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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

January 5, 2024

Dear Governor Wentworth Regional School District & Middleton Families,

Happy New Year! The School Board has approved the implementation of a survey aimed at gathering valuable insights from our students and we extend an invitation for parents to participate if you haven't already done so.

The Portrait of a Learner Survey will be administered to students in grades 4-12, and our dedicated faculty and staff will facilitate the survey at various times throughout the month of January. This survey seeks to identify the attributes that our students believe are essential for success. Your child's input is crucial in shaping our school's "North Star" – a guiding light that influences our operations and pedagogy to achieve collective outcomes for all students. If you prefer your student(s) opts out of the survey, please be in touch with the principal.

It's important to note that this survey is distinct from the strategic planning survey you may have filled out earlier this school year. The Portrait of a Learner is a shared endeavor involving district and building administrators, teachers and staff, students, families, and community and business leaders.

Our dedicated Portrait committee, composed of stakeholders from various positions and communities, is leading this effort. They have undergone specialized training sessions to deepen their understanding of the Portrait process and have developed goals, initial action steps, and a timeline for this important work.

Your input is a crucial component of this process, and we are eager to hear your vision for the Portrait of GWRSD. The survey link below provides you with the opportunity to share your thoughts, taking only 15 seconds to a few minutes depending on your feedback style:

[Portrait of a Learner Survey Link](#)

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the success of our students. Together, we can shape a Portrait of a Learner that reflects our collective aspirations and ensures a bright future for all.

Sincerely,



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

School Spotlight: GWRSD Wellness Committee

The goal of the GWRSD Wellness Committee is to improve the wellness of our staff and our students. The committee generated a calendar to start the new year with activities to improve wellness. Take any or all of the suggestions included below:

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
JANUARY WELLNESS CALENDAR	1 Deep breathing exercise	2 Write 3 things you are grateful for	3 Ask for help	4 10 minutes of yoga	5 Facetime a friend	6 Donate 1 thing you never use	7 Plan a healthy meal
	8 Listen to your favorite music	9 Take 10 minutes to read	10 Drink only water today	11 Go for a walk	12 Cross 1 item off of your to do list	13 Get distracted by a good show	14 Go to bed 30 minutes earlier
	15 Compliment someone	16 Set a mini goal to accomplish today	17 5 minute meditation	18 Eat lunch in a new spot	19 Order in and watch a movie	20 Unfollow negative social media accounts	21 Have a phone free night
	22 Write 3 things you are grateful for	23 Adopt a new habit	24 Catch up with a friend	25 Say no to something	26 Watch a silly video	27 Write down 1 good thing that happened	28 Schedule something fun
	29 Scroll through camera roll on your phone	30 Facetime a family member	31 Do something outside				

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
1/8	GWRSD School Board Meeting - Kingswood Regional High School (Non-Public 6:00pm / Public 7:00pm)
1/10	Middleton School Board Meeting
1/15	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
1/23	No School - Presidential Primary Voting
1/24-2/2	Filing Dates for School District Officers
2/3	GWRSD Deliberative Session - 10AM Kingswood Arts Center

~ Go to <https://www.gwrsl.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.

Calendar News

We have recently communicated a change to the 2023-2024 calendar due to the New Hampshire primary scheduled for January 23rd, 2024. Governor Wentworth schools will be closed on this date, and in lieu of this closure, we have rescheduled a school day to be held on February 6th, originally designated as a day off. Your understanding and flexibility are greatly appreciated.

Looking ahead, the School Board has approved the 2024-2025 calendar, and it is now available on GWRSD.org. Please take a moment to review the calendar for important dates and events. Additionally, the Middleton School Board approved their 2024-2025 calendar at their meeting on December 13th, 2023. We encourage you to stay updated on any further calendar adjustments and appreciate your ongoing support and cooperation in these matters.

Inclement Weather Protocols

Please read carefully the procedures we use to make the decision to either hold or cancel school. GWRSD and MSD 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.

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.

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 4-12 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