



## *Friday Forum*

October 20, 2023

- The application for round three of the **Security Action for Education (SAFE) grant** will open at 10 a.m. on Oct. 30. This \$10 million grant is funded by Public School Infrastructure money and is available to district and chartered public schools. Schools that did not receive an award in round one or round two, with eligible applications, will be prioritized. Applications will be awarded on a first-in-first-out basis. For updates, visit the [SAFE grant website](#).
- Grants totaling nearly \$4.6 million have been awarded this month to 21 New Hampshire school districts as part of the **Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Stronger Connections grant program**.
- Recognizing **America's Safe Schools Week**. Since 2018, New Hampshire has made substantial investments in the safety and security of its schools, [allocating about \\$52.7 million](#) in federal and state funds to ensure the safety of students and staff.
- During its [third year of implementation](#), more than 4,200 students from economically disadvantaged homes throughout New Hampshire are now enrolled in **Education Freedom Accounts**.
- NHED this week issued a [technical advisory](#) providing clarification on SB 179 and HB 491 – **Restraint and Seclusion**.
- **College Guidance Network** is offering an “Advising Students on Financial Aid” webinar at noon on Oct. 24; [register here](#). It is also offering a “Financial Aid and College Costs” webinar at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26; [register here](#).
- Nov. 15 Training! **Know & Tell**, an education program of the Granite State Children’s Alliance, is designed to educate all adults to know the signs of abuse and tell responsible authorities when a child needs help. A [training session](#) has been planned for Nov. 15.
- With the change to the new **Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Savings Account** program effective Oct. 26, the New Hampshire State Treasurer and Governor’s Commission on Disability has released a [frequently asked questions document](#).
- The Administration strongly supported amending the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify that schools that wish to offer **archery and hunting programs** may use

ESEA funds to support them. On Oct. 6, President Biden signed into law a bipartisan bill amending section 8526 regarding use of ESEA funds for the provision of, and training in, dangerous weapons ... that “provide students with educational instruction or educational enrichment activities, such as archery, hunting, other shooting sports, or culinary arts.”

- Public chartered schools that lease their facilities are eligible to apply for **lease aid** from NHED. Approved charter schools may receive aid of up to 30% of eligible costs or \$50,000, whichever is less. Schools that did not receive aid in the 2023-2024 school year, or whose lease has undergone substantive changes from last year would need to submit an Initial Lease Aid Application found [here](#). The due date for submittal of initial lease aid applications is Jan. 1, 2024. Charter schools that received aid last year, and whose lease has not undergone any substantive changes from last year, may submit a Renewal Lease Aid Application found [here](#); this is due Sept. 1.
- 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](mailto:vancampm@bc.edu), or join a drop-in information session from 3:30-4:30 Wednesday Oct. 18 or Oct. 25 using this [link](#). School leaders may also complete this [form](#) to express interest in learning more about the project from the research team.

### ***Resources for Educators***

- Online, 24/7 tutoring is available at no cost for students in grades 6-12 through a partnership with **Tutor.com**. Students may [register](#) at any time.
- Discovery Education helps schools observe **Red Ribbon Week**, Oct. 23-31, with resources supporting healthy decisions, vape-prevention and [more](#). Resources require login for Discovery Education Experience, provided to all NH schools by NHED. Contact [nrose@discoveryed.com](mailto:nrose@discoveryed.com).

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