



Friday Forum

October 25, 2024

- NHED and Granite Edvance are partnering with Xello to provide students with an online [career pathway exploration platform](#) that integrates with existing school district student information systems. This partnership empowers students to become **college and career ready**. For details on how to implement Xello in your district, visit [Xello-NH](#).
- This week, Code.org released the [2024 State of Computer Science Education](#) report. NH continues to make progress in bringing **computer science** opportunities to students, and this year we're pleased to share that 95% of public high schools statewide are providing foundational computer science courses.
- NHED is launching a pilot program for **hydroponic gardens** in schools and has 15 Flex Farms for distribution. To request a hydroponic system, superintendents may complete the [Pilot Program Request Form](#) by Nov. 12. Only one request may be submitted per SAU, and this request must be submitted by the superintendent. This pilot program is non-competitive, however if more than 15 SAUs apply, priority selection will be given to the school with the higher percentage of free and reduced eligibility. More details [here](#).
- NHED's Bureau of Adult Education is hosting a **High School Equivalency Preparation Workshop** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 1 at 25 Hall St., Concord. This workshop will explore test taking tips, instructional activities and teacher resources to best prepare students to take the GED or the HiSET exam. This is a free event and lunch will be provided. Register [here](#).
- The **NH Excellence in Education Awards (EDies)** aims to acknowledge schools and individuals within NH who demonstrate high standards of excellence. The [intent to apply](#) to be considered for the Schools of Excellence Awards is now open, as well as [nomination forms](#) for the Doris Barnes Lifetime Achievement Award. [Collaborative partners](#) are encouraged to join in honoring these educators – save the date for June 7, 2025 at the DoubleTree in Manchester.
- NHED is accepting [applications](#) for the **ESSA State Committee of Practitioners**, which serves to advise the state in carrying out its responsibilities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. COP members serve for three years; the deadline for applications is Dec. 1.

- Proposed changes to the administrative rules governing **School Building Aid**, Ed 321, have been posted to the rulemaking register. The proposed draft may be viewed, as well as the notice that gives a summary of the rules and the information for the public hearing, at [Rulemaking Register](#).
- The **NH Radon Program** within the Division of Public Health Services is hosting a [Radon Poster Contest](#) for NH students in grades 5-8. The deadline for submissions is Oct. 31.
- The Reading League-NH and Lisa Klein are hosting a virtual event from 4-5 p.m. on Oct. 30 highlighting evidence-based recommendations for **writing instruction** in grades K-12. This session will include an overview of the Institute of Education Science Practice Guides – *Teaching Elementary School Students to be Effective Writers* and *Teaching Secondary Students to Write Effectively*. Register [here](#).
- School Counselors are invited to a webinar hosted by College Guidance Network on **two-to-four-year transfer pathways**. Chuck Lloyd and Shelley Duquette will provide information needed to advise students on this option, including a breakdown of the articulation agreements between NH community college and four-year institutions. [Register here](#).
- Students who are in high school can apply for **VR services** between the ages of 14 up to their 22nd birthday. The [referral process](#) is simple.
- The [Smart Heart Sports Coalition](#) is offering an **AEDs for Youth** program to help young people and others if they are struck by sudden cardiac arrest. This program makes available AEDs to all K-12 schools and youth sports organizations at substantial discounts.
- **Poetry Out Loud** is a dynamic national recitation contest, which is free to high school students. The mission is to inspire students and encourage them to step into the world of poetry. Schools that are interested in joining may [register here](#).
- Join NHASP and NHASCD for a day of learning with educator and author Kim Marshall as he unveils the tenets of his latest book, “**Rethinking Teacher Supervision and Evaluation: How to Shift the Conversation to Coaching, Continuous Improvement and Student Learning**.” The event will take place Nov. 14 in Nashua. Register [here](#).
- The **Upper Valley Educators Institute** is hosting an [online gathering](#) from 4:30-6 p.m. on Nov. 12 titled “After the 2024 Elections.” What will teachers, students and administrators be needing, thinking and wondering in the days after the November election? Join other educators to discuss.

Resources for Educators

- Final week! **Tutor.com** is throwing a schoolwide [Pizza Party](#) for the (in-person) New Hampshire school with the highest percentage of students who connect with a tutor at least once between Sept. 23 and Oct. 31.

- NHED is partnering with Khan Academy to offer **Khanmigo** for educators and students in grades 5-12 statewide. Khanmigo, an AI platform, serves as a teaching assistant for educators and a tutor for students. School administrators are encouraged to visit [Khanmigo for New Hampshire](#) to initiate the free contracting process.
- NHED's [UpGrade](#) program aims to increase the number of **educators earning tech credentials**, as well as encourage existing technology leaders to receive educator endorsements to teach computer science and similar tech courses. For existing educators, NHED will reimburse the cost of any exams or licensure costs for qualified credentials, up to a total of \$2,000. In addition, teachers will receive a stipend for each credential acquired, up to a total of \$750.
- Do all of your educators know they have free access to **Discovery Education Experience**? *Experience* has engaging resources for PreK to grade 12 across subject areas, including Virtual Field Trips and Career Exploration and (coming soon) NH Civics! Visit discoveryeducation.com and login using your district single sign on (Google, Clever, ClassLink, etc).

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