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# Messages From the Department of Education

April 2014

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## ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

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### A. New Hampshire College- and Career-Ready Standards

The NH Department of Education and the Southeast Regional Education Service Center (SERESC) have partnered to provide comprehensive and invaluable resources to support the challenging work of implementing new standards underway in schools across the state. The partnership supports low and no cost access to professional development opportunities, in-district training, resources, technical assistance and strategic improvement planning in Title I Focus and Priority Schools. In addition, all schools in the state have access to the same training opportunities. The scope of this support extends to all aspects of transitioning to NH College- and Career-Ready Standards, implications and strategies for those standards and related NH high school competencies, relevant best instructional practices, and teacher and leader effectiveness strategies. For a list of opportunities, please go to SERESC's website at <https://www.smores.com/g1jn>.

Contact: Heather Gage, (603) 271-5992, [Heather.Gage@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Heather.Gage@doe.nh.gov)

### B. Smarter Balanced Assessments

Smarter Balanced is pleased to announce the posting of six new resources to the Field Test portal - <http://sbac.portal.airast.org/field-test/resources>.

- 1) *Smarter Balanced Field Test FAQ for Test Coordinators and Administrators*: This document includes answers to questions that schools and districts have frequently sent to the Field Test Help Desk. It will be updated periodically as new questions are posed to the Help Desk.
- 2) *Guide to the Smarter Balanced Field Test*: This attractive two-page factsheet is appropriate for sharing with parents, community leaders, and the general public.
- 3) *Getting Students Ready for the Field Test—Information on Item and Response Types*: This document catalogues the various item types that students may encounter on the Smarter Balanced assessment, describes how students will respond to each item type, and lists where examples of each type of item can be found in the Practice and Training Tests.
- 4) *Accessibility Guide for Classroom Activities*: This resource provides teachers with support options that may be implemented during the Classroom Activity for students, as needed, to ensure appropriate access to the information included in the Classroom Activities.
- 5) *Guidelines for Read Aloud, Test Reader*: These guidelines will assist state staff, test administrators, educators, and scribes in ensuring read aloud is conducted in a standardized fashion and contributes to valid measures of students' progress toward college and career readiness.
- 6) *Test Administrator User Guide*: This resource supports individuals using the Test Delivery System applications to manage testing for students participating in the Field Test. This user guide provides information about the Test Delivery System, including the Test Administrator and student applications.

Contact: Scott Mantie, (603) 271-3844, [Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov)

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## CERTIFICATION

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### A. Endorsements

#### a) Elementary Mathematics Specialist and Physical Science

Elementary Mathematics Specialist for grades K-6 is newly available. The Physical Science endorsement (grades 7-12) has been reactivated. Applicants for these endorsements should use the paper application option found on the Bureau of Credentialing website at <http://education.nh.gov/certification/index.htm>. The Praxis II for Physical Science #0481 is available for both certification and HQT. It is to be discontinued after the June 7 paper administration. May 8, 2014 is the registration deadline.

#### b) Middle Level Science

The Middle Level Science endorsement is changing from the 5-9 grade range to grades 5-8. This will align the science endorsement with the grade ranges of the other middle school endorsements. Educators who currently hold the grade 5-9 license will be renewed with the same endorsement. Newly endorsed educators will receive a license for grades 5-8.

#### c) Reading Test

Beginning July 1, 2014, applicants for the following endorsement areas will be required to pass the NH Foundations of Reading Test: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Reading and Writing Teacher, and Reading and Writing Specialist. This test is offered by Evaluations System of Pearson. For more information about the test see [www.nh.nesinc.com](http://www.nh.nesinc.com).

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-3455, [Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov)

### B. Praxis Exams

Please be certain to have your educators check the New Hampshire information page on the ETS website: <http://www.ets.org/praxis/nh/requirements> before they choose to take a test. ETS may still be offering tests in other parts of the country that NH has dropped. Students need to find the correct test number for New Hampshire to be certain they take the right test.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-3455, [Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov)

### C. Renewal Late Fee

The late fee (\$50.00) has been re-instated and will apply to all employed educators whose transmittal form (postmarked) or online renewal is received after June 30, 2014. The late fee had been suspended while we adjusted to the new online renewal process.

Contact: Lisa Landenberger, (603) 271-2409, [Lisa.Landenberger@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Lisa.Landenberger@doe.nh.gov)

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## DATA

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### A. Evaluation of Staff Data Collections

The NH Department of Education is required to report aggregate staff evaluation data (teacher and principal) annually to the US Department of Education. There are two

*Evaluation of Staff Collections* that will be released at the beginning of May and will be due on May 16th.

