

Scarborough Public Schools

May 5, 2023

A Message from the Superintendent

To our SPS Community:

As next week marks the beginning of "Teacher Appreciation Week", I wanted to take this opportunity to pass on my thanks and appreciation to all staff for continuing to work so tirelessly to support our students and families.

THANK YOU

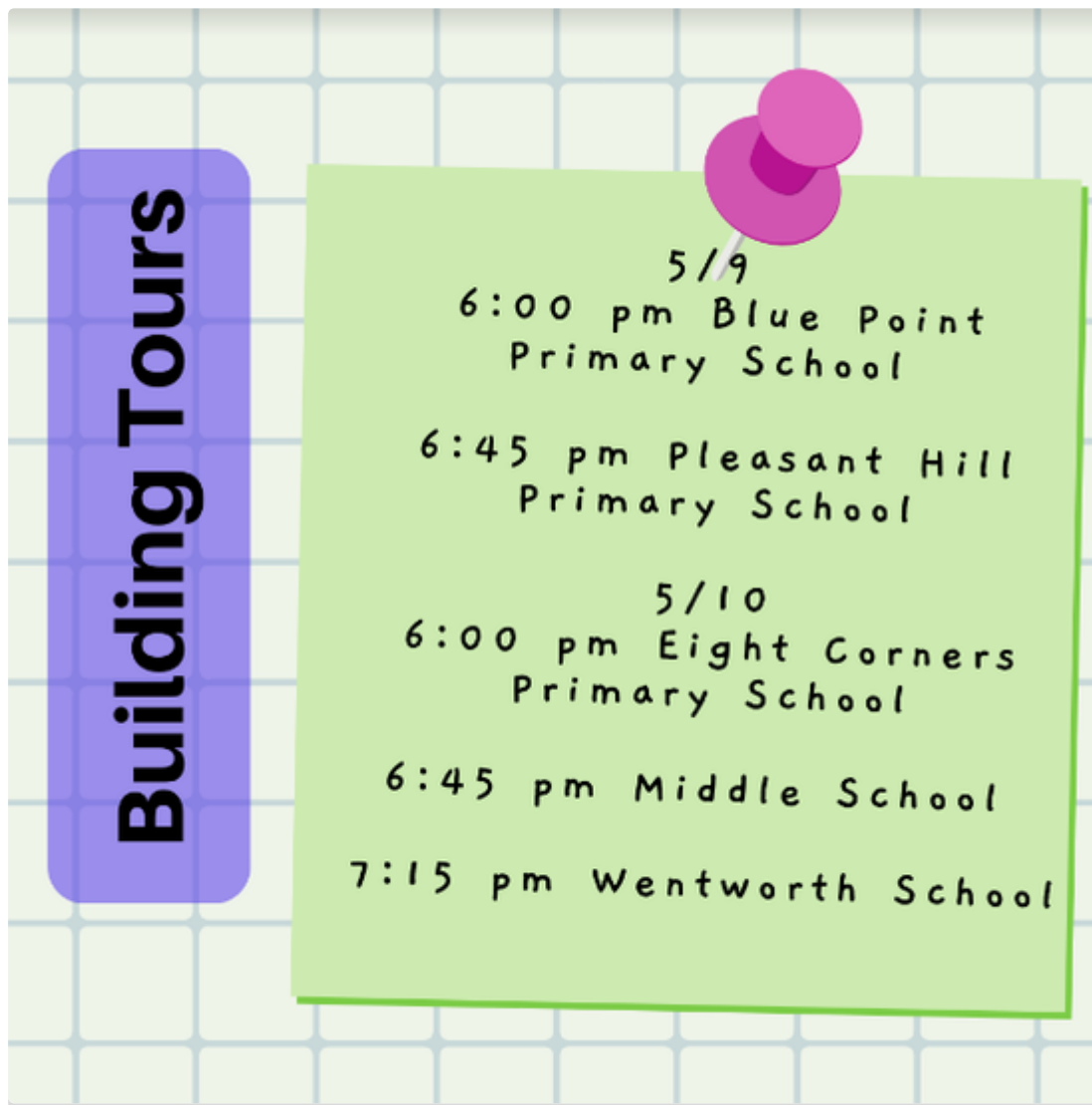
- for your work ethic and willingness to do whatever it takes to support every staff member and every family;
- for all the efforts you have made throughout the school year to strengthen connections with our kids and families to continually innovate how you educate, to collaborate with your colleagues to meet the needs of **all** students;
- for your inspired leadership, your unwavering focus on the needs of our students and families, your desire to continually improve & innovate, and your ability to arrive at thoughtful, well-informed decisions that put the health and wellness of our community first.

