and Staff

- Winnacunnet High School was ranked as the tenth high school in New Hampshire in the 2018 high school rankings by US News & World Report. The U.S. News rankings include data on more than 20,500 public schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- Winnacunnet High School received a Blue Ribbon Achievement Award in recognition of the extraordinary volunteer efforts of Winnacunnet staff and students.
- Winnacunnet High School received a Gold Circle Award in recognition of the valuable partnerships that Winnacunnet has with local businesses.
- Winnacunnet's NEASC Five-Year Progress Report was accepted by the NEASC Committee on Public Secondary Schools. This report highlighted the many positive aspects of programs and initiatives. The next accreditation cycle will start in the fall of 2020 with the decennial accreditation visit to occur in 2023.
- School-Wide embedded professional development focused on the assessment of the school-wide learning expectations, refinement of competency-based reporting, and a needs assessment of providing student assistance. This professional development opportunity allows teachers to expand their capacity to implement several best practices for improved achievement and provides teachers the opportunity to work collaboratively across departments, exchange ideas and create a shared ownership of the initiatives being implemented.
- The Winnacunnet Data Team published the second annual School Report Card, highlighting academic, cultural and athletic accomplishments of the school.
- Winnacunnet and SAU21 hosted Frank Edelblut, NH Commissioner of Education, for a tour of the district.
- Winnacunnet unveiled a new website that is mobile friendly, dynamic, easier to navigate and more secure.
- As part of the Technology Plan, Winnacunnet provided Acer c740 Chromebook devices to every member of the Class of 2019, Class of 2020, and the Class of 2021. Like a textbook, these computers will be signed out and collected by the school, but remain in the possession of students during the school year (as well as after their graduation). For every subsequent year, the school will continue to purchase a technology device for incoming freshmen. According to this schedule, Winnacunnet will be a 1:1 (1 device deployed to every student) school by 2018-19 school year.
- Winnacunnet High School held the annual **Career Fair** (Over 65 professionals set up in the gymnasium to discuss their careers and answer any questions students may have had. There were representatives from every career cluster.), **Alumni Fair** (Over 25 former WHS graduates gathered in the cafeteria to talk about their college and career experience since graduating from WHS.) and **Alumni Panel** (WHS Alumni set up a panel in the auditorium to discuss their pathway after graduation). They focused on the ups and

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downs of college and employment as well as their suggestions for what high school students can do to better prepare themselves for life after high school. This year Winnacunnet added a *Community Service Awareness Fair* (Over 25 community service organizations/businesses discussed opportunities for students to become involved in community service), and the first ever **Job Fair** (Over 40 employers were on-site providing students work opportunities).

- The ELO Program continues to grow and is a model program for schools throughout the state and country. Students participated in 276 ELO's, and were supported by 23 mentor teachers. Winnacunnet has over 100 community partners and started the Community Advisory Board consisting of 16 community members. The Winnacunnet program was spotlighted at NESSC's Annual High School Re-Design Conference, the National Governors Association on Work Based Learning, Reaching Higher's Campaign - "Ready in the 603", the NH College and Career Readiness Alliance, the New Hampshire Learning Initiative's Summer Design Studio on Competency Based Education, and the NH CTE's Summer Conference. Exemplars of Winnacunnet students' ELOs are on the state [Beyond Classroom](#) website.
- English teacher, Kate McKenney, was published in the November 17, 2017 issues of Educational Leadership. The article, "Creating a Space for Open Dialogue" discusses how teachers can foster discussions about controversial issues through the creation of a judgment-free environment for students. <http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/nov17/vol75/num03/Creating-a-Space-for-Open-Dialogue.aspx>
- In the first year of offering the Intro to Programming, Android Apps class, six Android Apps were developed by Winnacunnet students. These apps were submitted, accepted and are available for downloading from the Google Play Store on Android phones and most tablets. Additionally, the class offered dual enrollment through the New Hampshire Community College System at Manchester CC; nine students received three college credits each.
- Another successful Empty Bowls event conducted by the Art Department provided funds to the WHS Nurses fund and Seacoast Youth Services to support Winnacunnet students at risk
- Science teachers, Barbara Reid and Heather Noone, traveled with 38 students to Portugal, Spain, and Germany.
- Spanish teacher, Ellen Knollmeyer and Christine Edgar, (with Live the Osa), traveled with 13 Winnacunnet students to Costa Rica in the Language and Culture Immersion Program.
- French teacher, Kelley Richards, traveled with 10 Winnacunnet students to France for a 10 day immersion program with students from Saint Quentin, France. The students attended classes and lived with French families. Students also visited Belgium and spent a weekend in Paris, visiting historic and cultural sites.
- Social Studies teacher Wendy Bergeron conducted two teacher institutes in conjunction with the Massachusetts Historical Society entitled: "Teaching LGBTQ History" and "Gender and Sexuality in Early America". Ms. Bergeron has also been named the New Hampshire's James Madison Fellow for 2017.