1. The Evaluation of Teachers Data Collection (waiver annual protocol requirement) needs to be completed by all public school principals and certified by the superintendents. Charter school data is certified by the school administrators.
2. The Evaluation of Principals Data Collection (waiver annual protocol requirement) needs to be completed by all Superintendents (not required for charter schools).

Contact: Gretchen Tetreault, (603) 271-5874, [Gretchen.Tetreault@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Gretchen.Tetreault@doe.nh.gov)

## **B. Health Profile Questionnaires**

The NH Department of Education is working with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) to conduct the 2014 CDC- DASH School Health Profile (SHP) Questionnaires. The School Health Profiles (Profiles) assist state and local education and health agencies in monitoring and assessing characteristics of school health education and school health policies. All schools with grades 6-12 should fill out these questionnaires with the exception of schools with the highest grade being 6. The due date was March 11th. The two questionnaires that need to be completed by each school are the 2013-2014 School Health Profile Lead Health Education Teacher and the 2013-2014 School Health Profile Principal. Please complete the past due questionnaires using the ESS (Education Statistics System) at <https://my.doe.nh.gov/myNHDOE/Login/Login.aspx>

Contact: Gretchen Tetreault, (603) 271-5874, [Gretchen.Tetreault@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Gretchen.Tetreault@doe.nh.gov)

## **C. i4see**

a) **Spring NECAP Labels** - The i4see workbench will be open for the second round of spring NECAP Science Labels from April 15 through April 30, 2014. Please remember to use the submission type NECAPspr in the second column of these uploads. These files only need to be batch verified. CERTIFICATION of NECAPspr is not needed.

b) **myNHDOE** –

On April 4th we will be updating the myNHDOE Single Sign On System on the DOE Web site. We anticipate these updates will provide for a more user friendly experience for managing your login and for security administrators to manage access to the various DOE applications available through the single sign on portal. With this change we are also removing the Public login that allowed guest access to view public information relating to schools and educators. The public information relating to schools and educators will soon be available on the NH School and District Profile pages of the DOE web site and will include courses and teacher assignments. This is part of our continued expansion of the School and District Profile to be a central location for public users.

- **Webinar for the “NEW” myNHDOE release**

The i4see support team will be hosting a webinar to highlight the improvements to the Department’s single sign on system. SAU i4see contacts are welcome to join us on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. to discuss and respond to any questions regarding the new SSO interface.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop at (603) 271-2831, [i4see.help@doe.nh.gov](mailto:i4see.help@doe.nh.gov)

**D. PerformancePLUS Updates**

PerformancePLUS webinars are scheduled for March and April. The complete list of the free webinars for school and district staff is available at [www.education.nh.gov/instruction/accountability/data-systems/training.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/accountability/data-systems/training.htm). Past webinars can be replayed by visiting the NH Network. Once signed into the network, go to the network, "Analyzing Student Data" and click on "Links."

All New Hampshire K-12 educators have access to The NH Network platform through myNHDOE Single Sign-On. If you do not have a myNHDOE Single Sign-On go to the SSO portal and create one. Here is the link to the SSO portal <https://my.doe.nh.gov/myNHDOE/Login/Login.aspx>

Contact: Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, [Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov)

**E. MS-22 Forms (Report of Appropriations Actually Voted)**

A completed Form MS-22 (Report of Appropriations Actually Voted) for each school district must be forwarded to the Bureau of Data Management within 20 days of the close of the school district meeting as required by RSA 198:4-a, II. Note: Copies of the school district meeting minutes, warrant articles, and the results of all votes taken should also be forwarded to the Bureau.

Contact: Ron Leclerc, (603) 271-3876, [ron.leclerc@doe.nh.gov](mailto:ron.leclerc@doe.nh.gov)

**F. School Board Members**

In accordance with RSA 671:31 the forms that were sent out to update information about school board members are due back to the Bureau of Data Management by May 1, 2014. Please be sure to include the new term expiration dates and chairperson(s).

**G. School District Calendars**

Please be sure to enter your school district's 2014-2015 calendar into ESS (from myNHDOE) as soon as it is available. Once entered, please print a copy of the certified audit report and send it to the Bureau of Data Management. These are due by May 1, 2014.

**H. Teacher Salary Schedules**

As soon as the teacher contract has been approved for your school district, please forward a copy to the Bureau of Data Management. These are due by June 2, 2014.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831, [sandy.hyslop@doe.nh.gov](mailto:sandy.hyslop@doe.nh.gov)

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**HEARINGS**

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**Ed 302, Duties of Superintendents; Ed 303, Duties of School Boards; Ed 304, Duties of Principals; Ed 311, School Health Services; Ed 316, Marking Drug Free School Zones; and Ed 900, Dropout Prevention and Recovery Programs**

Adopted by the State Board February 13, 2014. A public hearing will be held at 11 a.m. April 24, 2014 in the State Board Room, Department of Education, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. Deadline for written comment will be May 1, 2014.

