Competency-Based Education: Conference on Student Centered Learning
This one-day conference is designed for K-12 teachers and school administrators, and features a keynote address by Susan Patrick, president and chief executive officer of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning, and a luncheon address by Joe DiMartino, founder and president of the Center for Secondary School Redesign. For information and to register, visit www.learn.unh.edu/competency. This conference is taking place Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at the Crowne Plaza in Nashua from 8:20 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

New Hampshire Learning Initiative (NHLI)
NHLI & NHDOE, in partnership with national education design lab 2Revolutions, are excited to announce a series of Innovation Studios across the state, which will highlight cutting edge learning environments that enable and foster personalization, competency-based progressions, demonstration of mastery, and learner voice, choice, and autonomy. We hope that these Innovation Studios will support deep connections with others and provide you with the chance to directly apply the learning within your specific context. At each school host site, participating educators will: (1) Learn from and with their peers at innovation sites that are demonstrating integrated approaches to the vision we seek through observation and debrief (2) Take a deep dive into the host school’s instructional and assessment model and explore relevant opportunities for future collaborations and (3) Participate in a design session to help develop or deepen work at your school/in your district around topic-specific innovations. Our inaugural studios will take place at the following locations:

- December 13th, 2016 @ 1:00-4:00pm: Parker-Varney Elementary School (Deeper Learning/Project-Based Learning)
- January 12th, 2017 @ 1:00-4:00pm: Pittsfield School District (Competency-Based Learning/Deeper Assessment)

Please contact Jonathan Vander Els at jvanderels@nhlearninginitiative.org with questions and visit www.nhlearninginitiative.org for updated information.

Girls Technology Day 2017
Preregistration is now available for Girls Technology Day 2017! This year there are three locations and dates to choose from:

- Tuesday, March 14th at NHTI in Concord;
- Thursday, March 16th at UNH in Durham; and
- Friday, March 17th at MCC in Manchester.

To preregister your 9th and 10th grade students for an event, please go to www.nhgirldotechnologyday.com. Preregistering allows you to state your preference for a location and date and tells us how many students you will be bringing.

Contact: Courtney Ritchings, (603) 271-3809, Courtney.Ritchings@doe.nh.gov or Jennifer Kiley, (603) 271-3535, Jennifer.Kiley@doe.nh.gov
Resources

Military Child Education Coalition
The mission of the Military Child Education Coalition is to ensure inclusive, quality educational opportunities for all military and veteran-connected children affected by mobility, transition, and family separation. For more information about this organization and the services they provide go to www.militarychild.org.

Information From Other Agencies and Organizations (contests/awards, conference/workshops, and misc.)

New Hampshire School Nurse of the Year
NHSNA is beginning our search for the next New Hampshire School Nurse of the Year. Please help in this endeavor by nominating a school nurse who exemplifies excellence in school nursing in your district. We appreciate your help in acknowledging the important role that excellence in school nursing plays in education. This award recognizes an outstanding school nurse for her contributions to the school and community. To be eligible for this award your school nurse must meet the following criteria:

- Is a registered professional nurse
- Has been practicing school nursing for a minimum of three (3) years
- Is a current member of NHSNA, as well as a member last year (two consecutive years)
- Shows evidence of excellence in school nursing practice

Nomination forms can be accessed online at the NHSNA web page, www.nhschoolnurses.org. For questions, contact Kathy Barth at Kathy.barth@crossroadsacademy.org. Deadline for nominations is Wednesday, February 1, 2017.

Lights, Camera, Action!
The New Hampshire Department of Travel and Tourism would like to invite New Hampshire fourth grade classes to participate in the 2017 Class Act Video Awards! While creating a 60-second video that promotes New Hampshire as a four season vacation destination, students will learn about the state and why people should visit. Prizes will be awarded for the top three videos and the winning video will be featured on Visit New Hampshire’s website and social media channels. Deadline for submission is February 16, 2017. For complete contest rules visit Class Act Video Awards page at http://www.visitnh.gov/welcome-to-nh/classactvideowards/. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Harty at laura.harty@dred.nh.gov or (603) 271-2665.

LifeChanger of the Year
LifeChanger of the Year program is an annual program, sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation, that honors K-12 public and private school educators and employees from around the country who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. Last year, LifeChanger of the Year recognized more than 600 teachers and school employees from all 50 states.

Nominating someone is easy to do. There is no cost and anyone—including parents, administrators, school colleagues, students (with approval from an adult), and other members of the community—can nominate any full-time K-12 public or private school employee. Each nominee is celebrated in various ways and has the opportunity to be considered for the grand prize of $10,000 to be split with the winner and their school. Nominating a teacher or school employee as a LifeChanger of the Year is great way to make them feel special and acknowledges their hard work. Additional details can be found on the LifeChanger of the Year website at https://lifechangeroftheyear.com.
**National Youth Science Camp**
Applications are now open for the 2017 National Youth Science Camp (NYSC). The NYSC is a residential science education program for young STEM enthusiasts the summer after they graduate from high school. Students from around the country (two are selected to represent each state and Washington, D.C.) are challenged academically in exciting lectures and hands-on studies, and have voluntary opportunities to participate in an outdoor adventure program, gain a new and deep appreciation for the great outdoors, and establish friendships that last a lifetime. NYSC 2017 dates are planned for June 14 - July 8, 2017. To apply or for more information go to [http://apply.nysc.org](http://apply.nysc.org).

