



Friday Forum

November 17, 2023

- Following pace with general trends across much of the country, New Hampshire's **student enrollment** continues to shrink – marking a steady, downward trend for more than two decades. This week, NHED released its statewide student [enrollment numbers](#) for the fall of 2023. At the start of the current 2023-2024 academic year, 165,095 students were officially enrolled in New Hampshire public and public charter schools. Learn more [here](#).
- NHED has released its [suggested school calendar](#) for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- Adequate Education Grant Estimates have been released; for 2025, the base per pupil rate is \$4,182 per Average Daily Membership. The Bureau of School Finance will be hosting an Office Hours at noon on Nov. 28 to run through the **adequacy calculation** and answer questions; register [here](#). A separate training video is available [here](#).
- As part of the state accountability system, all public schools are required to complete the IBAS (**Input Based Accountability System**) data collection. NHED will be collecting this information via a new system, ESSP (Education and Student Success Platform). [Learn more](#).
- New Hampshire educators and residents are invited to a [film screening](#) of the documentary **Chasing Childhood**, which will include a panel discussion and Q/A session at 6 p.m. Nov. 28 at Concord High School. The film examines the importance of free play and unstructured time
- Registration will remain open until Nov. 30 for round three of the **Security Action for Education (SAFE) grant**. This \$10 million grant is funded by Public School Infrastructure money and is available to district and chartered public schools. Schools may register [here](#).
- Student Voices: **Anxious Nation Documentary** and the Anxiety Epidemic event will convene Dec. 4 at the Grappone Conference Center. This [event](#) is free for all students and their teachers on behalf of NHASP and NHASEA.
- The New Hampshire Excellence in Education (**EDies**) **Awards** was established to honor exemplary practices and excellence at the elementary, middle, K-8 and high school levels throughout the Granite State. Apply to be a [School of Excellence](#). The Intent to Apply deadline is Dec. 22.

- The [Doris Barnes Retired Educator Lifetime Achievement Award](#) was created to honor a retired teacher or teachers who have continued to work with youth and the betterment of public education after their retirement. Doris was a founding member of the EDies board. The deadline to nominate is Feb. 1.
- DHHS has launched a new, statewide public awareness campaign for **behavioral health** and access to services. [Strong As Granite](#) provides a sense of hope and connectedness, reinforcing that mental health and substance use challenges can affect anyone, and ensuring everyone in New Hampshire is aware of the resources available to them.
- NHED is sponsoring a **research project on student wellbeing and play** in public elementary schools with child development researchers in the Boston College School of Social Work. The aim of the research project is to implement and evaluate two no-cost, school-based programs, [Let Grow](#) and [Play Club](#), during the 2023-2024 academic year. The research will also measure student social, emotional and cognitive development. Superintendents and school principals interested in learning more may email Dr. Maggie Van Camp at vancampm@bc.edu.
- The NH State Fire Marshal's Office is exploring a grant opportunity for the installation of **carbon monoxide alarms**, at no charge, to include school buildings. Complete this one-minute [survey](#) by Nov. 22 to help determine how many schools in New Hampshire currently have carbon monoxide alarms.

Resources for Educators

- The competition is on for a Pizza Party! **Tutor.com** will be throwing a schoolwide pizza party for the New Hampshire school with the highest percentage of students who connect with a tutor during November. Birches Academy is currently in the lead, followed by Bedford High, Dover High, Londonderry High and Lurgio Middle School.
- NHED and **321 Insight** are partnering to offer new [virtual learning opportunities](#) designed to support paraeducators in their daily work. Restructuring the Environment to Build and Sustain Positive Relationships is a new series launching in December.
- **Graduation Alliance** provides 1-1 mentoring for students in need of an extra layer of support to boost school engagement and academic success. Call 603-758-3259 to get set up.
- **Discovery Education Experience** is more than just videos! Top usage includes Active Learning resources such as Ready-To-Use Activities edited by teachers to fit their students' diverse needs, Interactives, activities celebrating Veterans Day, Daily Fix-Its for grammar and Background Builders - subject area and reading comprehension support. Looking for Thanksgiving activities? Contact Nancy Rose at nrose@discoveryed.com to learn more.

To have information included in future editions of the Friday Forum, email Kimberly.C.Houghton@doe.nh.gov