**Hedc 500, Scholarships for Orphans of Veterans**

Adopted by the Higher Education Commission December 17, 2013. A public hearing will be held May 15, 2014, 2:15 p.m. NH Higher Education Assistance Conference Center, 3 Barrell Court, Concord, NH 03301, Deadline for written comment will be May 15, at the close of the public hearing.

Contact: Mary Mayo, (603) 271-3189, [Mary.Mayo@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Mary.Mayo@doe.nh.gov)

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**INNOVATIONS/INITIATIVES**

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**A. NH Broadband Mapping & Planning Program (NHBMPP)**

The NHBMPP started to conduct an update to its community anchor institution broadband information data gathering this past January. As such, the NHBMPP strongly encourages all schools, districts, and SAUs to add or update your device and infrastructure, both school and network, information in the Technology Readiness Tool, as well as complete the broadband speed tests using both the I Want Broadband NH and the NH School Speed Test Web sites. The data collected from these sources will be used by the NHBMPP to support updating our broadband situation in NH. Your cooperation will help promote and support the ConnectED and E-rate Program Update Initiatives in our State. Both Governor Hassan and Commissioner Barry support these initiatives, and are committed to our participation in the Technology Readiness Tool and the Device Speed Tests.

**Schools, Districts, and SAUs upload information into the tool.**

Technology Readiness Tool: <https://www.techreadiness.net> - The tool requires a login, which was granted to all NH school principals and superintendents in March 2012.

**NH Device Speed Testing**

I Want Broadband NH: [http://www.iwantbroadbandnh.org/speed\\_test](http://www.iwantbroadbandnh.org/speed_test)

NH School Speed Test: <http://partners.schoolspeedtest.org/new-hampshire.html>

Please take the test on multiple or all computers in your school, district, or SAU. These tests are device based.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or [Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov)

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**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

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**A. New Hampshire Special Educational Surrogate Parent Program**

The Educational Surrogate Parent Program, coordinated by the New Hampshire Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, is a volunteer program designed to provide a child with a disability with an educational surrogate parent to act as the child's educational decision-maker. As the educational decision-maker you would participate in a child's special education team meetings. The NH DOE requires applicants to participate in a nine-hour training, which is offered at no cost to applicants. The training includes information on the special education process and related topics. (Professional Development credits are available for this training)

**Training Schedule**

- Saturday, April 12, 2014, Plymouth, NH (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, May 10, 2014, Portsmouth, NH (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)

- Saturday, June 7, 2014, Conway or Concord, NH (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)

Contact: Amy Jenks, (603) 271-3842, [Amy.Jenks@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Jenks@doe.nh.gov)

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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### A. Data Analysis: Focus on Schools and Districts Workshop

*Title III Office English Learners Professional Development Opportunity*

There will be a Data Analysis: Focus on Schools and Districts Workshop offered by WIDA (World-Instructional Design and Assessment) on May 22-23, 2014 at Plymouth State University in Concord, NH. Participants will be introduced to a data analysis process and will apply this process to a particular set of data. This workshop is designed for teams looking to gain a more in depth understanding of their district- or school-level language data. Participants will have time to analyze data, identify areas of possible strength and need, and develop a plan for further investigation and action.

Participants will be able to:

- Describe the connection between the WIDA Standards Framework, the ACCESS for ELLs assessment, and ACCESS for ELLs scores
- Explain how ACCESS for ELLs scores can be used in data analysis (scale scores, composite scores, domain scores, proficiency level scores)
- Identify patterns and trends from various data sets (for example, data on curriculum and instruction, demographics, growth trends)
- Synthesize key findings from data to formulate hypotheses within the scope of school/district practices
- Create a data-informed plan for change grounded in the WIDA Standards Framework
- This workshop is highly recommended for New Hampshire school teams (3-6 team members per school-school district), content area, ESOL teachers, supervisors, administrators, and curriculum directors.

To sign up for this workshop please go to <http://goo.gl/h1RCHo>.

Contact: Andrea Somoza-Norton, (603) 271-2760, [Andrea.Somoza-Norton@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Andrea.Somoza-Norton@doe.nh.gov)

### B. OPEN NH Self-Paced Tutorials

#### a) Bullying Awareness and Prevention (a 3-Hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

In an effort to assist schools in providing training for ALL school related employees, volunteers, substitute teachers and others, NH e-Learning for Educators Project short online tutorial training on bullying awareness and prevention. This tutorial costs \$10.00 and covers basic issues surrounding bullying, the impact of cyberbullying, and the requirements of the New Hampshire Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Act. Participants will earn a Certificate of Completion for three hours of professional development that will satisfy the required basic training in bullying awareness and prevention. For more information and online registration, visit [www.regonline.com/bullyingtutorial](http://www.regonline.com/bullyingtutorial).

