



New Hampshire

**Department of Education**

## *Friday Forum*

May 27, 2022

- Join the UNH Early Learning Coaching team for a free, interactive professional development opportunity for educators (preschool through third-grade). Presenters will dive into the what, why and how of **play-based learning** in NH. This workshop will be offered twice, and will be held at the McClane Center in Concord from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on [June 28](#) and [July 13](#).
- Attention third-grade classroom and art teachers. After a short hiatus, the NH State Fire Marshal's Office will be hosting its **Statewide Third Grade Fire and Life Safety Poster Contest**. The rules and guidelines have been revamped, the topics have been aligned with third-grade standards and a rubric has been added for scoring. Please be on the lookout for additional information in September.
- Are you or someone you know looking to get **Paraprofessional II licensure**? NHTI is offering an 8-week online portfolio course from July 5- August 26. This online course is structured to meet your individual needs while providing support to meet state requirements. Funding may be available through your district. For more information contact Cynthia Lucero [clucero@ccsnh.edu](mailto:clucero@ccsnh.edu), or register [here](#).
- Please review this [document](#) on the **USDA Approved Waivers** for Summer 2022 and SY 2022-2023 Child Nutrition Programs. As a reminder, free meals are ending June 30, and the waivers on this list are the only waivers that will be available.
- The DHHS **Over the Counter COVID-19 Antigen Test Program** has resumed, and orders previously submitted are now in the process of being filled. These FlowFlex rapid antigen tests are available to daycares, federally qualified healthcare centers, regional public health networks, K-12 schools, and summer camps. Members from the DHHS warehouse team will reach out once the order is available for pick-up in Concord. Eligible organizations may place an order [here](#) if they have not previously done so.
- NHED announces a 2022 **Modern Band [request for applications](#)** from school music programs wanting to initiate or expand modern band programming in their school. NHED will offer at least 18 teachers two days of in-state, face-to-face training in modern band pedagogy, as well as \$2,500 for purchasing instruments. [Applications](#) are being accepted until June 20.
- Congratulations to NH's 2019 and 2020 **National Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching** awardees who were honored at the 2022 Excellence Awards in Science and Engineering recognition event this week in Washington DC. The award

winners include Michelle Morton-Currit of Exeter High School, Susan Downer of Souhegan High School and Tristan Bowen of Riddle Brook School.

- Are your students ready for the **Quantile Summer Math Challenge**? To help remedy the summer math slide, MetaMetrics, an educational research group, offers the free Summer Math Challenge – a math skills maintenance program based on grade-level standards that help prepare students for college and careers; the program targets students who have just completed first through eighth grades. Visit [Summer Math Challenge](#) to learn more. Here is a [flyer](#) for parents.
- A reminder that NHED's [technical advisory](#) regarding **face coverings** in schools and school buses, which was implemented on Feb. 23 and Feb. 25, respectively, remains in effect.
- Summer training dates for teachers interested in the **Granite Gambit Chess in Schools** program have been announced. First-time training sessions will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 11-14 and Aug. 15-18 at Manchester Community College. Second-level training will occur from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 14-15 at Manchester Community College. For more details on these free training sessions, email Jerry Nash at [jerry@chessinschools.us](mailto:jerry@chessinschools.us).
- May is **Mental Health Awareness Month**. Each Monday this month, NHED's Office of Social and Emotional Wellness is releasing a post on social media that contains a fact, resource, tip and activity related to a mental health topic. This week's topic was Destigmatizing Mental Illness, and in recognition of the losses so many have experienced in this pandemic, the last one will focus on Supporting Grief. Look for the posts on the [Bureau of Student Wellness Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and on [NHED's Facebook](#).
- The **Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award** honors two K-12 teachers for excellence in cybersecurity education, and the call for [nominations is now open](#). Now in its third year, the award is part of a coordinated federal effort to develop and maintain a superior cybersecurity workforce. The U.S. Department of Education recognizes the critical role teachers have in preparing students with the skills needed to fortify our nation's security and to succeed in the ever-evolving cybersecurity environment. The nomination period will close on July 31. You can find the rules, terms, and conditions and details on how to apply on the PCRN website: <https://cte.ed.gov/cyberaward>.
- The New Hampshire School Nurses' Association [School Nurse Essentials](#) is designed to give nurses who are new their role, a comprehensive overview of their role within the school. As a medical home extender, school nurses provide preventive and screening services, individualized health education, as well as interventions for acute and chronic illness, injuries and emergencies. They need to stay up to date on nursing laws and education laws. This course is beneficial for any nurse working in a school for the first time, or any nurse who has been in the role less than five years. Please share this [registration link](#) with your nurses.

### ***NHED Discretionary Grants***

- NH School Safe: Threat Assessment Grant (accepting applications on a rolling basis):  
<https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-learner-support/bureau-of-student-wellness/osew/grants>

*To have information included in future editions of the Friday Forum, email  
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