Math Learning Community Project
The New Hampshire Department of Education in partnership with the Community College System of New Hampshire invites you to attend an information session regarding opportunities for improving math performance of middle achieving juniors in High School on the 11th grade SAT, as well as earning dual-enrollment credits in the senior year. The Math Learning Community project has been funded over time by Math Science Partnership monies, which we understand will eventually be block granted under ESSA. For this reason, and the fact that we continue to recognize that student performance in high school math is concerning for a large group of NH students, we have re-worked the project. We would like to invite you, your high school principal, and/or your lead high school math teacher(s) to a forum on an updated version of the Math Learning Community on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at NHTI Concord Campus from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Contact: Donna Dubey, (603) 271-3759, Donna.Dubey@doe.nh.gov

OPEN NH Spring 2017 Session Online Professional Development Courses
Registrations are now being accepted for the OPEN NH Spring 2017 Session courses. The seven week, 35 hour online professional development courses begin on April 12th and continue through May 30th. The registration fee for OPEN NH professional development courses is $130, with early bird fee of $120 in effect through March 28, 2017. The list of OPEN NH professional development courses offered during the upcoming OPEN NH Sessions can be found on the website at: www.opennh.org, select Courses, Current Course Schedule. OPEN NH offers a variety of group discount deals for SAUs, districts, or schools. Online registration is only available for individuals. Cohorts must use a single group registration form via email to the OPEN NH Project Coordinator. Details for both procedures are available on the website at www.opennh.org. Graduate credits are available through Plymouth State University. OPEN NH is part of the NH e-Learning for Educators Project, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education, coordinated through the Office of Educational Technology. Updates on the Spring Session courses and registration information can also be found on the ET News blog at www.NHEON.org/etnews.

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

Multi-Modal Communication & Learning Strategies for Children with Significant Challenges
The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE), Bureau of Special Education, is providing a free, two-day, assistive technology training for New Hampshire Educators on March 14th and March 15th. This professional development opportunity will provide participants an introduction to the concept of providing a receptive aided language learning environment, and demonstrate how learning alternative and augmentative forms of communication can and should parallel the developmental process that typical children go through in learning speech. To participate in the two-day training, please register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-assistive-technology-two-day-training-tickets-31173212919?aff=affiliate1.

Contact: Lori Noordergraaf, (603) 271-3750, Lori.Noordergraaf@doe.nh.gov
Conversations on Culture and Diversity
The demographics of New Hampshire are changing. It is up to each of us to learn from each other on how to promote equitable outcomes for all students and young adults in NH. Register today to start the dialogue in this four hour facilitated conversation that will focus on open communication & creating a space for learning & growth opportunities for all. The facilitated conversation & activities will explore concepts of culture & diversity that influence our practices in education & wellness. This workshop is taking place March 24th from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the NH DOE in Room 15.

Contact; Michelle Myler, (603) 271-4018, Michelle.Myler@doe.nh.gov or Kattie McKinnon, (603) 271-3947, Kathryn.McKinnon@doe.nh.gov

Hands & Voices Conference for Parents & Service Providers
Navigating Through the Education System: Considerations for Parents & Professionals of Children Who Are Deaf & Hard of Hearing is taking place March 24th from 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. at the Puritan Backroom Conference Center in Manchester. Family members and service providers can learn tools to assist and guide their decisions as they navigate through the educational system. To register or for more information go to www.nhdeafed.org/event/march24/.