#### b) The NH 3 Tiered Bullying Prevention and Intervention Model (a 5-Hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

This tutorial costs \$25.00 and covers the three tiers: general prevention, at risk intervention, and targeting of severe needs. The characteristics of an effective bullying

prevention program are also covered. Participants will earn a Certificate of Completion for 5 hours of professional development that will satisfy the required basic training in bullying awareness and prevention. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/nh3tierbullying>. A complete 7-week course is also available through OPEN NH, and will be offered in future OPEN NH course sessions, or by special district cohort request.

**c) Substitute Teaching: Tools and Tips for Success, a 5-hour Self-Paced Tutorial**

In an effort to assist schools in preparing potential substitute teachers for teaching in NH schools, the NH e-Learning for Educators is offering a short online tutorial through OPEN NH. This tutorial costs \$25.00 and provides basic knowledge and skills necessary for being an effective substitute teacher. Proper preparation before substituting in a school or district will greatly increase the confidence and comfort level of substitute teachers working with students in the classroom. The tutorial provides a brief overlook of the situation in education today and prepares potential substitutes with an understanding of how teachers and students interact in our changing educational landscape. Basic skills and techniques for teaching lessons to students along with some strategies for managing behavioral issues are explored. Finally, the tutorial covers a basic understanding of the kinds of policies and procedures that schools must operate under, including the NH pupil safety policy involving bullying. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/substitutetutorial>. NH e-Learning for Educators plans to offer a complete 7-week course for substitute teaching which will be offered in future OPEN NH course sessions, or by special district cohort request.

Districts may register cohorts of teachers in either or both tutorials at reduced cohort registration rates. For more information, visit [www.opennh.org](http://www.opennh.org) or contact the OPEN NH Project Coordinator.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or [Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov)

**C. OPEN NH Online Professional Development Courses**

Registrations are now being accepted for the Spring Session of OPEN NH courses. The seven week, 35 hour online professional development courses begin on April 9th and run through May 27th. The registration fee for OPEN NH professional development courses is \$130. Districts can also request the special delivery of any of our courses over a 7-8 week time frame of their choice. To request a special delivery course, a designated team leader should complete a Special Course Delivery Registration form, available online, and send it to the OPEN NH Project Coordinator for processing, or contact the coordinator.

OPEN NH offers a variety of group discounts for SAUs, districts, or schools. Deals include 25 seats in our seven week 35 hour online professional development courses for \$2,625 or four seats for two teachers for \$440. The list of OPEN NH professional development courses offered during the upcoming OPEN NH sessions can be found on the Web site at: [www.opennh.org](http://www.opennh.org).

Graduate credits are available through Plymouth State University at an additional cost of \$185 plus a \$30 registration fee. OPEN NH is part of the NH e-Learning for Educators Project, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or [Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov)

#### D. Teaching Enhancement Courses in Online Facilitation and Development

Registrations are now being accepted for the OPEN NH Teaching Enhancement courses. The 7 week, 35 hour online professional development courses will run from July 10th through August 27th. The offered courses are *Facilitating an OPEN NH Online Professional Development Course* and *Developing Effective Courses for Online and Blended Learning*. The details and syllabi for these courses can be found on the Web site at [www.opennh.org](http://www.opennh.org), select Teaching Enhancement Training from the navigation sidebar. The registration fee is \$325, with an early bird special of \$305, in effect until June 25th. OPEN NH also offers a group discount for SAUs, districts, or schools. District Cohorts must use a single group registration form to the OPEN NH Project Coordinator. Graduate credits are available through Plymouth State University at additional cost of \$175 per credit hour, plus \$30 registration fee. Details for both procedures are available on the Web site at [www.opennh.org](http://www.opennh.org). OPEN NH is part of the NH e-Learning for Educators Project, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or [Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov)

#### E. Summer MATH Institute!

The August 5th & 6th, 2014, *Teaching to the Common Core Standards for Mathematical Practice Institute*, co-sponsored by NHASCD and Pinkerton Academy, will involve simultaneous but separate workshops for high school teachers and middle school teachers on understanding and implementing the Common Core Standards for Mathematical Practice (SMPs). For more information go to [www.cvent.com/events/aug-5th-6th-2014-teaching-to-the-common-core-standards-for-mathematical-practice-institute-at-pinker/event-summary-ec0e285e8a324ac884e50200bcc24e1f.aspx](http://www.cvent.com/events/aug-5th-6th-2014-teaching-to-the-common-core-standards-for-mathematical-practice-institute-at-pinker/event-summary-ec0e285e8a324ac884e50200bcc24e1f.aspx).

