

**HOME EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
New Hampshire Department of Education
25 Hall Street | Concord, NH 03301**

For the public wishing to join the meeting, please use the remote link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83290448369>

Join by phone: 1-646-558-8656 *United States Toll* or 1-646-518-9805 *United States Toll*

Meeting ID: 832 9044 8369

Friday, January 10, 2025

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL ~ 2:30 PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

III. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

- A. Recruitment for vacancies - *Membership per [RSA 193-A:10](#)*
(2) Home Educator Association organized within NH Will not be filled for 2024-2025 session:
(1) NH School Boards Association

III. IMMEDIATE BUSINESS

IV. UPDATES FROM THE NH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- A. Given the short time span since the last meeting, the NHED Office of Home Education does not have a report to present at this meeting as no significant changes to the information since the last meeting have not occurred.

- B. **Tim Carney is no longer part of the NHED Office of Home Education. Alyson Landrigan will be taking over coordination of future HEAC meetings.**

V. AGENDA REVIEW – Chair

VI. Adoption/Readoption of HEAC Best Practices

- A. Should HEAC consider voting on the following procedural items relative to the conduct of the meeting and the posting of meeting information.
1. Should HEAC continue the practice of allowing members to participate remotely in accordance with RSA 91-A:2.III
 2. Should HEAC continue posting draft meeting minutes on the NHED web page? This is not required by RSA 91-A which only requires the posting of approved meeting minutes.

3. Should HEAC continue the practice of recording the HEAC meetings? This is not required by RSA 91-A.
4. Should HEAC clarify how public comment will be accepted and if public involvement during the meeting will be allowed, and if so, how that process will work?
5. Should HEAC clarify if they want all meeting materials included as part of the draft and approved meeting minutes.

VII. MEMBER REPORTS

- A. Legislators – Sen. Ward, Rep. Kuttub, Rep. Peternel
- B. Home Educator Associations Representatives – Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Nolin,
Mrs. Rohrbacher, Mr. Zuech
- C. Home Education Community – Mr. Koski, Mrs. Pattison
- D. NH Association of School Principals – Mr. O'Rourke
- E. NH School Administrators Association – Mrs. Barker
- F. Nonpublic School Advisory Council – Mrs. Grant

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. None

X. CONTINUING BUSINESS

- A. None

XI. RULEMAKING/LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – Legislators/ED Liaison

- A. Rulemaking Updates

1. **Ed 704.02 High School Equivalency Program- Admission to Testing for Home Educated Students.**

On April 12, 2022, HEAC recommended HEAC and NHED research waiving the requirement for the participating agency to sign off to allow 16 and 17 year old home educated students to take the HiSET (High School Equivalency Test).

Ed 704.02 was last updated in 2013. Families believe ED 704.02 is incongruent relative to home educated students requiring an attestation from the Participating Agency to be admitted to testing. In NH, parents self-certify completion of a home education program (Ed 315.16) and issue certificates for youth employment (RSA 276-A:5,1), not public school officials.

Ed 704.02 Admission to Testing.

(f) Home schooled students age 16 or 17 may register to take the high school equivalency test if a participating agent as defined in Ed 315.02 of the student's home school program attests that the student has completed

the home schooling program pursuant to RSA 193:1,1(f)(2), and that the student has passed the certified practice test and meets any additional qualifications for testing set by the test publisher.

B. Legislative Service Requests

1. [HB55 \(2024\)](#) relative to driver education.
2. [LSR 2025-0009](#) establishing an annual review and qualification to determine eligibility to participate in the education freedom accounts program.
3. [LSR 2025-0032](#) establishing a program for enrichment scholarships for gifted and making an appropriation therefor.
4. [LSR 2025-0035](#) establishing as its own state agency a department for children, youth, and families.
5. [LSR 2025-0042](#) establishing the parental bill of rights.
6. [LSR 2025-0061](#) relative to universal eligibility for the education freedom account program.
7. [LSR 2025-0074](#) relative to child care scholarship eligibility and reporting requirements.
8. [LSR 2025-0082](#) defining the term citizen for the purposes of the right to know law and including preliminary drafts circulated to a quorum of a majority of a public body as disclosable documents.
9. [LSR 2025-0091](#) establishing a local education freedom account program.
10. [LSR 2025-0094](#) requiring high schools to include instruction on the nature and history of communism.
11. [LSR 2025-0103](#) allowing a public body member's presence at a meeting by electronic or other means of communication only if physical presence is unavoidable and providing that physical presence is necessary for voting.
12. [LSR 2025-0222](#) relative to the maximum number of credits per course eligible for the dual and concurrent enrollment program.
13. [LSR 2025-0443](#) relative to youth employment during the school year and at night.
14. [LSR 2025-0534](#) establishing a kindergarten literacy readiness program.
15. [LSR 2025-0649](#) making an appropriation for the dual and concurrent enrollment program.
16. [LSR 2025-0724](#) making an appropriation to the department of education for an attorney to recodify education laws.

XII. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. **SAT® tutoring bootcamp** – 100% free virtual 4-week small-group tutoring course for the digital SAT®. Registration opens January 23rd for the March 8, 2025 SAT®. More information at <https://schoolhouse.world/sat-bootcamp>
- B. The **2025 EngineerGirl Writing Contest** opened in September with the theme of “**Innovating Smarter.**” Students are being asked to write a piece describing a common object they would make “smart” and describe what it would do, how it would help individuals and what could go wrong. The contest is open to all students in grades 3-12. The deadline is Feb. 1. Please share this opportunity with your students.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENT

- A. Next Scheduled Meeting – February 14, 2025 from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

XIV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

XV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – 10 Minutes

- A. Written Comments Received by HEAC

On Tue, Jan 7, 2025, 9:34 AM Jennifer Bobolia wrote:

Dear Home Education Advisory Council members,

As a traditional, unfunded RSA 193-A home educator, I am writing to encourage the Council to re-focus your attention on independent home education and not on EFA or other pathways as outlined in state law and Education Department rules. I am not opposing EFA or other pathways, I just request that the HEAC follow the applicable statutes and rules regarding their role in home education policy making.

Thank you,
Jennifer Bobolia
Derry, NH

XVI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION – [NH RSA 91-A:3, II.](#) - *If needed*

XVII. ADJOURNMENT ~ **4:30 PM**

Upcoming Home Education Advisory Council Meetings

February 14, 2025 – 2:30 PM
March 14, 2025 – 2:30 PM (if needed)
NH Department of Education
25 Hall Street, Concord, NH

We encourage you to attend

[Ed 315.09](#) **The Home Education Advisory Council.**

- A. The home education advisory council shall carry out those duties assigned to it by the commissioner. The council shall work with home educators and representatives of private and public education to encourage an understanding of home education.*
 - B. The home education advisory council shall comply with RSA 91-A. Minutes of home education advisory council meetings shall be maintained by the department.*
 - C. Assigned areas of responsibility for the council shall include the following:*
 - 1. Developing and maintaining effective communications between home educators and those public and nonpublic schools and state and local agencies involved in home education;*
 - 2. Recommending to the commissioner and state board of education desired changes in rules pertaining to home education;*
 - 3. Establishing a grievance committee to hear grievances referred to it by the commissioner; and*
 - 4. Providing an annual report to the state board on its activities.*
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