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- Family and Consumer Sciences teacher, Nicole Douglas, received a grant from the Friends of Winnacunnet to support the Healthy Warrior Project.
- JAG Coordinator Megan Murtha was recognized as a *JAG Outstanding Specialist* based on success in fully implementing the JAG Model and achieving extraordinary outcomes for JAG program participants."
- Winnacunnet added several new clubs and sports programs. Clubs added this year are American Sign Language (teach American Sign Language to students), Sustainability Club (raise awareness about environmental issues in the school and community), Girl Up (support the empowerment of girls), Cryptozoology (discover/discuss/explore mysterious, unidentified species of animals), and SAFER (raise awareness and advocate school safety, contacting and coordinating with government/local officials to create safe schools). Girl's Ice Hockey, Alpine and Nordic Skiing, Bowling, and Boys' Volleyball were added as new sports.
- Winnacunnet hosted an assembly to share the story of Jim and Jean Moser, whose son Adam died of a Fentanyl overdose in 2015. The visit was an effort to highlight & educate students about the NH opioid epidemic.
- Winnacunnet sponsored the annual 'culture matters' event. This year we hosted Rebirth Brass Band, considered the quintessential New Orleans Brass ensemble. The band has embodied the essence of New Orleans music since the early 1980's, has toured internationally, won a Grammy Award, and was even featured several times on the HBO show Treme.
- The Winnacunnet community, led by the Guidance Department, continues to participate in a massive Thanksgiving basket campaign. Students and staff worked together to fill baskets for families in need in our district that include all of the items necessary for a Thanksgiving feast. Sixty-two baskets were delivered to families throughout the community. This endeavor would not be possible without the faculty, student groups, and community partners working together.

Class of 2018

Two-hundred and fifty-three (253) seniors graduated in the class of 2018. Graduates were accepted into over 200 colleges and universities as listed below. Approximately Sixty-three percent will be attending four-year colleges, seventeen percent will be attending two-year colleges, three percent will be attending technical schools, and 5% will be entering military service.

The University of Alabama, Arcadia University, Arizona State University, The University of Arizona, Auburn University, Becker College, Bentley University, Binghamton University, Bishop's University, Boston College, Boston University, Bradley University, University of Bridgeport, Bridgewater State University, Bridgton Academy, Butler University, Case Western Reserve University, Castleton University, The Catholic University of America, Champlain College, College of Charleston, Chatham University, Clark University, Clarkson University, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina Community College, Coastal Carolina University, Colby College, Colby-Sawyer College, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, Columbia College Chicago, Connecticut College, University of Connecticut, Cornell University, Curry College, Dartmouth College, Dean College, University of

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Delaware, University of Denver, Drew University, Drexel University, Duke University, Elon University, Emerson College, Emmanuel College, Empire Beauty School - Somersworth, Endicott College, Fashion Institute of Technology, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida Southern College, Fordham University, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Franklin Pierce University, George Mason University, University of Georgia, Gordon College, Great Bay Community College (NHCTC-Portsmouth), University of Hartford, Hartwick College, Harvard University, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii Pacific University, High Point University, Hofstra University, College of the Holy Cross, Husson University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Indiana University at Bloomington, Ithaca College, James Madison University, John Cabot University, Johnson & Wales University (Providence), Keene State College, Lafayette College, Lakes Region Community College (NHCTC-Laconia), Lasell College, LIM College (Laboratory Institute of Merchandising), Limestone College, Long Island University, Post, Louisiana State University, Loyola Marymount University, Loyola University Maryland, Lynchburg College, Macalester College, Madonna University, University of Maine at Farmington, Maine College of Art, University of Maine, Manhattanville College, Marist College, University of Mary Washington, University of Maryland, College Park, Marymount Manhattan College, Massachusetts Bay Community College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, MCPHS - Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, McGill University, Mercer University, Mercyhurst University, Merrimack College, University of Miami, Michigan State University (Eli Broad College of Business), Middlesex Community College, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Mississippi College, University of Mississippi, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montclair State University, Mount Holyoke College, Muhlenberg College, New England College, University of New England, University of New Hampshire at Durham, University of New Hampshire at Durham (Thompson School of Applied Science), University of New Hampshire at Manchester, University of New Haven, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Northeastern University, Northern Essex Community College, Old Dominion University, Oregon State University, Pace University, New York City, Palm Beach State College, Pennsylvania State University, Plymouth State University, Pratt Institute, Providence College, Purdue University, Quinnipiac University, Regis College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, University of Rhode Island, Ringling College of Art and Design, Rivier University, Roanoke College, Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Rochester, Roger Williams University, Rutgers University School of Nursing, Rutgers University-New Brunswick (Rutgers Business School), Sacred Heart University, Saint Anselm College, Saint Joseph's College-ME, Saint Michael's College, Salem State University, Salisbury University, Salve Regina University, San Diego State University, University of San Francisco, Savannah College of Art and Design, Seton Hall University, Simmons College, College of the Siskiyous, University of South Carolina, University of South Florida, Tampa, Southern Connecticut State University, Southern Maine Community College, University of Southern Maine, Southern New Hampshire University, Southern Vermont College, Springfield College, St. John Fisher College, St. John's University - Staten Island Campus, St. John's University - Queens Campus, St. Lawrence University, St. Olaf College, State University of New York at New Paltz, Stetson University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Stonehill College, Stony Brook University, Suffolk University, SUNY Buffalo State College, SUNY Plattsburgh, Syracuse University, The University of Tampa, Temple University, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Towson University, Trinity College Dublin,