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### RESOURCES

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#### A. REL Northeast and Islands

REL Northeast and Islands and the research alliances it supports produce a range of events to bridge research, policy, and practice and to build capacity across the region.

- **Bridge Events** are forums for researchers and educators to discuss together the applications and implications of specific research studies or a body of evidence. **Skill-Builder Workshops** help increase the analytical capacity of researchers and educators on topics such as data use, designing program and policy evaluations, and creating coherent research agendas.

Events may take several forms—from webinars to daylong face-to-face workshops—and they are free and open to all stakeholders. For more information go to [www.relnei.org/events.html](http://www.relnei.org/events.html).

#### B. StoryScience

A Storytelling and Multi-Media Assembly Presentation for Grades 5-6, 7-8 and 9-12 with Odds Bodkin, Master Storyteller, Author, and NH DOE Math and Science Partnership "Sounds in Science" Producer. To view a short video go to <http://www.oddsbodkin.net/StoryScience.html>. To book an assembly contact [rivertree2@tds.net](mailto:rivertree2@tds.net) or (603) 938-5120.

#### C. Title III/ESOL Office Local Compliance Plans

The federal Office of Civil Rights states that every School District/SAU must write a comprehensive local plan (also known as a *LAU* plan) for English Learners in grades K-12.

(Please see [www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/qa-ell.html](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/qa-ell.html) for FAQs). The compliance plan must address the following topics and provide detailed information on local implementation:

- Selecting the educational approach and setting goals
- Identification and placement of potential ELs
- Assessment of ELs
- Program of instructional services for ELs
- Staffing and resources
- Transition from ESOL services and monitoring performance
- ELs and other educational programs
- Program evaluation, review, and improvement/revision

More information can be found at [www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/ell/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/ell/index.html).

When writing the local plan, the School District/SAU should use the NHDOE ESOL State Guidance document found at [www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/esol/index.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/esol/index.htm). A copy of the completed plan must be sent to the NHDOE ESOL office for approval. The local compliance plan must be updated periodically to reflect changes in State or federal policy, or changes in the local program for English Learners.

Contact: Andrea Somoza-Norton, (603) 271-2760, [Andrea.Somoza-Norton@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Andrea.Somoza-Norton@doe.nh.gov)

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## OTHER

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### **Nomination Deadline Extended - Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)**

The nomination deadline for outstanding elementary, grades K-6 mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers **has been extended to April 15, 2014**. The PAEMST awards are the nation's highest honors for K-12 teachers of mathematics and science. Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education. Since 1983, more than 4,200 teachers have been recognized for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession. If you know great teachers, nominate them to join this prestigious network of professionals. The nomination form should be completed early enough to ensure that the nominated teacher is given enough time to thoroughly prepare an application that reflects exemplary teaching prior to the application deadline. Applications are due by May 15, 2014. For more information, visit [www.education.nh.gov/recognition/math\\_science.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/recognition/math_science.htm).

Contact: Jiffi Rainie, (603) 271-7450, [Jennifer.Rainie@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Rainie@doe.nh.gov)

### **Hope Starts Here Scholarship**

The NH Coalition to End Homelessness "Hope Starts Here" Scholarship Fund provides financial support to students currently living in NH who have experienced homelessness during their school career, have a desire to continue their education beyond high school, and have demonstrated academic achievement. Since 2009, the fund has helped underprivileged students achieve their dream of attaining higher education. For the 2014 cycle, scholarships will be awarded between \$500 and \$2000. Applications may be submitted starting today and are available for download at [www.nhceh.org/scholarship](http://www.nhceh.org/scholarship). The deadline to apply is May 1, 2014. Award(s) will be announced later in May.

**Unitil Scholarship Fund**

Unitil is now accepting applications from graduating high school seniors who will pursue an undergraduate degree in the STEM subject areas—science, technology, engineering, and math. Unitil is committed to supporting STEM education and to helping local students succeed. Unitil will award six \$5,000 scholarships to students graduating within their service territories in New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts. Only applications from students in Unitil's service territories will be considered. To learn more and to apply, please visit Unitil's Web site, <http://unitil.com/scholarship>. Applications must be received on or before March 14th, and recipients will be notified by April 30th.

**2014 Alcohol Awareness Poster Contest**

The Alcohol Awareness Poster Contest is open to all New Hampshire students in kindergarten through 12th grade, including those that are home-schooled. Posters should discourage underage drinking through a positive message. Posters must be submitted by May 2, 2014. For more information contact Greg Gagnon at (603) 271-8531 or [ggagnon@liquor.state.nh.us](mailto:ggagnon@liquor.state.nh.us).

