Scarborough Public Schools

Weekly Newsletter - November 6, 2020

SPS Wants Your Feedback!

Scarborough Public Schools is looking for your feedback on our back to school efforts. Please click on the link under the school in which your child attends. If you have more than one child enrolled, you can either complete one survey about your oldest child, or complete a survey once for each child. capsiock A S Surveys Z X

Please note:

- Your answers are completely anonymous.
- We are conducting similar surveys seeking input from staff, community and students as well.
- Results will be shared at an upcoming School Board meeting.
- The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.
- Your voice is important, so thank you for sharing your thoughts and experiences.
- Deadline for submissions is Friday, November 13.

Thank you in advance for completing this.

Blue Point School: BP Family Back to School Survey Fall 2020

Eight Corners School: EC Family Back to School Survey Fall 2020

Pleasant Hill School: PH Family Back to School Survey Fall 2020

Wentworth School: WS Family Back to School Survey Fall 2020

Middle School: MS Family Back to School Survey Fall 2020

High School: HS Family Back to School Survey Fall 2020

From the Superintendent

Dear Scarborough School Community,

We are now into the month of November and this weekend's forecast looks great for getting outdoors and enjoying the sunshine that will be upon us. I hope each of you can find some wellness time and take advantage of the seasonably warm weather.

Today we heard from the Maine Department of Education that Cumberland County's positivity rate is below the state average, and, as such, remains green on the Governor's Risk Level metric at this time. That being said, we must be prepared to adapt to a variety of modes of instruction if indeed we find ourselves in a position that we need to close our schools at any point in time during the year. We continue to review our plans and adjust accordingly knowing we there have been valuable lessons learned over the course of the past 8 months. Each of us have experienced how COVID-19 continues to present challenges and opportunities. It demands that we think and act in different ways, use our strengths, and remain vigilant during these unprecedented times. We did have one individual from our school system test positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 9 COVID-19. Please click on <u>this link</u> to read the notification letter that went to our school community.

Lastly, continue to look for your strength zone, knowing that a strengths-based approach improves one's confidence, direction, hope and kindness toward others. Soaring with your strengths will build your talents and teach others the importance of applying your strengths.

With warm regards, Sandy Prince



Travel Reminder

As we approach the upcoming Thanksgiving break, we want to remind everyone that per the updated travel restrictions issued by the Governor of Maine effective November 4th, 2020, all Maine residents returning to Maine upon return from a visit out of state (or country) must either quarantine for 14 days or receive a negative COVID-19 test with a sample taken less than 72 hours from arrival back to Maine, quarantining while awaiting test results, per the Keep Maine Healthy Plan. At this time, the only states exempt from this restriction are Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. New York, New Jersey and Connecticut are no longer on the exempt list for travel.

Please contact your school before you plan to travel and complete a Planned Absence Form. If you choose to have your child tested upon returning, the school must receive confirmation of a negative COVID-19 result via email, fax or hard copy prior to a student returning to school. If your family chooses quarantine only (no COVID testing), contact the health office to ensure a 14 day quarantine period is established. With the numbers of COVID cases already on the rise in Maine, your compliance is very much appreciated.

We will continue to update you with any changes in the Maine CDC/DOE guidelines as we receive them.

Last night, November 5th, the Board had an action item on the agenda to set a date for a future workshop to draft a resolution ensuring SPS provides a safe and inclusive environment for students and staff. While a date was not set during the meeting, we did engage in a lengthy, rich discussion on next steps and wanted to share those with the community now.



Our administrative team, with the Board's support, has recommended that we engage with a third party to assist us in navigating through this work. We also appreciate that, while important, a workshop is just a first step in our process. It is critical that a thoughtful plan is developed to collect feedback from which to craft an action plan to help us move forward. As a next step, we will be having an exploratory meeting with the <u>Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC)</u> to better understand how they could act as our partner as we conduct this important work. The Board anticipates an update on this discussion at our next meeting. Following the intake meeting, we will work collaboratively to chart our next steps, including a community workshop which we hope will take place in early 2021. We will provide regular updates at our Board meetings and will ask for community input along the way, so please stay engaged over the next several weeks.







