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Governor Wentworth Regional School District

Brookfield, Effingham, New Durham, Ossipee, Tuftonboro, Wolfeboro
Post Office Box 190, Wolfeboro Falls, New Hampshire 03896-0190

Helping Each Child Create the Future

September 29, 2023

Dear Governor Wentworth Regional School District & Middleton Families,

Please read carefully the procedures we use to make the decision to either hold or cancel school. GWRSD will hold "traditional" snow days (no remote learning) when in-person learning is canceled.

When a weather event is anticipated, the GWRSD Transportation Supervisor monitors both the Maine and New Hampshire weather forecasts beginning at 4:00 a.m. The Transportation Supervisor is in touch with the road agents in all of our communities for road conditions as well as plans for plowing, salting and sanding. The Strafford and Carroll County Dispatch also provide information regarding road conditions based on police calls and any other concerning road activity. Communication with bus drivers for conditions in their areas is ongoing throughout the morning.

Additionally, we utilize Precision Weather which targets weather and road conditions in the region. It is not uncommon for WMUR to be reporting conditions that may be true for much of the state but not targeted or accurate for our specific region. The decision whether to hold school or not is based on all of the gathered information. School is only held if the total assessment indicates that buses can safely pass over the roadways. Safety is the number one priority in making the decision.

If the roads are not expected to be in good condition and buses cannot pass safely by the time routes normally begin but they are expected to improve to an acceptable standard within two hours, the policy is to delay school for two hours. If it is determined that road conditions will not be safe by 7:15 a.m., school will be canceled. Every effort is made to get a message to families between 5:15 a.m. and 5:35 a.m. through your chosen option(s) of voicemail, text or email.

These messages are for your convenience; however, even with the most reliable system we are still dependent on satellite technology, electricity, and the internet to successfully communicate with families. If you do not receive a message please check Channel 9/ WMUR channel/ website/ app or Channel 6/ WSCH which list the information about school closings. WOKQ also lists closings on their website, and several radio stations still broadcast the names of schools that are closed.

As always, the final decision as to whether or not children come to school is up to parents. We are geographically the largest district in the state which makes it impossible for us to know the conditions on every road. Students will be allowed to make up any work that has been missed if the parent determines their child(ren) will stay home from school and the absence will be excused.

Sincerely,



Caroline Arakelian, PhD
Superintendent of Schools
carakelian@SAU49.org

School Spotlight: School Opening/ Open Houses

All schools have enjoyed a wonderful return to school. Staff welcomed students on September 5 with an eagerness for the new year, and students and teachers have spent the first few weeks settling into routines and building their classroom or team cultures. Beyond the classroom, it is invigorating to see athletes on the fields and trails, as well as a variety of afterschool activities and clubs starting up. Every school has hosted or will soon be hosting their Open House, where families meet teachers and staff and where many students showcase some of their learning from the first weeks of school. Each month, we will continue to share and celebrate spotlights of student learning from around the district!

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
10/2	GWRSD School Board Meeting - Effingham Elementary School (Non-Public 6:00pm / Public 7:00pm)
10/9	No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day
10/10 - 10/14	KRHS Homecoming Week
10/11	Middleton School Board Meeting
10/18	Early Release for Students
10/19	LRTC CTSO Officer Induction Ceremony

~ Go to <https://www.gwrsd.org/calendar> to view the full 2023-2024 GWRSD & MSD Calendar ~

Previously Shared Information

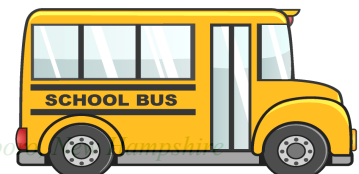
The following information was shared in a previous newsletter and may still be of interest to families.

School Meals: Application Required for Free/ Reduced Lunch

The application process for free and reduced price meals is open online at www.myschoolapps.com or families may fill out an application at any school within the district. Visit our Food Service web page for more information: www.gwrsdfoodservice.org.

Transportation Updates

GWRSD routes are [posted on the Transportation page of the GWRSD.org](#) (Middleton routes are shared on Facebook). Please take note of your students' bus route and stop as there have been some changes made for this school year. It may be the case that the bus stop is farther away from your home than in years past due to driver shortages. As a result of the shortages, we have had to reduce the number of stops, combine select routes, and shift to a larger vehicle in some instances. We are striving to accommodate families as much as possible given the current situation with staffing, vehicles, and transportation resources.



SAU 49 Office

140 Pine Hill Road

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Thank you for your patience as we continue to be as strategic and accommodating while following the New Hampshire bus stop distance rules for students.

We're Hiring!

Please help us spread the word about our open positions! We are looking for caring individuals to work with our incredible students and staff. Prospective candidates can reach out to principals if they have questions about flexible hours.

Click the "[Employment](#)" link at the top of the district website for all GWRSD & Middleton employment information including locations & the application process.

NH Education Department Information

- For all families with children covered by NH **Medicaid**, DHHS is asking all school districts to spread the word about the need to complete Medicaid redeterminations when they are due. Please share this printable [flyer](#) with your school communities. Let's help kids keep their health insurance coverage.
- NHED previously partnered with **Graduation Alliance** to provide 1-1 mentoring for students in need of an extra layer of support to boost school engagement and academic success. Students who choose to participate in the program will be assigned an academic coach at no cost. Call 603-758-3259 to get set up.
- Online, 24/7 **tutoring** is available at no cost for students in grades 6-12 through a partnership with Tutor.com. Students may [register](#) here. Please contact your school administrator to learn how KRMS & KRHS students can take advantage of this service through the "Clever" application
- **AmeriCorps** National Service positions are available. Volunteer NH operates an online hub for AmeriCorps opportunities in NH called Serve Learn Earn. Explore AmeriCorps opportunities that offer individuals a chance to serve NH communities, and provide a stipend and an education award to put towards higher education expenses. Visit [ServeLearnEarn](#) to learn more, or call 603-271-7200.
- Registration for [Waterford Upstart](#) is now open. All **PreK** children in New Hampshire entering kindergarten in the fall of 2024 are eligible to apply for the online, on-demand, adaptive learning program. Use it 15 minutes a day, five days a week to positively impact the learning experience of children alongside other resources and tools. Child care centers are also able to register children for the program to be utilized in their facilities. Waterford offers an online program, access to family coaches and a computer, if needed, at no cost. [Learn more about Upstart here.](#)