There are many challenges we continue to tackle, and I feel thankful to play a part in moving our learning organization forward. THANK YOU!

Kind regards,

-geoff





Join Us for Building Tours

We get it! It's challenging to understand the structural and operational obstacles the current K-8 schools face, and how that directly impact kids and learning, without working and operating in them day to day.

That's why we are opening them up for building tours to allow you to see the schools.

Come by next week, walk through the schools with us (you can come for all or just the ones you'd like to see), and get first hand knowledge to help you decide that best path forward for our kids.

5/9/2023

6:00 pm Blue Point Primary School

6:45 pm Pleasant Hill Primary School

5/10/2023

6:00 pm Eight Corners Primary School

6:45 pm Middle School

7:15 pm Wentworth School

School Board Appoints New SHS Principal

At the May 4 School Board meeting, School Board members unanimously voted to approve the appointment of Nathan Theriault as the new principal of Scarborough High School. Nate will be replacing Sue Ketch who will be retiring after 39 years with Scarborough Public School. Nate has served as an Assistant Principal at the high school for the last 4 years.

We are very excited for Nate to assume the leadership role as the Principal of Scarborough High School!



New ADA Compliant Playground at Wentworth School

Last week Wentworth School had a ribbon cutting session to reveal a new addition to their playground! With well over a year of planning, we were able to create a 45' x 90' play area with artificial grass and installed several adaptive playground pieces so that anyone, no matter their physical ability, can have better access to the playground. We worked with at least three different teachers, including Cybil Kipp, Dora Gough and Chantel Dionne-Michaud, as well as our playground installer, a site contractor and our turf installer to make this a reality.

What made the project even more challenging was the lead time for the playground equipment (due to Covid manufacturing shutdowns) and the careful site work that needed to be done, as this area of the playground sits on top of a subsurface stormwater treatment system that collects all the rainwater from the roof of Wentworth.

With the hard work of our installers, great ideas of our staff members, and patience from all involved, the project was a great success!



SEF Annual Fundraiser

It's that time of year again. The Scarborough Education Foundation is hosting its annual fundraiser-celebrating our seniors with messages and balloons! You can also honor a special teacher with a donation to SEF and we will send them a note of thanks.

By supporting SEF, you are investing in our students and schools. SEF's mission is to connect the generosity of our community with the creativity of our educators to improve learning outcomes.



Please click the link below for more information and to place your order. **The deadline to order is May 19.**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL Scarborougheducationfoundation@gmail.com

<https://www.sefmaine.org/orderballoons>



SPS Building Project - Site Selection Approved by BOE

Last week the school Building Committee and the School Board both voted on and approved the site for the new unified K-3 school. We are so excited to announce the site that best fit all the criteria laid out both by the committee and the community is: **Scarborough Downs**.

It's been a very long and detailed process to get here. One which began with 46 potential sites, the input of many subject matter experts, and which involved prioritizing the criteria the Scarborough community indicated were most important in a final school site.

Want to learn more about how we got here and why the final site was selected?

Watch the video of the April 25th School Building Committee meeting, where the site was selected, and view the presentation slides.

<https://www.scarboroughschools.org/new-sps-building-project>.

What's next? The recommendation will go to the Town Council for their consideration on May 3.

Upcoming Policies for Review

The next Board of Education Policy Subcommittee meeting will be on Monday, May 8 from 4:30-6:00pm in the Central Office Conference Room. Topics to be discussed include:

- [AC](#)- ensure all protected classes are listed

Required J Policies-



- [JIC](#) STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
- [JICIA](#) WEAPONS, VIOLENCE AND SCHOOL SAFETY
- [JK](#) STUDENT DISCIPLINE
- [JKD](#) SUSPENSION OF STUDENTS
- [JKE](#) EXPULSION OF STUDENTS
- [JKE-R](#) EXPULSION GUIDELINES
- [JKF](#) DISCIPLINARY REMOVAL OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
- [JKF-R](#) DISCIPLINARY REMOVAL OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

We welcome all to attend remotely or in person. Please see the school's website to locate the agenda, linked policies, zoom link and for more information.



BUS SWIPE SYSTEM UPDATE

The early implementation of the Tyler “Student Transportation” system, an online platform, is going well.

On Monday, **May 1, Bus 5 (Ron's bus), Bus 29 (Brian's bus) and Bus 10 (Rocco's bus) were added to the swipe system**, in addition to **Bus 7 (Julie's bus) and Bus 8 (Mike's bus)** that started on April 10.