Shannon Lindstrom

Leanne Kazilionis

Gabby Giftos

Welcome to the School Board!

Scarborough Schools and the Board of Education are pleased to welcome their two new members, and one returning member! Shannon Lindstrom has joined the Board as its newest member, and Leanne Kazilionis will be returning for a second term. Gabby Giftos will be joining senior School Board representative, Max Bennett, as the representative from the junior class. At the November 5th School Board meeting, April Sither was elected as the School Board Chair for the upcoming year, and Leanne Kazilionis will be the Vice Chair.

A hardy welcome to the new members and a thank you to our departing member - Hillory Durgin - for her hard work and dedication to the staff and students in Scarborough!

School Board News: COVID Grant Funding

Please see the notice below from the Board of Education regarding the recent COVID-19 grants that have been awarded to Scarborough Schools.



Remembering our Veterans

In the midst of the uneasiness, the unsettling and hectic conditions around us, as a community, a state and a nation, it is important to step back and honor our veterans. Because of the sacrifices our veterans have given for us, it is only right that we pay tribute to each and every one of them. Without their bravery and courageousness, we would not have the freedoms we enjoy today - and for that - we say "Thank You" - just as our students as Pleasant Hill School have done! So remember to honor our Veterans - not only on their special day - but everyday.







5th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner (To-Go)

Sign up now! Scarborough Schools, in conjunction with the Scarborough School Nutrition Program, Scarborough Community Services, Scarborough Police Department and Project GRACE will again be offering free Thanksgiving dinners to area community members! Due to COVID restrictions, there will be no in-house seating this year, but instead will be featuring meals-to-go. Order deadline to sign up is <u>November 20th</u>.

Please check out this website for full details or call (207) 730-4700 with any questions.

www.ThanksgivingScarborough.org









Upcoming SPS Events - Mark Your Calendar!

SPS Calendar

- November 11 Veterans' Day No School
- November 19 6:00pm School Board Workshop Council Chambers A & B,Town Hall
- November 20 Order deadline for Thanksgiving Dinner sign-up
- November 25 Thanksgiving Dinner Curb-side Pick-up
- November 25 27 Thanksgiving Holiday Break No school

SPS District Email Newsletter Signup

Share the news! Please let any community members, who do not currently have students enrolled in a Scarborough School, know that they too can stay in touch with the latest happenings in the schools and the district. By simply going to the SPS website and selecting the "District Communications" tab on the left, they can enter their name and email address and we will send along our weekly news to them. *If you have a student(s) in the district and you are already receiving our newsletter - no need to sign up (if you do, you will receive duplicate newsletters from us).*

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School Health Professionals:

- Blue Point: Laurie Hibbard, RN 730-5300
- Eight Corners: Rebecca Cummings, RN 730-5200
- Pleasant Hill: Dorice Groshon, RN 730-5286
- Wentworth: Cindy Fasulo, LPN and Anne Ornstein, RN 730-4600
- Middle School: Patty Bolduc, RN and Amanda Eason, RN 730-4800
- High School: Heidi Igneri, RN and Lisa Verzoni, RN 730-5000
- K-12 Health Support Staff: Suzanne Kenney 730-4842



Health & Safety

Please make sure you review <u>the UPDATED Student Health Self</u> <u>Assessment</u> 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!



Links to Our Schools



Blue Point



Eight Corners

Middle School



Pleasant Hill



Wentworth School





High School

Services & Information

<u>Spec. Services</u> | Alison Marchese, <u>amarchese@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Transportation</u> | Sarah Redmond, <u>sredmond@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Food Services</u> | Peter Esposito, <u>pesposito@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Athletics & Activities</u> | Mike LeGage, <u>mlegage@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Curriculum</u> | Monique Culbertson, <u>mculbertson@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Community Services</u> | Todd Souza, <u>tsouza@scarboroughmaine.org</u>



Tech Support

For technology assistance with SPS student laptops, please send a message to <u>techsupport@scarboroughschools.org</u> and someone from Technology will be in touch to assist you.



Scarborough Schools

f Facebook 🛛 💟 @scarbmeschools

259 U.S. Route 1, Scarborough, ...

scarboroughschools.org

L (207) 730-4100

