



Friday Forum

April 5, 2024

- Snow day reminder! As **snow days** accumulate, schools may find challenges in meeting the 180 day requirement. A waiver process is available to request a waiver of the school-year requirement. However, prior to requesting a waiver, schools must determine whether they can meet the school year requirement through hours, rather than days. Grades 1-6 must have 945 hours of instruction in the year, and grades 7-12 must have 990 hours of instruction. If you meet the total instructional hours, you will not need to satisfy the 180 day requirement and a waiver will not be required. If a waiver is still required, the local school board must submit the waiver request to the Commissioner's Office.
- NHED is introducing its [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.
- May 8 is National [Bike Walk & Roll to School](#) Day, in combination with May being classified as New Hampshire **Cycling Awareness Month**. For more information, or to share photographs of your school's participation, reach out to Gerard.R.Bedard@dot.nh.gov.
- USED's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has released a new [OSEP Fast Facts: Children Identified with Autism](#), which takes an updated look at data on children whose primary disability is **autism**. It also updated its [OSEP Fast Facts](#).
- The Christa McAuliffe State House Memorial Commission has announced the creation of a [student arts-based competition](#) to correspond with the creation, installation, and unveiling of the new Christa McAuliffe Memorial in 2024. Winners within each grade level will be chosen among all **art forms** and mediums submitted. All submissions must be delivered by June 1. Please share this unique opportunity with your students at all grade levels.
- New Hampshire Teachers of Mathematics (NHTM) is pleased to announce two scholarship opportunities for New Hampshire students who are intending to become **mathematics teachers**. The [NHTM Mathematics Education Major, Mathematics Major, and Elementary Education Scholarship](#) is for a college student who will be a junior or senior in the 2024-25 academic year. The [David G. Kent NHTM Mathematics Education Major, Mathematics Major,](#)

[and Elementary Education Scholarship](#) is for a graduating high school senior. The deadline to apply for each scholarship is May 1, 2024.

- Please join Campus Compact for NH for its inaugural **NH Access Summit**, a two-day, in-person convening of NH P-20 educators and students with the purpose of disseminating information, updates, and resources that (1) impact all New Hampshire students and their access to a postsecondary pathway and (2) are critical to increasing high school graduation as well as college & career matriculation rates. This is an event for New Hampshire educators by New Hampshire educators. To learn more about the event, RSVP, or submit an RFP to present, please visit compactnh.org. The New Hampshire Access Summit will be hosted at the Grappone Center in Concord on June 12 and 13.
- A [public hearing](#) on the **ED 306 rules** (Minimum Standards for Public School Approval) will take place at 1 p.m. on April 11 during the State Board of Education meeting at 25 Hall St. in Concord.
- The Boston College School of Social Work and NHED are hosting a [webinar](#), “Math and Playful Materials: Collecting and Curating What You Have and What You Can Find” at 7 p.m. on April 16 with **Marina Seevak**, founding executive director of the Beautiful Stuff Project.
- NHED and the Boston College School of Social Work are hosting [two free events](#) at Bow High School that are open to the public. A viewing of the film **Chasing Childhood** will take place at 6 p.m. on May 1. A viewing of the film **Anxious Nation** will take place at 5 p.m. on May 7. Free childcare is available at each event.
- Recently, education leaders and researchers at UNH sent **surveys to kindergarten teachers** and elementary school principals about their familiarity with various classroom practices and how they are implementing or supporting those practices in their schools. If you would like more information, please contact Kimberly.Nesbitt@unh.edu. It is a 15 minute survey; those kindergarten teachers and elementary school principals that complete it will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card.
- 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
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