

# Scarborough Public Schools

Weekly Newsletter - May 6, 2022

## Update on COVID protocols

Last night, on Thursday May 5th, the CDC updated county COVID designations based on the most recent data and case trends. Cumberland County, previously in green (low transmission community level), is now designated as red (high transmission community level).

[COVID-19 Community Levels by County](#)

Given this change in county designation, and that Cumberland County is now designated as High Community Level, we are sending this message to reinforce the CDC guidance on this change:

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

High (red) Community Level:

- Wear a mask indoors in public
- Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines
- Get tested if you have symptoms
- Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness

We recommend students, staff, and families follow CDC guidance given this current surge in COVID cases across Cumberland County. In addition, there are a number of great events scheduled between now and the close of the year, and we would love for everyone to fully enjoy those events, in addition to remaining healthy. Thank you for doing your part for one another.

In addition to sharing this change in CDC guidance, we'd also like to remind families that next week (May 9-13) will be the last week for the pooled testing program. Knowing that there continues to be a prevalence of COVID in our communities, the state has made a box of 5 at-home tests available for each student and staff member in our district.

**We will be looking to distribute those tests in student backpacks and to all staff next**

**Friday, May 13.** If you DO NOT want test kits sent home with your child, please contact your child's school directly by next Wednesday, May 11.

# Community Dialogue - VIRTUAL EVENT

Scarborough Community-



In an effort to accommodate more community members and to limit in-person interactions, we have changed the format of the upcoming Community Dialogue. The dialogue will no longer be at the high school, but instead will be a **virtual event**. We still look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, May 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., however, the evening will now be solely remote. Although remote, the agenda remains the same:

1. Leadership Team will be facilitating conversations on focus areas generated from our surveys;
2. We will also be presenting information on the new primary school building project.

We will be sending out much more specific information and sign-up links on how to participate in the community dialogue and hear the update on the new primary school building project on Monday, May 9th. Watch your email for full details!

Please mark your calendar and we will see you on Wednesday!

Regards,  
Geoff Bruno

## Middle School Welcomes New Assistant Principal

At the April 28, 2022 school board meeting, board members unanimously voted to appoint Angela Scully as the next Assistant Principal of the Middle School. Ms. Scully will be replacing David Currier, who will be retiring after serving 35 years with Scarborough Schools. Ms. Scully has been the Assistant Principal at Massabesic Middle School for 8 years, and she is currently the Assistant Principal at Massabesic High School. The School Board and Leadership Team are very excited to welcome Ms. Scully to the district, but at the same time, will miss Mr. Currier for all his years of service and dedication to Scarborough Schools. Good Luck to both in their next endeavors!

