



New Hampshire

Department of Education

Friday Forum

April 21, 2023

- NHED is providing school officials with a letter that may be distributed to their school communities regarding a proposal to amend rules governing the **Minimum Standards for Public Schools Approval, Ed 306**. As part of this process, public input and feedback is being sought. Information sessions are being planned throughout the state to discuss the draft and gather insight. [Here](#) is a letter that may be shared explaining the process, which includes a link to the draft document.
- The New Hampshire Attorney General's Office has issued this [letter](#) to educational leaders regarding an investigation into **social media platforms** and their impact on young people. This topic will be discussed at noon on May 1 when a representative from the Attorney General's Office will be present during NHED's monthly Zoom call with school leaders.
- **No Safe Experience** is a comprehensive statewide campaign that is raising awareness of the dangers of fentanyl and its presence in fake pills and other illicit substances. A toolkit is now available to provide school districts with access to materials that could be used to help better educate our youth that there is "No Safe Experience" when it comes to using illicit substances. Download the Canvas [Toolkit](#) at the bottom of the webpage. As a reminder, [National Fentanyl Awareness Day](#) is May 9.
- The New Hampshire [Assistive Technology Expo](#) will take place from noon to 5 p.m. on May 10 at The Hotel Concord. Meet with **assistive technology** companies and specialists to learn more about their products and services.
- The NHSaves program offers public and private schools rebates and incentives for **energy-efficient projects**. These include new construction and retrofits. The NHSaves program can help with projects related to HVAC, lighting, food service equipment, weatherization and more. Contact your utility partner or visit nhsaves.com to learn more.
- Registration for Schoolhouse's June **SAT Bootcamps** – in preparation for the June 3 SAT exam – opens on April 24. Students and their parents may [sign up here](#) ahead of the May 3 registration deadline. The bootcamp is a four-week long tutoring series and research study to help students prepare for the upcoming SAT. Sessions take place twice a week, 75 minutes per session.
- NHED and **321 Insight** will host the last series of in-person professional development for the school year on May 16-18. The focus will be on trauma-informed practices and classroom

proven strategies to address challenging behavior. Sessions will take place on May 16 at Keene State College, May 17 at North Country Education Services in Gorham and May 18 at the NHED offices in Concord. [Register by May 13](#).

- The [Yass Prize](#) is a movement to transform education. It is searching for education changemakers from all sectors of education – private, charter, public and more – who are delivering an education that is sustainable, transformational and outstanding. Applications are open until July 15; substantial cash prizes are awarded.
- NH public and public charter schools are invited to apply for the **Bridging the Gap in the 603: Pathways to Literacy Proficiency State Systemic Improvement Plan** pilot beginning in the next school year. The Bureau of Special Education Supports will be selecting up to eight schools to participate in the first cohort. Selected schools will receive training and coaching in the science of reading to support the implementation and sustainability of evidence-based literacy practices. Interested schools have until May 19 [to apply](#).
- **Learn Everywhere spotlight!** [North Main Music](#) aims to help musicians improve their playing, enjoy music to the fullest while achieving music goals and give back to the community. It offers private, weekly music instruction in a fun and family-oriented environment, as well as a range of instrument, voice, composition and sound technology certificates that provide school credit to high school students.
- Please share this electronic [flyer](#) with your school community and staff to help spread word about NHED's **603 Bright Futures Survey**; the flyer includes embedded links to all three surveys for staff, parents and community members. Public input and feedback is crucial as we aim to help all students succeed. Survey closes April 28.
- NHED launched its third year of **ReKINDling Curiosity** – hoping to ensure that every child who wants to attend a fun and engaging summer camp this year has the opportunity. Please share this [flyer](#) with families, which outlines scholarship and eligibility information.
- NHED and Tutor.com partnered to provide 24/7 online **tutoring for students in grades 6-12** throughout the state. School districts are being encouraged to [register](#) for Tutor.com's free access for their students. This program meets all data privacy requirements.
- NHED partnered with **Graduation Alliance** to provide 1-1 mentoring for students in need of an extra layer of support to boost school engagement and academic success during the school year. Students who choose to participate in the program will be assigned an academic coach at no cost. Contact Christian Shiverdecker at 603-758-3259 or Christian.shiverdecker@graduationalliance.com to get set up.

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