

**Chloe Ngu:**

What I value most about my current educational experience in Vermont is the strong sense of community and the close relationships with my teachers and classmates. Because our schools are smaller, every student is truly seen and supported, and teachers have the opportunity to get to know us as individuals. This creates an environment where I feel comfortable asking questions, expressing my opinions, and taking risks in my learning. I also appreciate the variety of opportunities available, from extracurricular activities to unique courses that let me explore my interests. The emphasis on equity and inclusion ensures that everyone has a chance to participate and succeed, regardless of their background or where they live in the state.

My biggest hope for the future of education in Vermont is that we continue to build on these strengths while addressing the challenges of a changing world. I hope that all students, no matter their town or family income, have access to high-quality teachers and modern resources in a wide range of academic and extracurricular options. I would also like to see more support for mental health and well-being as well as increased opportunities for hands-on learning interests and real-world problem-solving. It matters to me that Vermont continues to emphasize equity and local engagement but also be able to innovate and prepare students to succeed in college, trades, or other ways. Ultimately, I hope that the education system continues to empower every student to reach their full potential.