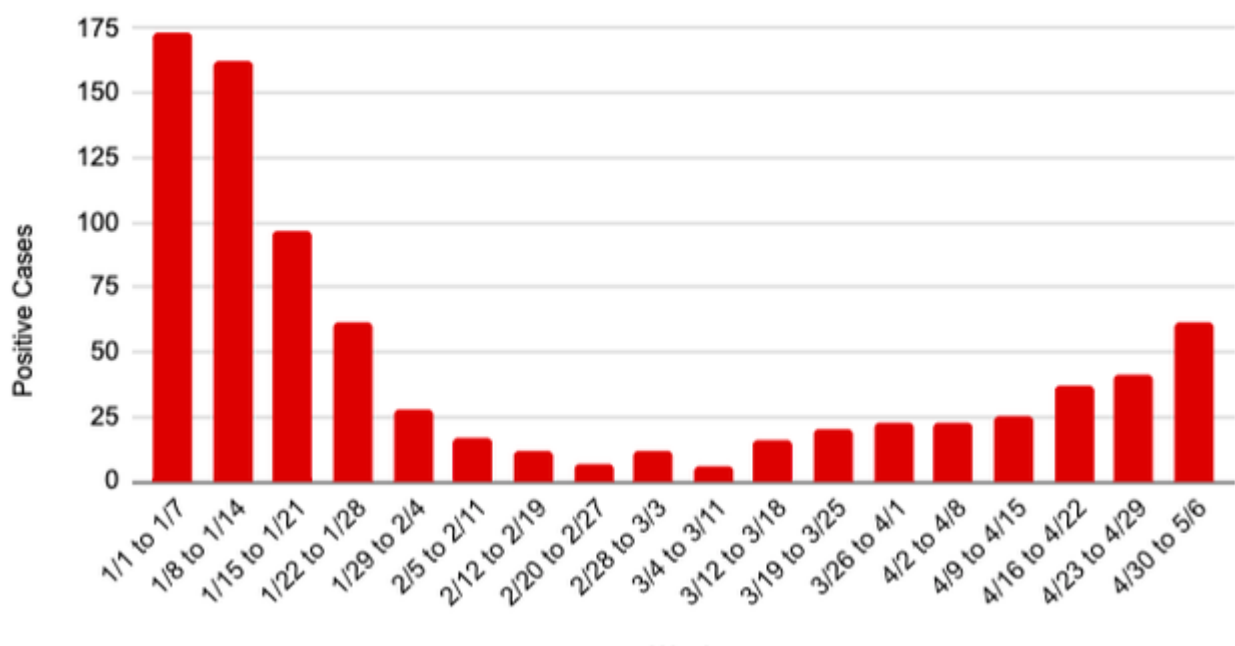


## Celebrate a Senior!

It's that time of year again. The Scarborough Education Foundation is holding its annual fundraiser and celebrating our seniors with messages and balloons! Please click on the link below for more information and to place an order. The deadline to order is May 20. If you have any questions, please email [scarborougheducationfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:scarborougheducationfoundation@gmail.com).

<https://forms.gle/Azi2VyFy5WGZ3Pxc8>

## District Wide Reported Positive Cases by Week



## School Board Update



### District Building Committee

The Building Committee has been meeting regularly since January to continue the work planning for a new primary school and addressing district wide facility needs. This work had been previously delayed due to covid and to allow time to budget the appropriate planning costs. In the fall, the Superintendent was able to enlist the help of Harriman and Associates, an architectural firm that was selected from a process held in 2020 and approved by the Board of Education in July 2021 when sufficient funds became available through voter approval of the FY22 budget.

Harriman has been instrumental in laying the foundation for the work that needs to be done to move this project forward. For the past few months the committee, in conjunction with Harriman, has been focused on the site selection process and planning for community outreach. Efforts are being made to bring the community along with the work that has already happened and enlisting support for the work that is still ahead. **There will be many opportunities along the way for the community to learn about and participate in the project.** The next four regular Building Committee meetings have been scheduled and each will be held in the library of one of the three existing primary schools (see schedule below). This gives the community an opportunity to see inside the schools as they join in the conversation about the facility needs that are being addressed. In addition to the Building Committee meetings, the Superintendent is hosting a **Community Dialogue on May 11th at 6pm virtually on Zoom** where some preliminary information will be shared. There will also be community forums designed by Harriman

to solicit community input for varying aspects of the project. The first of these forums is scheduled for June 6th and will focus on site selection. **Given the recent communication on the turf and track, it is important to note that no decisions on a site have been made to date** and community feedback is an important part of this process. Be on the lookout for further details on this forum.

We are also looking for community members to volunteer to participate on subcommittees focused on more specific areas related to the primary school building project. These committees include communications, site selection, educational visioning, and sustainability. Please click on this [link](#) if you have interest in serving on a subcommittee as part of this project.

The Building Committee aims to have a dedicated webpage in the near future that will house all of the documents that have accumulated over the years related to school facility needs, along with meeting dates, agendas, minutes and much more. Until that is complete, please visit the [school website](#) or reach out to [boe@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:boe@scarboroughschools.org) with any questions.

#### Building Committee Meeting Dates and Locations:

**May 24th:** Eight Corners 630p

**June 28th:** Pleasant Hill 630p

**July 26th:** Blue Point 630p

**August 23rd:** Eight Corners 630p

## Spring State Testing Information

As our schools move into spring activities, one spring event on the horizon is the state requirement for testing, often known as the Maine Educational Assessments or MEAs. There are two different State assessments required to take place this spring: One is the NWEA MAP Growth Tests; the other is the MEA Science test, also referred to as the ADAM Science test. what follows is information on each as well as the importance of this data and how we use it.



