



Friday Forum

April 26, 2024

- With **Principal Appreciation Day** taking place on May 1, the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED) would like to thank all of our school leaders for their dedication to students, staff and families.
- In an effort to bolster **civics education** throughout the Granite State, NHED is [partnering](#) with Discovery Education to support the development of informed students who are eager and ready to participate in democracy.
- In just three months, NHED has disbursed [\\$1.1 million in scholarships](#) so that 1,777 Granite State children can attend **camp this summer** and improve their overall well-being. Federal Covid-relief funding is still available for our [ReKINDling Curiosity](#) program – please spread the word.
- The New Hampshire Excellence in Education (EDies) board would like to congratulate its 2024 School of Excellence winners. **Warren Village School** has been nominated for the title of 2024 K-12 School of Excellence. This nomination comes as a recognition of the school’s unwavering commitment to academic excellence, community engagement and historic preservation. **Bethlehem Elementary School** has been named the 2024 Elementary School of Excellence in New Hampshire by the EDies board. This honor highlights the school’s commitment to fostering academic excellence, innovation in instruction and the creation of a vibrant and inclusive learning environment.
- NHED previously issued a letter requesting [recommendations for talent search](#), and is still seeking a relatively new educator who has distinguished themselves above and beyond established top-quality professionals in our schools. The **talent pool** recommendation form is available [here](#).
- **Great Schools Partnership** has released its latest [2023 Common Data Project Report](#), which provides data about high school and college outcomes from across New England.
- [Branching Minds](#) offers a platform that provides educators across the district with critical insights and resources to support NH **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)** A & B models. In addition to the platform, Branching Minds provides an array of professional service offerings that are tailored to each district’s needs. We are pleased to share that NHED was able to secure exclusive, discounted rates for districts that would like to partner with

Branching Minds to implement their MTSS platform and participate in ongoing professional development. To learn more about partnering with Branching Minds, please visit the [Branching Minds' New Hampshire webpage](#).

- Schoolhouse has launched [registration](#) for its June **SAT bootcamps** in preparation for the June 1 SAT exam. Students and their parents/guardians may sign up by May 1. Please share this free opportunity with your high school students.
- **The Mount Washington Observatory** is offering two overnight workshops on weather and climate education this summer in July and August at its summit weather station. Any formal or informal K-12 educator looking for hands-on ways to connect students to weather and climate science learning that meets Next Generation Science Standards are invited to participate. [Learn more](#).
- Join NHED and **321 Insight** for free, in-person professional development focusing on strategies and best practices to help educators support all students, especially ESOL students. Earn up to six hours of professional development credit for attending the live session being held May 14 at Keene State College; register [here](#). Separate, online opportunities are available May 2 and May 15; register [here](#).
- 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 4th Annual **Assistive Technology Expo** will take place next month. As part of NHED's [NHAT Connect Project](#), vendors and educators are invited to join together from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 16 at 25 Hall St. in Concord. Participants will engage with at least 25 vendors and educators through presentations and demonstrations. Join us for a day full of learning and networking opportunities related to services focused on ensuring that all students can be successful in inclusive learning environments. ASL interpreters will be on site for the event.
- Today is the deadline 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.
- 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](#).

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