**ME, NH, & VT Project Lead The Way Conference**
NHTI is an affiliate college for Project Lead The Way, and is pleased to host this annual conference, featuring the latest information about PLTW. Learn all about the PLTW K-12 curricular programs in engineering, computer science and biomedical science from PLTW educators and students. The agenda includes choices for each session, so there will be topics of interest to everyone, whether you’ve been involved with PLTW for ten years, one year, or this is the very first you’ve heard of the curriculum. We recommend as much participation as possible from your school district. The PLTW curriculum engages students in hands-on activities, projects, and problems; empowers them to solve real-world challenges; and inspires them to reimagine how they see themselves. PLTW courses are aligned with the Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. There is no cost for this conference and lunch will be included. It is taking place Friday, January 13, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at NHTI, Concord’s Community College. To register go to [https://www.nhti.edu/pltw-conference-registration](https://www.nhti.edu/pltw-conference-registration) or contact: Joe Cunningham at NHTI : jcunningham@nhti.edu or Mary Laturnau, Director of School Engagement: ME, NH,VT- mlaturnau@pltw.org for more information.

**Google Educator Training Series at Keene State College**
This series is focused on the classroom teacher or school administrator, but will be just as valuable to anyone who wants to improve their productivity, communication, organization and research. Each session will have a primary focus and there will be lots of hands-on time to work with the Google services. A certificate of completion will be sent to you following each stand-alone workshop. All workshops will be held from 4:30—6:00 pm at Keene State College.

- Intro to the Google Suite of Apps and Services – Thursday, January 5th, 2017
- Gmail and Google Calendar – Thursday, January 12th, 2017
- Google Drive, Docs, Spreadsheets and Collaboration – Thursday, January 19th, 2017
- Google Forms & Presentations – Thursday, January 26th, 2017

Cost is $30 per session. For more information or to register go to [https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=22535](https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=22535) or contact the Continuing Education Office at (603) 358-2290 or continuing-ed@keene.edu.

**2017 Summer Institute on Holocaust and Genocide Studies: Identity and Education for Democratic Citizenship**
The Summer Institute introduces participants to the study of the Holocaust and genocide in the 21st Century while focusing on multidisciplinary pedagogical approaches, genocide prevention, and lessons for democratic citizenship. Break-out sessions are designed for returning participants. The institute will take place July 16-22 at Keene State College. To register or for more information go to [http://www.keene.edu/academics/ah/cchgs/teach/institute/](http://www.keene.edu/academics/ah/cchgs/teach/institute/) or contact Tom White at twhite@keene.edu or (603) 358-2746.

**Project Dragonfly**
Miami University’s Project Dragonfly is accepting applications for 2017 Earth Expeditions graduate courses that offer extraordinary experiences in 16 countries throughout the world. For more information go to [www.earthexpeditions.org](http://www.earthexpeditions.org). Earth Expeditions can build toward the Global Field Program (GFP), a master’s degree that combines summer field courses worldwide with web learning
communities so that students can complete the GFP master’s part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad. [http://GFP.MiamiOH.edu/16-17_news](http://GFP.MiamiOH.edu/16-17_news)

**Fisher Cats Educational Days**
The New Hampshire Fisher Cats have announced the team’s *Educational Days* for the 2017 season. Schools can choose from the following games:

- April 12th (10:35 a.m.)
- May 24th (10:35 a.m.)
- June 7th (10:35 a.m.)

Join schools from across the region as they take part in an educational setting while attending a professional baseball game. The Fisher Cats encourage you to plan your lesson plans around your field trip to the park. While at the game there will be: Interactive educational material on our video board; Pre-Game educational activities on the field; Educational exhibits and entertainment on the concourse; and historical characters walking around the stadium.

Tickets for this event are offered at a special rate and vary from $6-$9. For more information or to book your group go to [http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20140206&content_id=67505882&fext=.jsp&sid=t463&keyev=](http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20140206&content_id=67505882&fext=.jsp&sid=t463&keyev=) or contact Stephanie Fournier at (603) 641-2005, ext. 105 or email sfournier@nhfishercats.com.

**Leadership Development Program of the Year**
On October 3, 2016 the MY TURN Manufacturing Program was named Leadership Development Program of the Year at the Rising Star Awards, an initiative of Stay Work Play. The award is given each year to an outstanding and innovative program aimed at a young audience in NH that helps those under 40 propel their personal and professional growth. The MY TURN Manufacturing Program was developed in response to the shortage of skilled labor plaguing the manufacturing sector in NH and across the country. The purpose of the program is to provide young people with the academic, employment, and leadership skills necessary to become viable candidates for entry-to-mid level, career ladder, employment in the greater Nashua manufacturing community. This program is funded through a contract with NH Department of Education utilizing Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grant Funds. For more information about the MY TURN Manufacturing program contact Allison Joseph [ajoseph@my-turn.org](mailto:ajoseph@my-turn.org) (603) 321-3416. For more information about the WIOA programs and opportunities contact Kim Runion [kim.runion@doe.nh.gov](mailto:kim.runion@doe.nh.gov) (603) 271-3805.

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We hope you found this edition of the NH DOE messages informative and useful. If you have feedback or questions, please send an e-mail to lori.kincaid@doe.nh.gov. If you received this from a colleague and want to subscribe to receive this newsletter directly, please go to [http://maillist.nh.gov/list/doe/?p=subscribe&id=7](http://maillist.nh.gov/list/doe/?p=subscribe&id=7)