Bus 12 (Mike's bus), Bus 23 (Megan's bus) and Bus 34 (Bill's bus), will go on-line next. Stay tuned for the start date for these 3 buses.

WHY IS THIS SYSTEM NEEDED?

- It uses onboard guidance and navigation for drivers, like a standard vehicle's mapping directions, including where to stop and what specific students get on and off at each stop. This will help in the case of a driver filling in on a route they don't usually drive.
- It allows for online student accountability so we know who is on each bus and when/where they are dropped off. We often get calls about whether a student boarded a bus or not from anxious parents, and this will provide the Transportation Department live information to convey immediately.
- It optimizes bus mapping and routing as bus routes are planned each year. This will ensure we are maximizing the buses and staff we have.
- It provides for increased maintenance planning by digitizing all pre and post trip vehicle safety checks to assist us in monitoring that our buses are in optimal working condition.

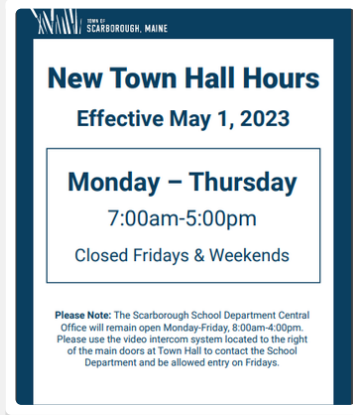
HOW WILL IT WORK FOR MY CHILD?

Each student will be given a “bus card” to scan as they get on and off their bus. It will not have their name on it, only their student ID number. It is recognized that at our younger levels, drivers may need to support students with this piece as we build in new routines. NO student will be denied entry onto a bus without their card, as drivers have the ability to select them on the transportation program tablet

(which comes up for them at each stop or upon entering the bus at school).

QUESTIONS?

Please reach out to the Transportation Department as needed.



We're Still Open for Business - Monday - Friday

DON'T FORGET - This change is in effect beginning today - Friday - May 5th.

The hours of operation for Town Hall services ONLY will be changing to four days, effective May 1, 2023. Town Hall will now be open from Monday through Thursday, 7:00am-5:00pm and closed on Fridays and weekends **BUT** the Scarborough Public School's Central Office will remain open Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm. Please use the video intercom system located to the right of the main doors (Route 1 front doors only) at Town Hall to contact the School Department and be allowed entry on Fridays. As always, if you have any questions, please contact the Central Office at 730-4100.



Keeping Student Information Up to Date Please

Has your address or phone contact information changed recently? Please assist our schools by keeping your information up to date. You can easily do so by logging into the parent portal in PowerSchool, and then click the **Forms** button on the menu. Even if you have already filled the form out earlier this year, you can make updates at any time.

Link is here:

<https://scarborough.powerschool.com/guardian/forms.html>

Join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, May 23rd at 6:30PM - either in person in Town Hall or via Zoom.

Contact us with any building related questions via the project website.

Follow us on Facebook and share posts:

<https://www.facebook.com/ScarboroughSchoolsBuildingProject>



Now Hiring! 2023-2024 Applications Now Being Accepted!

Be sure to check our website as we begin posting open/anticipated positions for the 2023-2024 school year. We update the listings as needed. Current openings can be found [here](#).



We are still in need of staff for a few key areas for the remainder of this school year as well.

Please consider joining our team for the following positions:

- Custodians HIRING BONUS!
- Food Service workers
- Bus Drivers & Bus Aides
- Educational Technicians in our Special Services Department HIRING BONUS!

In an effort to make applying for a support staff position with SPS more accessible, in addition to our online application, we are now offering a paper application for those who can't access our applications via the Internet. If you (or anyone you know) would like to apply for one of our Support Staff positions (listed above) and would prefer a paper application, please [use this link](#) to download a copy, or stop by our Central Office (Scarborough Town Hall, 259 US Route 1) to pick up an application. Once completed, return it to our Central Office for consideration.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any of our open positions, or our application process, please call our Central Office at (207) 730-4100.

For a complete list of open positions, please visit our website at

<https://www.scarboroughschools.org/employment-opportunities>



SPS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meetings

We would love your participation and expertise! Our upcoming meetings are 5:30pm-7:00pm at SHS on the following Tuesdays: May 23, and June 13.

Contact us with any DEI related questions via our committee email: dei@scarboroughschools.org. Check out our site on the district webpage [here](#) for more information.

Our next DEI Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, May 23 at 5:30pm in the Scarborough High School AP
Room or on

<https://scarboroughschools.zoom.us/j/96528788224>.