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University of Mount Olive, University of Utah, Utica College, University of Vermont, Villanova University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech, Wagner College, Washington College, Washington State University, Wentworth Institute of Technology, West Virginia University, Wheaton College IL, Wheaton College MA, White Mountains Community College (NHCTC - Berlin), Worcester Polytechnic Institute, York County Community College

Art students compete annually in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. These awards recognize the vision, ingenuity, and talent of our nation's youth, and provided opportunities for creative teens to be celebrated. Nearly 320,000 works of art and writing were submitted by young artists and writers, filmmakers and photographers, poets and sculptors, video game artists and science fiction writers in an effort to earn scholarships and have their works published. The following students received the Gold Key Award: Hope Olson - Ceramics & Glass *white lotus-kyer phyu-hope*, Elizabeth Bullard - Jewelry *Robins Egg*, Marie Bonenfant - Painting *Scène de la Cuisine Simple* and *A Southern Welcome*, Lindsey Turcotte - Painting *Trompe L'oeil Canvas*, and Victoria Curtis - Sculpture *Dancer*. The following students received the Silver Key Award: Emma Clark - Ceramics & Glass *Zen*, Sophie Robie - Drawing and Illustration *Hooked*, Elizabeth Bullard - Jewelry *Red Silk*, and Marjorie Smith - Painting *Claude*. The following students received Honorable Mention: Kayla Burgess - Ceramics & Glass *Flower Power*, Jacqueline Poirier - Jewelry *Grit*, Tiffany Reuss - Jewelry *Modern Hollow Form Ring*, Tiffany Reuss - Jewelry *Geometric Necklace*, Shanier Lohnes - Painting *Pumpkin*, Katherine Shek - Painting *Stone Pillar*, Marjorie Smith - Painting *A Visit From the Tooth Fairy*, Lindsey Turcotte - Painting *Tricycle*, Emily Ellis - Printmaking *The Mandala Effect*, and Katelin Curtis - Sculpture *Jump*.

Interact Club students helped at the Seafood Festival, assisted with the road races at the beach in October, created Thanksgiving baskets, delivered poinsettias to the elderly, hosted Friends Forever Northern Ireland students and officers traveled to NYC.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes students assisted with Good Samaritan Christmas boxes to be sent overseas.

Positive Pathways students created the mission statement: Our goal is to increase and encourage trust, kindness, and unity as a school. We feel that everyone should have a sense of belonging. We value community service as a way of bringing our community together. This year students recognized Unity Day Oct 25th and gave orange ribbons to all staff and students for awareness, sold "Do Good Bars: Food with a Purpose" (All Natural granola bars. Each bar contained a "Kindness statement". All proceeds went to United for Puerto Rico for the hurricane relief), provided a Thanksgiving basket, and collected hats, scarves, and mittens Seabrook Elementary School Giving Tree.

Decision Program students washed, sorted and delivered over 100 lbs of Winnacunnet's discarded clothing to Goodwill.

ROTC students provided 2,500 hours of community service in support of events such as Hampton Seafood festival, Hampton Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort (200 hours that resulted in

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two tractor trailers worth of goods being shipped to Houston TX), NH Veterans Sate Cemetery 100 Nights of Remembrance Ceremony, Hampton 9/11 Ceremony, Exeter Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Marine Corps Flag Raising Ceremony at NH State Capitol, and Marine Expeditionary Brigade Marine corps Birthday Luncheon, SONH Penguin Plunge and SONH Winter and Summer Games (1,000 hours). The students fund-raised \$4,200 to send two SONH Athletes to 2018 USA Special Olympic games held in Seattle, WA. Additionally the students competed against nine other JROTC programs from NH and ME in the 2018 Maine Maritime Academy Leadership Challenge Weekend and received the Best Unit Award.

