



Friday Forum

March 22, 2024

- Adding late liquidation message from Melissa once ready.
- Join **College Guidance Network** and NHED for an “Earn and Learn Through Apprenticeship” [webinar](#) at 7:30 p.m. on March 26 with featured expert Liz Arcieri, a high school youth apprentice and business outreach specialist with ApprenticeshipNH.
- Shout-out to student **Morgan Cole** from Portsmouth High School who is the winner of the 2024 New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud High School [Championship](#). Cole will represent the Granite State at the national finals from April 30 to May 2 in Washington D.C. More than 3,000 students participated in the competition.
- A [public hearing](#) on the **ED 306 rules** (Minimum Standards for Public School Approval) for ED 306.01-306.25 will take place from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on April 3 at 25 Hall St. in Concord. A public hearing on the second half of the ED 306 rules (306.31-306.46) will take place during the State Board of Education’s regular monthly meeting, which begins at 10 a.m. on April 11 at 25 Hall St. in Concord.
- Each year, students from across the country participate in the **America Celebrates** ornament display in Washington, D.C., decorating ornaments that adorn trees placed around the National Christmas Tree in President’s Park. USED is seeking *one classroom* at one elementary, middle or high school in New Hampshire to create at least 18 (but no more than 24) ornaments for the display. If your school is interested, please email comms@doe.nh.gov. Designs created this school year will be placed on the trees this December.
- School districts that have not yet complied with submitting and certifying required **Civil Rights Data Collection** (CRDC) data for the 2021-22 school year to the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights must do so by April 1. Please review this [letter](#) from USED.
- NHED’s Office of Nutrition Programs and Services is announcing a new grant funding opportunity for schools throughout New Hampshire. The grant application for the NH Farm to School (F2S) **Gardens Grant** for the implementation and/or expansion of school gardens is available [here](#).
- NHED is hosting a required training in April 2024 to familiarize users with the foundation documents needed to prepare for the SSIS changeover from i4see to **INHDEX** in January

2025. Topics that will be covered include: 24/25 Submission Layout Document, 24/25 Data Dictionary, high level overview of the training plan for SY 24/25, and other available documents and resources. Four training sessions will be offered, including two for Alma student information system (SIS) users and two for non-Alma SIS users. The trainings will be recorded:

Alma Users Training Session 1: April 10 from 1:00 – 2:30 PM [Register here](#).

Alma Users Training Session 2: April 18 from 10:00 – 11:30 AM [Register here](#).

Non-Alma SIS Users Training Session 1: April 11 from 10:00 – 11:30 AM [Register here](#).

Non-Alma Users Training Session 2: April 19 from noon – 1:30 PM [Register here](#).

- The **NH Information & Analysis Center** has released this [School Safety & Security Bulletin](#).
- Governor Chris Sununu has proclaimed April as **Genocide Awareness Month**, urging cities and towns to commemorate the victims of genocides and educating the public about the importance of preventing intolerance, bigotry, antisemitism and national, ethnic, racial and religious hatred and genocide against any group of people. This [letter](#) from the Holocaust and Genocide Education Commission encourages schools to observe Genocide Awareness Month in an appropriate manner.
- The US Department of Energy is now accepting [applications](#) for the 2024 **Renew America's Schools Prize**, which will award \$180 million to districts across the country engaging in strategic partnerships to build capacity and implement energy upgrades in K-12 schools, lowering energy use and costs, improving indoor air quality, and fostering healthier learning environments. Applications are due June 13, with informational webinars on March 21 and 26.
- **The Friends Program** is hosting [Friends-a-Palooza](#) from 1-4 p.m. on July 27 at Keach Park in Concord to celebrate International Friendship Day. The Friends Program offers a variety of services that address the needs of at-risk youth by aiming to build positive connections and solutions.
- **Project Learning Tree** is hosting a Forests of NH Teacher Tour from July 23-26 at the AMC Cardigan Lodge in Alexandria. Participants will connect with expert natural resource professionals while networking and learning about NH forests, as well as ways to engage students in learning about forest ecosystems and management. More details are available [here](#).
- NHED is sponsoring a **research project on student wellbeing and play** in public elementary schools with child development researchers in the Boston College School of Social Work. The aim of the research project is to implement and evaluate two no-cost, school-based programs, [Let Grow](#) and [Play Club](#), during the 2023-2024 academic year. The research will also measure student social, emotional and cognitive development. Superintendents and school principals interested in learning more may email Dr. Maggie Van Camp, associate researcher, at vancampm@bc.edu to set up a meeting.

Resources for Educators

- **Tutor.com** offers 24/7 [online tutoring](#), essay drop-off and test prep services for all New Hampshire students in grades 4-12, as well as adult education learners at no cost.
- **Graduation Alliance** provides 1-1 mentoring for students in need of an extra layer of support to boost school engagement and academic success. Call 603-758-3259 to get set up.
- **Discovery Education Experience**, available at no cost to all NH PreK-12 schools, is an excellent support to enhance your reading programs, social studies and science curricula, and to reach English language learners and students with differentiated learning needs. [Contact Nancy Rose](#) to learn more or schedule free professional development. Schedule now to reserve summer and back-to-school days!

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