Webinar: Social Emotional Learning 101
The Office of Student Wellness is pleased to present this 60-minute webinar designed for educators and related professionals who are new to the field of social emotional learning. The webinar will include a description of models for social emotional learning; different ways that schools can support social emotional learning, from day-to-day strategies to comprehensive curricula; and how to measure and report on social emotional learning growth for school-aged children. To register go to http://www.nhstudentwellness.org/webinarseries.html. The webinar is being held March 13th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Webinar: Utilizing PDSA Cycles in a School Setting
The Office of Student Wellness is pleased to present this 60-minute webinar designed for educators and related professionals who are interested in learning about a concrete, evidence-based method (the Plan-Do-Study-Act or PDSA Cycle) to improve student wellness using a team-based approach. The webinar will include a description of PDSAs, the value of using this method, and guidance about how to use PDSAs to achieve your specific improvement goal in schools. New Hampshire examples will be shared to illustrate how PDSAs are being used to generate specific improvements related to student mental health. One free resource to aid school teams using PDSAs to improve student social, emotional and behavioral wellness, The SHAPE System, will be introduced. Please go to http://www.nhstudentwellness.org/events.html to receive registration information by joining our mailing list. The webinar is being held April 4th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Youth Mental Health First Aid
The course teaches participants the risk factors and warning signs of a variety of mental health challenges common among adolescents, including anxiety, depression, psychosis, eating disorders, & substance use disorder. Participants learn to support a youth developing signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in an emotional crisis. This Youth Mental Health Training is open to the public and is being held Tuesday, April 18th from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the NH Dept. of Education, Room 15. For more information go to http://www.nhstudentwellness.org/mental-health-first-aid.html.

Contact Kattie McKinnon, (603) 271-3947, Kathryn.Mckinnon@doe.nh.gov

Competency-Based Learning Design Studio Conference
This three-day design studio is meant for educational teams from New Hampshire and around the country who are in either the planning or implementation phases of a competency-based learning model in their school or school district. Teams will have the opportunity to work with competency
education specialists, school administrators, and teachers who have experience implementing such a
model in a variety of contexts and settings. A variety of sessions, networking opportunities, and team
time will be available for attendees to develop an implementation plan. Teams are encouraged to
bring both teachers and administrators to this design studio. Teams are strongly encouraged to
register early as this conference will likely sell-out in advance. This conference is taking place at the
Radisson Hotel in Nashua, July 25 – 27, 2017. For more information or to register go to

Self-Paced Tutorials available online from OPEN NH
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, coordinated through the
Office of Educational Technology, offers short online tutorial training on a variety of subjects. Each
tutorial will earn professional development hours upon successful completion that can be used for re-
certification and licensing continuing education units.

- Bullying Awareness and Prevention, a 3-hour self-paced tutorial, $10.00.
- The NH 3 Tiered Bullying Prevention and Intervention Model, a 5-hour self-paced tutorial,
  $25.00.
- Substitute Teaching: Tools and Tips for Success, a 5-hour self-paced tutorial, $25.00
- Ten Technology Skills for Learning and Teaching, a 15-hour self-paced tutorial, $75.00
- Developing Successful Online Teaching and Learning Practices, a 10-hour self-paced
  tutorial, $50.00

Other tutorials are currently in development. For more information about the tutorials and online
registration, visit http://nheon.org/opennh/tutorials/index.html

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

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

NH Business Education Association: (NHBEA) Annual Conference
Join Heidi Edwards Dunn as she shares her expertise and resources to benefit you and your
students. Stephen Foster shares how he uses LinkedIn as an educator and student, and how that can
work in your classroom as well, and Debbie Lyn Toomey, Health & Happiness Specialist, teaches
techniques to de-stress your life and the lives of your students. This conference is taking place Friday,
March 10, 2017 at Rivier University in Nashua. For more information or to register go to

Projects WET and WILD Aquatic Workshop
Project WET and newly updated Project WILD Aquatic are international, activity-based,
supplementary curricula that support the teaching of conservation and environmental education
concepts. While Project WILD Aquatic focuses on wildlife in aquatic environments, Project WET
focuses on physical and chemical characteristics of water, its importance to all life and the
management of water resources. This workshop is taking place on Sunday, March 19th at the NH
Fish and Game office in Keene from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. To register for the joint Projects WET and
WILD Aquatic workshop, please complete the form at
http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/wet/schedule.htm. Deadline to register is
March 13th. For more information contact Mary at mary.goodyear@wildlife.nh.gov and (603) 271-
6649; or Lara at lara.hooper@des.nh.gov and (603) 271-4071.

