



## *Friday Forum*

February 16, 2024

- During the previous legislative session, two bills that pertain to restraint and seclusion were passed into law – SB 179 and HB 491. One of the significant changes to the law is that school districts are now required to use a State-developed **restraint and seclusion form** for purposes of documenting when a school employee utilizes restraint or seclusion. Pursuant to the law, this [form](#) was created by NHED and the Department of Health and Human Services in consultation with a group of stakeholders from the field. While this form is now required to be used by the field for documentation, these individual forms should not be submitted to NHED. Rather, in maintaining past practices and in accordance with the current law, these forms should be maintained by the field and the cumulative number of restraint and seclusions should be reported to NHED in the annual Safety Survey.
- New Hampshire’s Public Higher Education Task Force will be hosting a [public comment session](#) and is eager to gather feedback from stakeholders. The session will take place from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Feb. 23 at 25 Hall St. in Concord.
- This February, NHED’s Bureau of Career Development is celebrating the many achievements of [Career and Technical Education](#) students and programming statewide.
- This [2024 Solar Eclipse Webpage](#) provides a list of resources, educational materials and events for teachers and parents regarding this rare and exciting learning opportunity on April 8. If you have content to add, email [comms@doe.nh.gov](mailto:comms@doe.nh.gov). For schools that requested orders of **solar eclipse glasses** through NHED’s survey request form, those glasses will be shipped directly to you by March 22; please note that in some instances, multiple orders were requested for the same school or same school district; in these instances, only one order request will be granted.
- The [State National History Competition](#) will be held on April 6 at Plymouth State University. Teachers interested in learning how their students could participate in this learning experience may email [newhampshire@nhd.org](mailto:newhampshire@nhd.org). Registration is now open.
- VR New Hampshire and **White Mountains Community College** are hosting a [Level Up Event](#) from 10 a.m. to noon on April 12 at the WMCC Littleton Campus to explore career opportunities.
- A free [screening](#) of “**The Right to Read**” film will take place at 6:30 p.m. on March 5 at The Flying Monkey in Plymouth.

- Congratulations to **Anna Balletta** of Beech Street School in Manchester for being named to Curriculum Associates' 2024 class of [extraordinary educators](#).
- A series of live, virtual [School Chemical Safety Trainings](#) will be held starting in March and running through August. This **safety training** is available for middle and high school faculty, administrators and facility operations managers, and is specifically geared toward science labs, art studios and industrial art shops.
- Join Marina Seevak, MAT, the founding executive director of the Beautiful Stuff Project, a teacher-driven organization, for a free and virtual [workshop](#) on **curating play experiences** for children with its loose parts treasure boxes from 7-8 p.m. on Feb. 20. Licensed educators in New Hampshire are eligible to receive CEUs.
- Join Dr. Peter Gray, a research professor from Boston College, for a free and virtual [webinar](#) on **free play** and social and emotional development from 7-8 p.m. followed by a Q&A until 8:30 p.m. on Feb. 21. Licensed educators in New Hampshire are eligible to receive CEUs.
- The New Hampshire Motor Speedway and the NASCAR Cup Series are offering New Hampshire educators and school staff with a 20% discount on tickets for their [June 23 event](#).
- 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 team is also available to measure student social, emotional and cognitive development. If you are interested in learning more you may complete this [Interest Form](#), or email Dr. Jessica Black, principal investigator, at [blackjp@bc.edu](mailto:blackjp@bc.edu), or Dr. Maggie Van Camp, associate researcher, at [vancampm@bc.edu](mailto:vancampm@bc.edu) to set up a meeting to discuss the project and what it would mean for your school to participate.

### ***Resources for Educators***

- Discovery Education, with NHED, is here to support reading and literacy in NH schools. Join an informal **NH Reading Roundtable** with Nancy Rose of Discovery Education and Kathleen McCaffery of NHED from 4-5 p.m. on Feb. 22. This is an opportunity to learn about resources from NHED and Discovery Education, ask questions, share information and brainstorm with colleagues. [Register here](#).
- **College Guidance Network** is hosting a webinar at 7 p.m. Feb. 25 titled "Academic Pathways: Know Your Options." This live Q&A will discuss degrees and credentials, the process of transferring credits and where to find good online learning. [Register here](#).
- **Tutor.com** offers 24/7 [online tutoring](#), essay drop-off and test prep services for all New Hampshire students in grades 4-12, as well as adult education learners at no cost.

- **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.

*To have information included in future editions of the Friday Forum, email  
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