The GSTA club had good success recruiting new members at the activity fair – maintaining between 15-23 members at meetings with the goal to make the community aware of our club. The members created a logo, sponsored the blood drive in October, participated in the Hampton Parade, and hosted a talent show.

Winnacunnet FinLit300 team (Tommy Baker, Grace Cragg, Emma Grant, Ryan Lee, Jaden Lesparance, and Cameron Strukel) won the state championship. This was a jeopardy style contest on personal finance and financial literacy.

Destination Imagination students placed first in their challenge at the regional tournament and the Winnatonix team placed 4th in the state tournament

Chamber Singers received a "Gold" rating at the Voices of the 603 Choral Festival. Two students were accepted to the NHMEA Jazz All-State Chorus: Andrew Cico was accepted into the Honors Choir and Adam Richards was accepted into the Jazz Choir. Three students were accepted to the NHMEA All-State Festival: Andrew Cico and Adam Richards were accepted to the Mixed Choir and Samuel Graff was accepted into the Band.

The Marching Band honored fallen veterans by performing at the Wreaths Across America ceremony in conjunction with ROTC.

The JAG program placed second at the statewide Career Development Conference for the community service project to help Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (<https://www.wevideo.com/view/1107653832>) . At the conference Michael Stocker won first place for public speaking, Hayden Branagan won third place for public speaking, and Josie Collin won a leadership award. Rayyan Awlia, Mackenzie Hardy, and Emilee Donahue were all awarded \$1,500 scholarships. Additionally, Emilee Donahue and Sarah Wood, were selected to attend the annual Jobs for America's Graduates National Student Leadership Academy in Washington, DC.

This national event provides students the opportunity to meet other JAG students from across the country and participate in valuable leadership development opportunities. Emilee and Sarah will participate in workshops as well as competitive events such as public speaking and employability skills and will have several opportunities to tour Washington DC. In addition, the students will be exposed to the JAG organization on a much larger scale

The varsity football team had an undefeated season and won the Division 1 State Championship.

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Winnacunnet student-athlete, Billy Powers had several accomplishments: 55m hurdle and 300m hurdle champion and high jump champion at Division 1 indoor track championship meet, 55m hurdle champion at New England Indoor Track Championship meet, 110m hurdle and 300m hurdle champion at the Division 1 meet in outdoor track, 110m hurdle champion at Meet of Champions in outdoor track. Set the state record in 110 hurdles, 110m hurdle and 300m hurdle New England Champion in outdoor track, named Mr. NH Track and Field 2018, named NH Gatorade Track and Field Athlete of the Year for the second year in a row, and named Union Leader Athlete of the Month for June 2018.

Nineteen Scholar Athletes were honored at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord on February 5th for their academic and athletic accomplishments and their community service efforts: Patrick Cotter, Leah Orzechowski, Travis Arsenault, Hope Olson, Sydney Murray, Matt Gigliotti, Kelsey Hiney, Lyndsey Parrott, Lauren Considine, Isabel Johnston, Nick Quinlan, Tommy Baker, Dana Sher, Zach Waterhouse, Cam Leno, McKenzy Wall, Joe Gyorda, Jenny Long, and Devan Sack

Boy's indoor track 4x800m relay team were the champions at the Division 1 indoor track meet.

Anne Rademacher was the Division II state swimming champion in the 200m freestyle and the 500m freestyle events.

Zach Waterhouse scored 1000 career points in his final game of the basketball season at Portsmouth HS in the quarterfinal round of the basketball tournament.

Alisyn and Keelyn McNamara were named Academic All Americans by US Lacrosse for their accomplishments in the classroom and on the field.

The girl's field hockey, softball and lacrosse teams all advanced to the semi-final round in their respective tournaments.

Abel Ravencraft and Noah Taracena qualified for the Nordic Skiing Meet of Champions.

Charlotte Grippio qualified for the Alpine Skiing Meet of Champions

The Seacoast Media Group sponsored their second annual Seacoast Sports Awards of the Year at the Portsmouth Music Hall on June 21. The following from Winnacunnet were honored: Varsity Football Team was named Team of the Year, Ron Auffant was named Football Coach of the Year, Courtney Ingham was named Field Hockey Player of the Year, and Billy Powers was named Indoor and Outdoor Track Athlete of the Year and Overall Male Athlete of the Year