Purpose First & 15 to Finish Summit
Purpose First and 15 to Finish will serve as the focus of an upcoming summit at NHTI in Concord on
March 24th from 8:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- **Purpose First** is about helping students to discern their purpose in college by adopting strategies and resources that support goal clarification, affirmation, and connection to academic plans.
- **15 to Finish** is an effort to boost on-time completion rates and reduce student loan debt in partnership with academic advisors through campaigns that increase credit accumulation and provide students critical information about on-time completion.

For more information go to [http://nh-cte.org/pathways-to-success/](http://nh-cte.org/pathways-to-success/) or contact Beth Doiron at bdoiron@ccsnh.edu. To register go to [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCSNH-CCA-Summit](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCSNH-CCA-Summit). Registration will close on Friday, March 17th. Please note that registration is limited to 250 participants.

**Brain-based Teaching**

UNH Professional Development and Training will host a new five-week, online course *Brain-based Teaching* emphasizing brain research and how the brain learns. The course begins March 14th and runs through April 14th. Participants in the online learning community will identify, share, and practice brain-based strategies to work with students who need to overcome skill deficits. The basics of brain anatomy and brain maturation will provide the curriculum’s foundation. Teachers, professional coaches/trainers, paraprofessionals, and school administrators will learn to help students identify and utilize strengths to ensure their success. The registration fee is $189 and the course will take approximately five hours per week. Register online at [bit.ly/UNHPDTbrain](http://bit.ly/UNHPDTbrain) or call (603) 862-7380.

**Newtown Screening**

Red River Theatres in Concord is hosting a preview screening of the documentary *Newtown* with panel conversation afterward. Filmed over the course of nearly three years, the filmmakers use unique access and never-before-heard testimonies to tell a story of the aftermath of the deadliest mass shooting of schoolchildren in American history on December 14, 2012. *Newtown* documents a traumatized community fractured by grief and driven toward a sense of purpose. The screening is taking place at 6:30 p.m. on March 15th. This series is free but requires an RSVP in advance. To register go to [www.redrivertheatres.org](http://www.redrivertheatres.org).

**The New Hampshire Writers’ Project**

The board of New Hampshire Writers’ Project (NHWP) invites you to join them at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) on April 1, 2017 for their new Teacher Track, one of many initiatives they plan to introduce this year in an effort to serve you, your students, and all emerging young writers across our state. There are two sessions with teachers in mind; professional development certificates will be available upon request. The sessions will meet in the brand new Gustafson Center at SNHU from 2:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m., after which you are invited to stay for an end-of-day celebration. There is no charge for the *Teacher Track* but space is limited, so please reserve yours today by emailing k.gillett@snhu.edu. For a more complete description of these sessions, and everything else on offer at Writers’ Day, go to [http://www.nhwritersproject.org/content/writers-day-2016](http://www.nhwritersproject.org/content/writers-day-2016).

**Implementing Suicide Prevention Programming in your School**

This free training will prepare school staff and community members to implement the Signs of Suicide® (SOS) Prevention Program for middle and high school youth, and to provide gatekeeper training to adults in their schools and communities. The training will take place Thursday April 6, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at New England College. To register or for more information go to [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ConcordSOS](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ConcordSOS) or contact Chelsea Biggs at cbiggs@mentalhealthscreening.org or (781) 591-5253.

**New Hampshire Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (NHASCD)**

On May 19, 2017, NHASCD welcomes Steven Leinwand whose interactive presentation will be on
Sensible, Accessible Instructional Strategies for Increasing MATH Engagement. His fast-paced, energetic presentation at this NHASCD Spring Conference will be full of real-world examples. Throughout the day he will also describe and model key strategies and characteristics of high quality mathematics instruction -- and share explicit ideas on how to bring these instructional shifts to scale. This event is taking place from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. To register or for more information go to www.cvent.com/events/may-19th-2017-nhascd-conf-with-steven-leinwand/event-summary-19723cda73464a1f96ebc0d1c2438576.aspx.

