

Scarborough Public Schools

Weekly Newsletter - March 12, 2021

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

March is always a busy month as we are well immersed with developing our FY2022 School Budget. Please note below of some upcoming dates regarding budget deliberations. Your participation is most welcome and important to us as a school community.

- First Reading - School Board - March 18 - 7:00 pm
- Public Hearing - School Board - April 15 - 7:00 pm
- Second Reading - School Board - May 6 - 7:00 pm
- Referendum Vote - June 8, 2021

As communicated to us from the Maine Department of Education on March 1, Maine's CDC timeline for opening up additional vaccination opportunities is largely dependent upon the supply of vaccines allocated to our state. The time frame (subject to change) is to have 50 and older will be eligible in April and those 40 and older will be eligible in May. The goal is to have over 70% of all staff have had opportunities for vaccination before June. We are pleased that vaccination of school employees is a top priority during the month of March and registration links have been sent to our educators here in Scarborough.

This week out of Augusta the Governor released information about a plan to increase the maximum number of people in a public space.

- For indoor gathering - capacity will increase to 50% starting 3/36/2021 and 75% starting 5/24/2021
- For outdoor gatherings - capacity will increase to 75% starting 3/24/2021 and 100% starting 5/24/2021

Lastly, we heard this week the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has extended a continuation of the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program through Summer 2021. This allows us to continue with providing complimentary emergency meals at school, remotely, and on weekends to children from all ages through the summer months.

Enjoy your weekend and thank you for your continued support.

Onward and upward,
Sandy Prince

Governor's Travel Update

You may have already heard that the governor had amended the travel policy, effective immediately. Residents may now travel throughout all New England states without the need to quarantine or test upon return (NH, VT, MA, CT, and RI).

Weekly SPS COVID-19 Update

Positive COVID cases at Scarborough Public Schools
February 27 to March 12, 2021

Location	Total Case # in last 14 days	Total # Close Contacts identified
Blue Point School	1	0
Eight Corners School	0	0
Pleasant Hill School	0	0
Wentworth School	5	0
Scarborough Middle School	2	31
Scarborough High School	8	148
District (non-school)	0	0
TOTAL	14	179



2021-2022 Kindergarten Pre-Registration

We are eager to welcome our newest Kindergarten students to Scarborough Public Schools! We are currently planning for Fall 2021 and will be able to release more information about what school will look like later this spring. If you have a child **who turns 5 on or before Oct. 15, 2021** and you are considering sending them to school in the fall, [please complete this form](#). Formal registration packets will be available on our website at a later date.

The information you provide is important for us to accurately plan for the number of classrooms, teachers and materials we will need in the fall. Please complete the form so we can contact you through email with updates and news about the 2021-2022 school year as the situation evolves and decisions are made. We will hold registration appointments at each school later in the Spring.

[2021-2022 Pre-Registration Form](#)



Superintendent Search Committee Announced

At the March 4th school board meeting, the Superintendent Interview Committee was selected from a pool of 53 applicants. The board thanks everyone who took the time to apply! All of the applicants were placed in categories (parents, students, staff, administration, community and school board) and chosen at random from each group to ensure a balance of representation, including subdivisions by phase level where appropriate. The 13 members selected to the committee are: Jen Adams, Laurie Alves, Patricia Brigham, Aiden Bristol, Cathy Ducey, Alicia Giftos, Amy Glidden, Amy Johnston, Leanne Kazilionis, Sue Ketch, Alison Marchese, Sarah Mullen, Julie Mueller.

The committee will undergo interview training with DDM, the search firm hired to support the superintendent search, on March 15th. The interviews with the board recommended candidates will be conducted on March 22nd and 23rd. The interview committee will then make recommendations on which candidates will advance to the next round of interviews with the full board.

Please reach out to the board if you have questions: boe@scarboroughschools.org.



FY22 Budget Update

This past Tuesday and Wednesday, March 9th and 10th, the school board participated in FY22 budget workshops with the district leadership team. The purpose of the workshops are for the School Board and community to get a detailed overview of what the budget drivers are for the coming year at a phase and department level with presentations by building and district leadership. The recorded meetings can be viewed here: [March 9th](#) and [March 10th](#). The executive summary, detailing the key facts and figures for the FY22 proposed budget can be found [here](#).