**Artist Residency in Schools Grants: Apply by April 11, 2014 (Postmark deadline)**

These grants provide partial funding to bring juried teaching artists, from a variety of arts disciplines, into classrooms and public schools in support of creative learning and skills development in the arts, including dance, film, media arts, sculpture, murals, photography, poetry, book arts, eco arts, ceramics, puppetry and traditional arts. This grant round covers projects from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. Maximum grant request is \$1,000 - \$4,500. Learn more at [www.nh.gov/nharts/grants/partners/artistresidencies.htm](http://www.nh.gov/nharts/grants/partners/artistresidencies.htm) or contact Catherine O'Brian, NH State Council on the Arts, (603) 271-0795, [catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov).

**Youth Arts Project Grants: Apply by April 18, 2014**

These grants fund high-quality arts and cultural education programs that encourage creativity, develop new arts skills and foster academic success for young people (K-12). The overall goal of this grant category is to provide young people opportunities to engage in the arts beyond the normal school day so they can develop creative problem-solving skills and become more engaged in their communities. Activities may take place after regular school hours, in the summer, or during school vacations. This grant round covers projects from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. Maximum grant request is \$1,000 - \$4,500. Learn more at [www.nh.gov/nharts/grants/youtharts.htm](http://www.nh.gov/nharts/grants/youtharts.htm) or contact Catherine O'Brian, NH State Council on the Arts, (603) 271-0795, [catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov).

**Antioch Center for School Renewal Events**

The Antioch Center for School Renewal (ACSR) has twenty-five years of experience in providing high quality professional development for educators across New England. All ACSR professional development seminars, institutes, workshops, coaching, and consultations meet both the rigorous standards of Learning Forward (formerly) the National Staff Development Council. The next conference, *In Bloom in Keene: Promising Practices in Nature-based Early Childhood Education* is being held Friday, May 16 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information go to [www.antiochne.edu/acsr/](http://www.antiochne.edu/acsr/).

**Critical Thinking and the Common Core**

Dr. Karin Hess presents *Critical Thinking, Rigor, Depth of Knowledge "DoK" and the Common Core* on Wednesday, April 9th, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at SERESC, 29 Commerce Drive,

Bedford. Webb's Depth of Knowledge or DoK is one way to measure the cognitive demands of tasks. Webb's DoK with the Hess Rigor Matrix are tools that help instructors: ask questions, design tasks, and author assessments in a way that promotes critical thinking and rigor in learners. Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum Coordinators, and other administrators, attend free if accompanied by an educator registered for the event. \$93 for regular admission and \$43 for admission of Focus, Priority, and Reward Schools faculty. To register, visit [depthofknowledge.info](http://depthofknowledge.info) or email [register@yourpdevent.com](mailto:register@yourpdevent.com).

### **The Frost Place Offers Poetry Programs for Educators**

*The Conference on Poetry and Teaching* is a unique opportunity for teachers to work closely with both their peers and with a team of illustrious poets who have particular expertise in working with teachers at all levels: K–12, graduate and undergraduate, and nontraditional and community-based instructors. Over the course of 4 1/2 days, faculty poets share specific, hands-on techniques for teaching poetry. The emphasis is on the reading-conversation-writing-revision cycle, and our teaching approach aligns with the Common Core anchor standards for reading and writing. Graduate-level credits are available through Plymouth State University in New Hampshire. Certificate of completion includes 33 hours of Continuing Education credit. The conference will take place June 22 - 26, 2014.

There will also be a follow-up workshop, *The Frost Place Teachers as Writers Workshop* June 26 - 27, 2014. This workshop is an intensive day-and-a-half session for classroom teachers who want to focus on their own writing and revision practices. The workshop is limited to participants who have already attended the Conference on Poetry and Teaching. Continuing education credits are available. For more information or to register go to [www.frostplace.org](http://www.frostplace.org) or contact Sarah Audsley at (603) 823-5510 or [saudsley@frostplace.org](mailto:saudsley@frostplace.org).

### **Keene State College Education Department Professional Development Opportunities**

#### **a) The Five Dimensions of Engaged Teaching**

Diverse Voices from the Field is pleased to announce that Laura Weaver, co-author of *The Five Dimensions of Engaged Teaching*, will be giving two presentations on April 16, 2014, one at 4:00 p.m. and the other at 7:00 p.m., both in the Mabel Brown Room. Laura Weaver is an educational advocate, writer, teacher, guide, and the Director of Transformative Learning at the PassageWorks Institute, a non-profit that supports educators to develop and sustain an inspired approach to teaching that addresses the social, emotional and academic dimensions of learning. This 'engaged teaching' approach fosters a sense of meaning, purpose, and connection for both students and teachers.