Global Educational Leadership Summit
The Windham School District is spearheading the first ever New Hampshire Professional Development Delegation for statewide administrators entitled The New Hampshire Delegation to the Global Educational Leadership Summit: Study of Comparative Education Systems to Helsinki and Milan, in conjunction with Education First (EF) Educational Tours. This exciting opportunity for school leaders will take place July 2 through July 10, 2017. EF Educational Tours has created an itinerary designed to provide professional educators with a deep understanding of the Finnish and Italian culture, art, and most importantly, the country’s education system. Windham will be sending a cohort of district administrators to take part in this delegation in hopes to gain a better understanding of the education system in Finland and to experience the Global Leadership Summit in Italy.

Our Professional Development group will be the first delegation from New Hampshire, to work in partnership with EF Educational Tours, to study other educational systems around the globe. As a delegation, we were able to secure some additional funding in hopes to make this opportunity more accessible to those who wish to participate. We have room for only 15 administrators and educators to join the New Hampshire Delegation and the cost per person is $3,700. Since space is limited, an initial deposit of $95 is due no later than April 1st. We understand there is an associated cost with this unique Professional Development opportunity, and we are hoping through requesting support of districts, grant writing and other creative resources we can make this opportunity a reality for our administrators and educators throughout our state. Please join us as we participate in a cultural activity to learn more about how Finland has emerged a world leader in education. More information can be found out www.eftours.com/1937038WY.

Let's Get Kids to School Safely
Bike-Walk Alliance of NH and the NH Department of Transportation are back again this Spring to offer free bike & pedestrian safety education to 4th & 5th grade students around New Hampshire. Classes will be conducted by League of American Bicyclists (LAB) certified instructors. Each 45-minute session will be held in the classroom and will cover such topics as Rules of the Road, helmet safety, "ABC Quick Check" and more. Classes are planned for Spring 2017. This safety education is an important component of the Safe Routes to School Program. Contact Leslie Thompson, Bike Ed Coordinator at leslie@bwanh.org to reserve a class for your school.

2017 NH High School Short Film Festival
The New Hampshire Division of Film and Digital Media, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, will once again present the New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival, which will take place in May 2017. Students from NH public and private high schools are encouraged to start planning and producing their projects, which do not have to be created as part of a class assignment. The submission period opens March 1, 2017. More details are available at www.nhstudentfilm.com. Media arts faculty interested in receiving updates about the Festival via e-mail should contact film@nh.gov.

2017 Congressional Art Competition
Each spring, the Congressional Institute sponsors a nationwide high school visual art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent in the nation and in each congressional district. The Congressional Art Competition is a great opportunity to recognize our artistically talented youth.
Students submit entries to their representative’s office. This year’s art work is due in Congresswoman’s Kuster’s office at 18 North Main St., 4th Floor, Concord, 03301 NH no later than Friday, April 14, 2017. The overall winner of our district’s competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. For more information please contact Dawn Pollinger at (603) 226-1002 or dawn.pollinger@mail.house.gov.

2016 Ladybug Picture Book Award Winner Announced
New Hampshire children, from preschoolers to third graders, selected It’s Only Stanley by John Agee as the winner of the 2016 Ladybug Picture Book Award. Sponsored by the Center for the Book at the New Hampshire State Library, the Ladybug Picture Book Award was established to promote early literacy and honor the best in recent children’s picture books. For more information about the award, please visit the website of the Center for the Book at the NH State Library at: http://ladybug.nhbookcenter.org.

Safe Kids 500
The Safe Kids 500 will take place at the NH Motor Speedway from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on May 3, 2017. Your family can bike on the same track driven by your favorite NASCAR stars. There will also be free bike and helmet safety checks, healthy snacks, and educational handouts. For information, please contact Safe Kids New Hampshire at (877) 783-0432 or IPC@Dartmouth.edu.

NH ConnectED Professional Development Calendar is available online.
NH ConnectEd is a project of the NH Society for Technology in Education (www.NHSTE.org). Events from participating educational organizations are posted on this calendar for your convenience. NHSTE is connecting with a variety of professional organizations to develop their collaborative professional development calendar. If your educational organization would like to participate in NH ConnectEd, contact the Office of Educational Technology for details. Professional development opportunities are also shared on the NH ConnectED Listserv. Join at http://mylist.net/listinfo/nhconnected. View the NH ConnectED Calendar at https://nhoetnews.wordpress.com/events-calendar/.

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

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