2023-2024 Kindergarten Registration NOW OPEN!

We are eager to welcome our newest students to Scarborough Public Schools for Kindergarten in Fall, 2023.

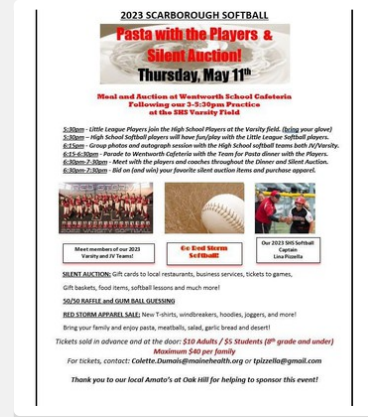
- Kindergarten is open to any student who **turns 5 on or before Oct. 15, 2023**.
- If your child meets this criteria, and you are sending them to school in the fall, please complete the form linked here: [REGISTRATION FORM](#)
- If your child meets the age requirement, but you are on the fence about sending them due to their age or developmental level, please complete the [REGISTRATION FORM](#) anyway. This will help us plan for all potential students.
- Appointments will be scheduled later this spring in each of our schools to review paperwork, including notarization of residency.
- If your child has specific health concerns, you can call or set up an appointment with one of our school nurses at any time.
- More information will be provided throughout the spring!

[Click here to bring you to the registration page.](#)

A screenshot of the Scarborough Public Schools website. The header is red with the school logo and name. Navigation links include DISTRICT, BOARD, CENTRAL OFFICE, PARENTS & FAMILY, ADULT LEARNING CENTER, and ATHLETICS. The main content area shows a 'Community Bulletin Board' with a list of items: Student Registration, Student Transfer Request, Emergency Plan, RevTrak Online Payments, 5210 Let's Go!, Anti-Bullying Information, Common Sense Media, and Community Bulletin Board. The 'Community Bulletin Board' item is highlighted, showing a link to 'CS Family Dance'. There is also a search bar and a language selector (English) in the bottom right corner.

Community Bulletin Board

Be sure to regularly check our "Community Bulletin Board" found on our website for events happening in our community for our students. The link can be found under the "Parents & Family" tab on our website. There are lots of opportunities and activities for students and families to enjoy!



What to do in Scarborough?

For upcoming Scarborough community events, be sure to check out [Scarborough's Community Services website](https://www.scarboroughmaine.org/CommunityServices) and follow them on Facebook.

You won't want to miss their [summer brochure of events](#) - summer programs fill up fast! Also - plan to attend their Family Dance on May 6th! Fun for the whole family!



Last Day of 2022-2023 School Year

Assuming there will be no more "no school" days for this school year, the last day of school is Wednesday, June 21st. This will be a half day for students and a full day for staff. If there are any additional "no school" days - they will be added to June 21st.

Keep in mind that Monday, June 19th is a holiday and there will be no classes for staff or students on that day.

2023-2024 School Calendar

The 2023-2024 School Calendar was approved by the School Board at their March 16th meeting. Also approved at the meeting was the number of traditional "snow days" for the 2023-2024 school year. Next year's calendar will allow for up to three "traditional snow days" (or any type of no school days). If more than the allotted three days are needed, those days will be asynchronous remote learning

days. Therefore, the latest possible in-person school day for 2023-2024 (if 3 days are used) will be June 14, 2024.

The 2023-2024 school calendar can be found [here](#).



Upcoming SPS Events - Mark Your Calendar!

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)

- May 9 - School Tours - Blue Point School & Pleasant Hill School
- May 10 - School Tours - Eight Corners School, Middle School & Wentworth School
- May 17 - Early Release*
- May 17 - Town Council - Public Hearing on the FY24 Budget
- May 18 - School Board Meeting - 2nd Reading on the FY24 School Budget
- May 23 - SPS Building Committee Meeting
- May 29 - Memorial Day

*Early Release Times:

K-5 - 1:45PM

6-12 - 12:55PM

Links to Our Schools



Blue Point



Eight Corners



Pleasant Hill



Wentworth School



Middle School



High School

Services & Information

[Spec. Services](#) | Chris Rohde, crohde@scarboroughschools.org

[Transportation](#) | Sarah Redmond, sredmond@scarboroughschools.org

[Food Services](#) | Peter Esposito, pesposito@scarboroughschools.org

[Athletics & Activities](#) | Mike LeGage, mlegage@scarboroughschools.org

[Curriculum](#) | Monique Culbertson, mculbertson@scarboroughschools.org

[Facilities](#) | Todd Jepson, tjepson@scarboroughschools.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