#### **b) Exploring RTI at the Secondary Level**

This day-long conference, open to all secondary administrators, curriculum coordinators, school leadership teams, and teacher leaders, will be held at the Local Government Center (LGC) on May 21, 2014. Presenters Elaine McNulty Knight and Robert Hanson will address how to implement an RTI framework with Multi-Tiered Systems of Support at the middle and high school level while maintaining a focus on NH College and Career Readiness standards and course competencies.

There is no charge for either of these events. For more information please call (603) 358-2301.

### **Imperial Trans-Antarctic Centenary Expedition**

The Imperial Trans-Antarctic Centenary Expedition 2014 (ITACE) represents the 100th anniversary of Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914-17 expedition. The ITACE 2014 honors the memory of the original expedition, by using Shackleton's intended route to complete his "unfinished business" with a team of four skiers – two men and two women – to cross the frozen continent on an 1,800-mile journey, beginning this October/November. This expedition is about so much more than just heading out on an once-in-a-lifetime adventure. ITACE wants to have an ongoing impact before, during and after they triumph. ITACE aims to reach out to schools and universities to educate students about the great explorers who discovered the polar regions and brought them into our lives. Interactive Talks/lectures in schools and colleges provided by the ITACE Team:

- The History of Polar Exploration and the Heroic Age of Exploration.
- Introduction to the Geography and Biology of the Antarctic.
- How to plan and prepare for an expedition – interactive demonstrations of equipment and clothing.
- Leadership skills for everyday life – 16-18 year olds stepping out in life.
- Sports events demonstrating the physical training the ITACE team will be doing in preparation for the expedition.

For more information or to book a visit go to [www.south2014.com/education.html](http://www.south2014.com/education.html). Please note that all school presentations are free of charge.

### **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center- Summer Earth Science Symposium**

An immersive 5-day workshop that will bring K-12 educators together with NASA and university scientists and Discovery Center Educators focused on Earth system sciences. Topics covered include: weather, climate, remote sensing, atmosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere, magnetosphere, hydrosphere, and current missions exploring Earth. Graduate credit available. This symposium will take place June 23 to 27 from 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For more information go to [www.starhop.com/educators](http://www.starhop.com/educators).

### **NH Arts Learning Network Meet-Ups**

Open to all arts educators, administrators, teachers, staff, teaching artists, parents and community members, "Meet-Ups" are informal regional meetings where members of the New Hampshire arts education community can gather to get to know one another, talk, share ideas and experiences, inspire one another and plan together. The next two "Meet Ups" are scheduled for April 16, 2014, at Sharon Arts Center, 457 Rte. 123, Sharon, NH, (603) 927-7256 and May 1, 2014, at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St, Manchester, NH, (603) 669-6144. All "meet-Ups" take place from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. To learn more about future "Meet-Ups" and the NH Arts Learning Network, visit: [www.nhartslearningnetwork.org](http://www.nhartslearningnetwork.org). If you are interested in attending or hosting a "Meet-Up," contact Catherine O'Brian, NH State Council on the Arts, (603) 271-0795, [catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov).

### **The Most Southern Place on Earth: Music, Culture, and History in the Mississippi Delta**

The National Endowment for the Humanities workshop, "The Most Southern Place on Earth: Music, Culture, and History in the Mississippi Delta," will be offered June 22-28 and July 13-19, 2014, by the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta State University in Cleveland, MS. Come explore the blues, civil rights, the great migration, and the river at their source. Participants receive a stipend of \$1200 towards their expenses and can also receive

five graduate credit hours at virtually no cost. To apply or for more information go to [www.deltacenterforcultureandlearning.com](http://www.deltacenterforcultureandlearning.com).

### **“The Forgotten” Children of Incarcerated Parents**

This exhibit will take place at the Kimball Jenkins Carriage House and School of Art, April 7-29, with a reception and opening Wednesday, April 9th, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. On view in the Carriage House there will be murals created by Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP) with their parents. The exhibit will bring public awareness about this unique population of children and encourages donations for the children to attend CIP summer camp in 2014. To RSVP, learn more about related talks and workshops for artists, educators, social service professionals, and community members visit:

[www.cfsnh.org/pages/programs/CampSpaulding/cip.html](http://www.cfsnh.org/pages/programs/CampSpaulding/cip.html) or the Family Connections Center at: [www.nh.gov/nhdoc/fcc](http://www.nh.gov/nhdoc/fcc). To learn more contact Kristina Toth, [Kristina.Toth@nhdoc.state.nh.us](mailto:Kristina.Toth@nhdoc.state.nh.us) or Catherine O’Brian, NH State Council on the Arts, (603) 271-0795.

