



New Hampshire

Department of Education

Friday Forum

April 28, 2023

- A huge shoutout to all of our New Hampshire **Principals** on [School Principals' Day](#), which is May 1. We thank you for your leadership, inspiration and guiding force.
- Gov. Sununu recently issued a proclamation recognizing April 2023 as **Genocide Awareness Month** to appropriately commemorate the victims of genocides and educate the public about the importance of preventing intolerance, bigotry, antisemitism, and national, ethnic, racial and religious hatred and genocide against any group of people. Here is a [letter](#) from Brian Balke of the Holocaust and Genocide Education Commission, which highlights ways for schools to address this topic.
- May 3 is **National Bike & Roll to School Day**, which is designed to increase the use of nonmotorized modes of transportation. More information is available [here](#).
- **Tutor.com** is hosting an [Ice Cream Throwdown Sundae Funday](#), and will provide a NH school with the greatest participation rate of live tutoring sessions or writing submissions (from May 1-26) with an ice cream party during the first week of June.
- VR New Hampshire and White Mountains Community College are hosting a [Level Up and Find Your Path](#) event at 4:30 p.m. June 1 at **White Mountains Community College**, which includes a campus tour, exhibitors and more.
- A new school safety-related funding opportunity has been added to the [Grants Finder Tool](#) at SchoolSafety.gov. The **Youth Violence Prevention Program** will develop and enhance strategies to prevent youth violence, including youth gang or group violence. Deliverables from this program include the development of new direct service programs or the enhancement of existing programs for youth with multiple risk factors for violence. The Department of Justice will be holding an informational [webinar](#) at 2 p.m. on May 18.
- The Nashua School District is offering a screening of the **Right to Read** film at 4 p.m. on May 1 at Nashua High School North. A short panel discussion will follow the screening. Please share with colleagues and sign up [here](#).
- The FBI Boston Field Office, in coordination with the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division, the Office of Private Sector and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children has prepared this [informational sheet](#) regarding an increase in **sextortion scams** targeting

children and teens. School partners are invited to share this information with staff and students.

- **City Year New Hampshire** is a great opportunity for high school seniors, who may apply by May 5. In City Year, 17-25 year-olds complete a year of service (fulltime or 25 hours per week) in elementary or middle schools as a tutor and role model. The AmeriCorps Members receive a living stipend, education award, support applying for college and extensive training and leadership development. City Year is a good fit for students who are undecided, especially those interested in education careers or social justice; students are also able to defer. [Learn more](#).
- The New Hampshire [Assistive Technology Expo](#) will take place from noon to 5 p.m. on May 10 at 25 Hall St. in Concord. Meet with **assistive technology** companies and specialists to learn more about their products and services.
- NHED and **321 Insight** will host the last series of in-person professional development for the school year on May 16-18. The focus will be on trauma-informed practices and classroom proven strategies to address challenging behavior. Sessions will take place on May 16 at Keene State College, May 17 at North Country Education Services in Gorham and May 18 at the NHED offices in Concord. [Register by May 13](#).
- Are you or someone you know looking to get **Paraprofessional II licensure**? NHTI is offering an 8-week online portfolio course structured to individualize your needs while providing support to meet state requirements. Funding may be available through your district. Register [here](#); classes run May 8-July 1 and July 3-Aug. 26.
- May is **Mental Health Awareness Month**. Throughout the month of May, the Office of Social and Emotional Wellness will share on social media how the different [dimensions of wellness](#) influence mental health based on SAMHSA's Step-by-Step Guide to Creating a Healthier Life.
- **No Safe Experience** is a comprehensive statewide campaign that is raising awareness of the dangers of fentanyl and its presence in fake pills and other illicit substances. A toolkit is now available to provide school districts with access to materials that could be used to help better educate our youth that there is "No Safe Experience" when it comes to using illicit substances. Download the Canvas [Toolkit](#) at the bottom of the webpage. As a reminder, National Fentanyl Awareness Day is May 9.
- NHED launched its third year of **ReKINDling Curiosity** – hoping to ensure that every child who wants to attend a fun and engaging summer camp this year has the opportunity. Please share this [flyer](#) with families, which outlines scholarship and eligibility information.
- NHED and Tutor.com partnered to provide 24/7 online **tutoring for students in grades 6-12** throughout the state. School districts are being encouraged to [register](#) for Tutor.com's free access for their students. This program meets all data privacy requirements.
- NHED partnered with **Graduation Alliance** to provide 1-1 mentoring for students in need of an extra layer of support to boost school engagement and academic success during the

school year. Students who choose to participate in the program will be assigned an academic coach at no cost. Contact Christian Shiverdecker at 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