#### NWEA MAP Growth:

- Who: students in grades 3-8 and 3rd year of high school
- When: Between May 2 and June 10 Why: To measure and celebrate growth from the fall tests in Reading, Language Usage, and Math
- How: Online assessments taking approximately 45-60 minutes each
- Results: will be sent home at the end of the year

#### ADAM Science:

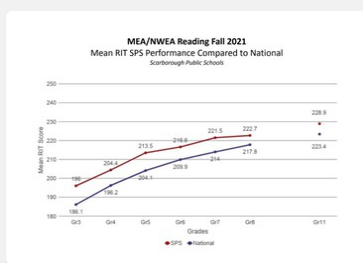
- Who: students in grades 5, 8, and 3rd year of high school
- When: For grades 5 and 8: between May 2 and 27; For 3rd year of high school: between May 16 and June 10
- Why: To measure student performance in science
- How: Online assessment scheduled in multiple sessions for a total of 3 hours of testing

School leadership is working hard at scheduling these assessments to minimize the disruption to the instructional day. More specific details will be provided by each school.

The data is important to us as it will assist us in making improvements to our curriculum and instruction. As the Literacy and Math results will be available to teachers this spring, the information will assist teachers in measuring growth and celebrating growth.

While an 'opt out' option is not available, we do wish to partner with parents to make decisions in the best interest of our students. If you have concerns regarding your child's participation, please contact either your child's guidance counselor, principal, or Monique Culbertson, Director of Curriculum and Assessment. We appreciate your support as we look forward to using the data from these assessments to inform teaching and learning.

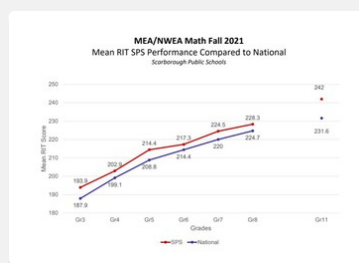
## Fall NWEA SPS Performance Compared to National



Fall 2021 Reading



Pre-Pandemic Norms



Fall 2021 Mathematics

The [Scarborough Public Schools Website](#) has more detailed information on the number of COVID-19 positive cases by school. We will continue to update information on the website each week, so please visit the link above for the most recent information by school.

# FY23 Budget Calendar

**April 6th:** Town Council 1st Reading

**April 28th:** School Board Public Hearing

**May 4th:** Town Council Public Hearing

**May 5th:** School Board 2nd Reading

**May 18th:** Town Council 2nd Reading

**June 14th:** Referendum

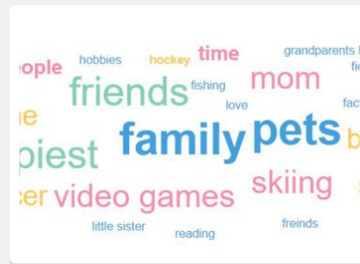
\*\*Please visit the town and school websites for additional budget information, dates and Zoom links\*\*



Family Matters! Student Survey Responses: Thinking about everything in your life right now, what makes you feel the happiest?



Wentworth School

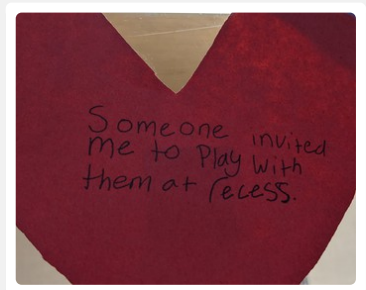
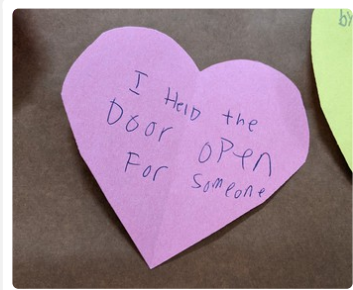
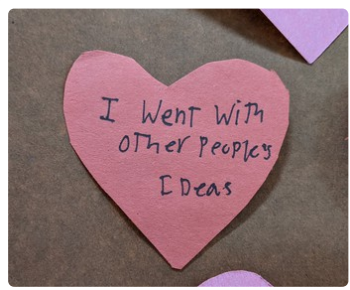


