

# Scarborough Public Schools

Weekly Newsletter -October 16, 2020

## Student Breakfast and Lunches at No Cost Extended through June 30, 2021

The USDA has extended the date for no-cost breakfast and lunches. Originally set to expire on December 31, 2020, the waiver extensions will allow schools continue to leverage SFSP/SSO federal food service programs to provide no cost meals options to all children through June 30, 2021. The waiver extensions allow school nutrition teams across the state to continue to prepare and package food for all students, whether in person or remote, and to set up food delivery service with school transportation teams as needed to ensure families have safe options for receiving food during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To place all of your orders, go to <https://scarboroughschools.nutrislice.com> . You can also reach out to [food@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:food@scarboroughschools.org) if you need support in having remote meal packs delivered.



## From The Superintendent

Dear Greater Scarborough Schools Community,

I would like to acknowledge that the start of this week was special as we joined in celebrating Indigenous People's Day. As a school district we are committed to not only building relationships composed of trust, respect and reciprocity with Indigenous People, but to ensure we honor the sovereignty of native American Tribes and people.

The end of this week was also very special as I am happy to report that Scarborough Schools was on the television news Friday morning. Todd Jepson SPS Facilities Director was on the morning news echoing the important work that has taken place with outfitting all of our schools with Plexiglass Shields. The news story also acknowledged how Maine Properties - Southern Maine Remodeling from Scarborough - installed each of these shields

within our buildings. We are forever grateful for how they waived the installation costs and appreciate their generosity.

Our amazing students continue to be the shining light for all of us. From all accounts they were eager for the start of school and truly want to be here. Shoulder to shoulder in keeping with the Red Storm Spirit they have dutifully followed our procedures and pathways that the staff have put in place. Their seriousness of maintaining a healthy person has been nothing short of remarkable.

As John F Kennedy once stated *"The Chinese use two brush strokes to write the word crisis. One brush stroke stands for danger; the other for opportunity. In a crisis be aware of danger but recognize the opportunity."* Our students and adult members of our school community have taken these words and diligently put them into action given their great work with social distancing, wearing masks, and washing hands. This is a true testament to our students that together we continue to focus on the important goal which is to be healthy.

Your Red Storm fan,  
Sanford Prince IV

## Curriculum Updates

**Getting Ready for i-Ready:** This year for grades K-9 we will continue to use two important online tools beginning in some schools next week. i-Ready is an online program for reading and mathematics for grades K-9 that will help us determine your child's strengths and areas for growth, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the school year. i-Ready allows us to meet your child where they are. The two tools we will be using this year are the i-Ready Diagnostic and the i-Ready Instruction.

- **i-Ready Diagnostic** is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit your child's needs. Each item a student receives is based on their answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier ones. The purpose of this is not to give your child a score or grade but to determine how to best support their learning. It is not a placement test. Our teachers use the information to help them identify where to target their instruction. We plan to implement the assessment at least twice this year to monitor student progress. This assessment can be taken at school or at home.
- **i-Ready Instruction** provides students with lessons based on their individual strengths and areas for growth as a result of the assessment. These lessons are interactive and provide strategic supports to keep your child engaged as they learn. Teachers can also adjust the lessons if necessary. We plan to have students use this online instruction tool throughout the year to support their growth in both reading and mathematics.

More specific information will be sent via your child's school and teacher. Thank you for your continued support and for being a partner in your child's learning! You can learn more about i-Ready by visiting [i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter](https://www.i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter).



**Dear Families,**  
Your child's teachers need to know what our students already know and what they still need to learn so we can plan how to teach them best. The i-Ready Diagnostic can help us get this information for each child, but only if students give it their best effort without anyone else helping with the answers.

**Here's how you can help:**

- 1 Watch this video**  
to familiarize yourself with the Diagnostic and how to best support your child.
- 2 Get organized**  
by finding a quiet space for your student to take the test and confirming your technology is working properly.
- 3 Motivate your child**  
by explaining how doing their best will help their teachers know how to teach them better.
- 4 Support, but DO NOT help**  
by encouraging your child to stay focused and try their best and NOT helping them with the answers.
- 5 Celebrate your child's effort**  
once you have confirmed they have completed the assessment.