The next critical step in the budget development process will be the School Board and Town Council First Readings (dates below). The Town Council Finance Committee set their goals for First Reading this year and are as follows:

- We fully intend to comply with the Town Council directive to adopt a budget that results in a 3% or lower Mill Rate impact to our taxpayers. As such, we advise that staff bring forward a lean budget that will provide a safe and compliant environment for our staff, students and the public.
- Identify the impact of restoring deferred capital improvement projects.
- Identify the impact of restoring deferred positions and other accommodations that were made to arrive at last year's approved budget.
- Identify areas that were innovated to become more effective or efficient with this budget.

As always, we would remind the community to consider the First Reading as a starting point in our process. There is a lot of work to be done, questions to be asked, and decisions to be made between First and Second Reading to arrive at a final number which is presented at the polls. It's also the time when we welcome and encourage community feedback, so please stay engaged throughout!

School staff and administrators have been diligently crafting the FY22 budget over the course of the last few months, planning for all options as our doors open in the fall. We look forward to the community seeing all of the hard work and thoughtful decisions that have been made thus far. Please tune in to the March 18th school board meeting at 7pm for the First Reading of the FY22 budget. As always, feedback is encouraged throughout the budget process. boe@scarboroughschool.org.

See below for other upcoming dates (subject to change).

- Town Council Budget Presentation: March 31st
- Town Council Public Hearing: April 7th
- TC Finance Committee Review of school budget: April 14th
- School Board Public Hearing: April 15th
- Joint TC/SB Budget Workshop and TC Public Hearing: May 5th
- School Board Second Reading: May 6th
- Town Council Second Reading: May 19th

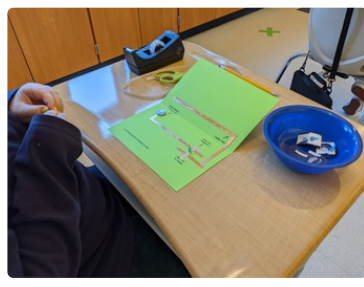
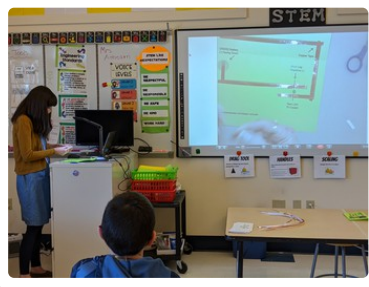
Students' Informational Writing on Display!

Papers on a variety of student generated topics are on display outside Ms. McPherson's classroom at the Wentworth School. Students researched and wrote on everything from cats, dogs, trailerlife, building, offensive positions in football, parkour, and much more.



Learning About Circuits in STEM Class

Students in STEM at Wentworth School learn about circuits as they create greeting cards.



Wentworth Students Display their State of Maine Projects

Ms. Huth's students' works are on display as they chose a variety of topics to study as they explored the State of Maine



Balancing Online (Computer) and Offline Learning

Students in Mr. Marshall's class engage in some concrete, hands on activities while in their classroom today at Wentworth School.



Upcoming SPS Events - Mark Your Calendar!

[SPS Revised School Calendar](#)

- **March 14** - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- **March 18** - School Board Workshop/1st Reading of the FY22 School Budget
- **March 31** - Town Council Budget Presentation

Fully Remote Preparedness Plans

Linked [here](#), you will find an overview to Scarborough Public Schools Fully Remote Preparedness Plan, which was shared with the School Board at their December 3, 2020 meeting. Although our goal is to maintain in person learning to the greatest extent possible, there needs to be adequate staffing to facilitate in person learning.





Health & Safety


Please make sure you review [the UPDATED Student Health Self Assessment](#) questions EVERY DAY before sending your child off to school.


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 School



Middle School



High School

Services & Information

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



Tech Support

For technology assistance with SPS student laptops, please send a message to 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