Middle School



High School

Images from Wentworth School





## Upcoming SPS Events - Mark Your Calendar!

### [2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

- **May 11** - Community Dialogue
- **May 18** - Town Council 2nd Reading of the FY23 Budget
- **May 18** - Early Release Day\*
- **May 19** - School Board Meeting
- **May 30** - Memorial Day - No School

\*Early Release Times:

K-5 - 1:45 p.m.

6-12 - 12:55 p.m.

## Become a Substitute!

The Maine Department of Education and Educate Maine have partnered together to promote more individuals to become substitutes by offering **full reimbursement for the fees** associated with fingerprinting and background checks as an incentive. Please consider this opportunity if you have time to support our students in this way.



## A Call to Action: Our Schools Need YOU!



Maine Department of Education and Educate Maine are partnering to call on Maine businesses, leaders and citizens to become guest school staff members. It's time to lean in!



Maine's schools have been safely open for business, ensuring that students have access whenever possible to high quality, in-person learning.

The statewide surge of COVID-19 has increased school staffing shortages, and many schools have had to make emergency and disruptive pivots to remote learning, simply because they do not have enough adults to ensure that schools can operate safely and effectively.

### WE NEED YOU to be a guest school staff member.

**What is a Guest school staff member?** Guest school staff members are substitute staff who are supporting or filling in for bus drivers, playground monitors, food service workers, teachers and support staff. Most are daylong positions, some are hourly, but even one day of substituting can make the difference, keeping a school open for students!

### How?

**It's a simple process.** Go to this [website](#), and follow the 9 steps for choosing where you would like to help, applying, and receiving the required training and background clearance for working in a school. Check it out: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/substitute>

### What does it cost?

**Nothing but a little time.** It will take about one hour to fill out and submit the needed applications, and a \$15 application fee and \$55 fingerprinting fee will be charged, but this **WILL BE REIMBURSED!** Getting fingerprinted will take a bit more time, but you can schedule an appointment that is convenient for you.

### Why?

**You can make a difference.** You will be a hero, supporting your schools and ensuring that public education is available for all of Maine's children. You can work with the school district(s) of your choice, may be able to choose when and where you can help, and you will be inspired by the energy and miracles that fill our schools.

We will be using social media platforms to recognize our heroes and the organizations who are supporting Maine schools. Please join us- and be recognized as among those who are making a difference.



## Links to Our Schools



Blue Point



Eight Corners



Pleasant Hill



Wentworth School



Middle School



High School

# Health & Safety

Please make sure you review the **UPDATED Student Health Self Assessment** questions for 2021-22 below **EVERY DAY** before sending your child off to school.

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



## Pre-Screening Tool for School Attendance

Within the past 24 hours have you had a fever\* or taken fever reducing medicine? **YES =** 

Do you feel sick, had Vomiting/diarrhea, fever\*, sore throat, new cough, or felt unwell? **YES =** 

Have you been told to stay home and isolate/quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure? **YES =** 

**Most Common Symptoms of COVID-19:**

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever\*
- Chills
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

**Less Common Symptoms:**

- Muscle pain
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Rash
- Swelling or redness of hands/feet
- Red eyes/eye drainage
- Congestion/runny nose

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

Stay home with any **YES** response to the questions above.

Symptoms of illness can have many causes. Please keep your student home and contact your school nurse or primary care provider if your student is unwell. Students who present with symptoms while in school will be dismissed to home at the discretion of the nurse.

\*A fever is 100.4F/38C or greater.



Updated 10.19.2021

# Services & Information

[Spec. Services](#) | Alison Marchese, [amarchese@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:amarchese@scarboroughschools.org)  
[Transportation](#) | Sarah Redmond, [sredmond@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:sredmond@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)  
[Facilities](#) | Todd Jepson, [tjepson@scarboroughschools.org](mailto:tjepson@scarboroughschools.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)