For more information, tips, and help, visit [www.i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter](https://www.i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter).  
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**i-Ready**

In case you missed it: [Important Family Letter regarding Google Meet](#)

**Save the date and time for a live webinar:** On November 4 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm we are leveraging our federal funds this fall to assist our families by offering live, interactive webinars with [Lynn Lyons](#) on the topic of anxiety. She will be providing strategies families can use to help manage the many uncertainties of our current environment. Please save the date and time of November 4 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm for the parent and community event titled, "**NOW What? Helping Children (and Parents) Manage Emotionally During Uncertain Times**" presented by Lynn Lyons. More information will be provided in the coming weeks. Our staff will also have an opportunity to learn from Lynn via live webinars scheduled through the fall.



## Upcoming SPS Events - Mark Your Calendar!

[SPS Calendar](#)

- **October 22** - Virtual Parent -Teacher Conferences - Scarborough High School
- **November 3** - Election Day - No School for High School Students
- **November 4** - 6:00-7:30pm - Live, interactive webinar - "*NOW What? Helping Children (and Parents) Manage Emotionally During Uncertain Times*"
- **November 5** - 7:00pm - School Board Meeting - Council Chambers A & B, Town Hall
- **November 11** - Veterans' Day - No School



## Don't Forget... Face Coverings for All

- Per the Governor's Order, face coverings (cloth facemasks) must be worn in all publicly accessible areas of schools and everywhere on school grounds (parking lots, playgrounds, walkways, entryways, etc.) This is true for students and staff, and also applies to any other visitors as well. We appreciate everyone's support in following these directives.









## Health & Safety


Please make sure you review [the UPDATED Student Health Self Assessment](#) questions EVERY DAY before sending your child off to school. Updated guidance from the state has REMOVED a few less common symptoms from the list, including stomach pain, rash, swelling, and red eyes.


TOGETHER, we can make our schools as safe as possible!

### COVID-19 Pre-Screening Tool for School Attendance

Within the past 24 hours have you had a fever (100.4 and above\*) or used any fever reducing medicine? YES = 


Do you feel sick with any of the most common symptoms of Covid, had vomiting/diarrhea, or felt unwell? (see symptom list to the right) YES = 

Have you been a close contact of a person with Covid in the past 14 days? YES = 

Have you traveled outside of the state in the past 14 days? YES =   
Contact Your School

**Stay home with any YES response to the questions above OR with two or more of the "less common" symptoms listed to the right.**

Attend school when all answers are NO and your child is feeling well with no other symptoms of illness. Call or see your school nurse or other designated person at school if you have questions.

updated 10.9.20 

**Most Common Symptoms of Covid 19:**  
Cough  
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  
Fever (100.4°F/ 38 °C or greater)\*  
Chills  
Sore throat  
New loss of taste or smell

**Less Common Symptoms:**  
Muscle pain  
Nausea or Vomiting  
Diarrhea  
Fatigue  
Headache  
Congestion/runny nose

\*Fever is 100.4°F/ 38°C regardless of measurement location (oral, temporal).

Links to Our Schools



Blue Point



Eight Corners



Pleasant Hill



Wentworth



Middle School



High School

## Services & Information

[Spec. Services](#) | Alison Marchese, [amarchese@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:amarchese@scarboroughschools.org)  
[Transportation](#) | Sarah Redmond, [redmond@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:redmond@scarboroughschools.org)  
[Food Services](#) | Peter Esposito, [pesposito@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:pesposito@scarboroughschools.org)  
[Athletics & Activities](#) | Mike LeGage, [mlegage@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:mlegage@scarboroughschools.org)  
[Curriculum](#) | Monique Culbertson, [mculbertson@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:mculbertson@scarboroughschools.org)  
[Community Services](#) | Todd Souza, [tsouza@scarboroughmaine.org](mailto:tsouza@scarboroughmaine.org)



## Tech Support

For technology assistance with SPS student laptops, please send a message to [techsupport@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:techsupport@scarboroughschools.org) and someone from Technology will be in touch to assist you.



## Scarborough Schools

Facebook @scarbmeschools

259 U.S. Route 1, Scarborough, ... (207) 730-4100

[scarboroughschools.org](http://scarboroughschools.org)