### **Community Arts Behind Bars**

This workshop will take place April 24, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at the Kimball Jenkins Carriage House, Concord, NH. It will be offered by the Family Connections Center, Division of Community Corrections in partnership with the NH State Council on the Arts, Child & Family Services and the Kimball Jenkins Art School. Presenters will include Jessica Wyatt, a practicing artist with an MFA in Community Arts plus specialized training and experience working in prison settings. Kristina Toth of the Family Connections Center and Catherine O’Brian, NH State Council on the Arts will provide additional resources and information. The workshop is free but pre-registration is required and voluntary donations will be accepted to support the special opportunities offered by the Children of Incarcerated Parents Program and the NH Camp for Children of Incarcerated Parents at Spaulding. Professional development certificates will be given. To learn more or to register contact Kristina Toth, [Kristina.Toth@nhdoc.state.nh.us](mailto:Kristina.Toth@nhdoc.state.nh.us) or [Catherine.R.Obrian@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:Catherine.R.Obrian@dcr.nh.gov). To register online go to: [www.eventbrite.com/e/artists-workshop-community-arts-behind-bars-tickets-10727968643](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/artists-workshop-community-arts-behind-bars-tickets-10727968643).

### **Barry Conservation Camp**

Registration is underway for 2014 camp programs for youth (boys and girls age 8-16) at Barry Camp. A weekly, overnight summer camp operated by the UNH Cooperative Extension 4-H Program and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, Barry Camp is ideal for youth who enjoy hands-on learning about outdoor skills and the environment.

#### **Sponsor a Camper**

Although Barry Conservation Camp is competitively priced, many families find it challenging to finance a week at camp. Fortunately, there is a long camp tradition of individuals and organizations providing “camperships” to Barry Conservation 4-H Camp.

More information about the Barry Conservation Camp and how to sponsor a camper can be found at <http://extension.unh.edu/4-H-Youth-Family/Barry-Conservation-4-H-Camp>, or contact [4Hcamps@unh.edu](mailto:4Hcamps@unh.edu) or (603) 788-4961.

### **Green Week 2014**

Green Week kicks off February 3rd and lasts through April 25, 2014. You choose any week during that time to be your Green Week. National Green Week is an annual event that

empowers schools to engage in sustainability focused lessons, projects, or activities. Participating districts, schools, classrooms or youth groups choose a week, then select from Green Education Foundation's (GEF) sustainability focused programs to be their "green theme." Each theme provides five day standards-based lesson sets, activities, recommended reading, sustainability tips, contests, and more. It's free, and in addition, (GEF) will be raffling over \$10,000 in prizes through Earth Day. To sign up or for more information go to [www.greeneducationfoundation.org/greenweek.html](http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org/greenweek.html).

### **Safe Kids 500**

The annual Safe Kids 500 will be held at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon on April 30th. As always, the event will be free for all participants with the only requirements being that all children be accompanied by a parent/guardian/caregiver and that everyone biking on the track wear a helmet. Responsible adults are not required to ride bikes but are certainly welcome to if they wish. Health and safety displays will be set up in the garages and will include helmet fitting and bike safety checks. This is a family friendly event. For more information, contact Safe Kids New Hampshire at (877) 783-0432 or [IPC@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:IPC@Dartmouth.edu).

### **Discover WILD New Hampshire Day**

Saturday, April 19, is the 25th annual Discover WILD New Hampshire Day, an Earth Day celebration that makes a great spring outing for the whole family. Admission is free. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the grounds of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at 11 Hazen Drive in Concord, N.H., are transformed into an exciting outdoor festival featuring exhibits from environmental and conservation organizations from throughout the state. See live animals, big fish and trained falcons. Try your hand at archery, casting, fly-tying and B-B gun shooting. There will be plenty of hands-on crafts for the younger kids, too. Watch for more details at [www.wildnh.com](http://www.wildnh.com).

### **Purple Up! For Military Kids—April 15**

New Hampshire military youth are resilient and take pride in their service to our Country. The month of April provides an opportunity to recognize and honor the service of our youngest heroes, military children. Established by former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger in 1968, the designation of April as the Month of the Military Child acknowledges the significant role military youth play in our communities. The UNH Cooperative Extension Military Youth and Family Program invites everyone across the state of New Hampshire to wear purple on Tuesday, April 15th, as a visible way to show support and thank military youth for their strength and sacrifices. Purple symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Marine red, and Coast Guard, Navy and Air Force blue. Be creative, the goal is for military youth to actually see the support of their community. You are encouraged to take pictures of your group wearing purple. E-mail them to [ce.myfp@unh.edu](mailto:ce.myfp@unh.edu) so they can be shared on their Web site ([www.nhmilitarykids.org](http://www.nhmilitarykids.org)) and Facebook pages.