



Friday Forum

April 19, 2024

- We hope all of our educators have an enjoyable and rejuvenating **spring break** – enjoy this time with your family and friends.
- The National Governors Association and Choose Love New Hampshire will be hosting a **Granite State Trails to Transitions** three-hour event for high school seniors. This live session will take place at three locations throughout New Hampshire, with all of the events taking place from 9 a.m. to noon. The first one will be May 14 at Keene State College, followed by May 15 at Plymouth State University and May 23 at UNH. These offerings are being made available to help support high school seniors before they embark on their next chapter, whether that be college or the workforce. Students must register in advance [here](#). Please share this [flyer](#). Contact Shannon.m.desilets@dhhs.nh.gov with questions.
- The upcoming **Granite Gambit Chess Festival** will take place on May 4 at Memorial High School in Manchester. The chess festival is sponsored by Chess in Education-US, in partnership with the NH Chess Association and NHED. Students may pre-register online by April 23 to qualify for the early-bird registration fee of \$5. The fee for online registration after April 23 and onsite registration is \$7. Schools wishing to register multiple students to participate in the chess festival should email paulroberts@chessineducation.us. Register [here](#).
- A team of recent UNH alums have partnered with NHED to provide New Hampshire's Student Volunteering Hub – a simple place to discover and track volunteering activity through the inspiring **Project Happy** app. NH high school students are encouraged to download the [app](#), which features 55 local nonprofits, representation from 18 schools and dozens of career-aligned service opportunities. Email info@projecthappy.world for more details.
- Congratulations to Larry Elliott, Kearsarge Regional School District Director of **Special Education**, for being named the [2024 NH Special Education Administrator of the Year](#).
- The 10th Annual **School Resource Officer Conference** will be held Aug. 12-13 in Pembroke. The two-day [event](#) is designed for school resource officers and school safety professionals. Register [here](#).
- Want to learn more about the next mission to the moon? **Artemis and New Hampshire: How NH is Helping NASA Return the USA to the Moon and Beyond** will take place from 5:30-8

p.m. on April 23 at the UNH Memorial Union Building. This is a free [event](#) open to families with interactive STEM and outreach experiences, including NASA scientists and an astronaut.

- A free professional development session for high school teachers is available. The **Advanced Regenerative Manufacturing Institute** is offering a PD opportunity for training in Bio-Trek – a free, project-based learning program about regenerative medicine for teachers to implement with high school students. Attendance includes a stipend and certificate for 20 contact hours. Two sessions are available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 24-27 and July 8-11. Register [here](#).
- The **ESEA Consolidated Application** opened April 1 and is due by June 1. This is a friendly reminder for districts to begin their application early, save their progress and return to it at a later time for final completion. The application may be found in GMS. More details [here](#); contact Jessica.L.Lescarbeau@doe.nh.gov with questions.
- **Visual Access to Mathematics** is a free professional learning course now available. Grade 6 & 7 math teachers are invited to [register](#) for this free course with a focus on visual representations to support mathematical problem solving and communication. More details [here](#); contact vam@edc.org for more details.
- The April 26 deadline is approaching for NHED's [Leaning Into Literacy II Resource Grant](#). This **grant** will allow NH public and public charter schools to receive funding for Science of Reading evidence-based, high-quality literacy curriculum to support students in K-6. ARP EANS funds this competitive grant, and all GEER II program assurances are applied. The estimated budget for each proposal is \$5,000 to \$25,000. Funds must be properly obligated by September 30, 2024.
- Congratulations to Sunset Heights Elementary and Ledge Street Elementary, both from Nashua, for being selected as recipients of the prestigious **CLiF Year of the Book Award**. This recognition is bestowed upon schools demonstrating exceptional dedication to fostering literacy and educational enrichment.

Resources for Educators

- **Tutor.com** is hosting an [Ice Cream Throwdown](#)! The (in-person) school with the highest percentage of students who connect for drop-off or on-demand writing sessions between April 15 to May 17 will win a school ice cream party.
- Do you want to get your school or district started with the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS)? **iLearn NH** can assist you with that. [Learn more](#).
- **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.

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