

SUPERINTENDENT
Caroline Arakelian, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
Heather R. Cummings

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM
Kaitlyn Hills, Ed.D.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
Kathy O'Blenes

DIRECTOR of SPECIAL EDUCATION &
COUNSELING SERVICES
Kelly Mask

TELEPHONE: (603) 569-1658
WEBSITE: WWW.GWRSD.ORG

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

May 31, 2024

Dear Governor Wentworth Regional School District & Middleton Families,

As we approach the month of June, we recognize and celebrate Pride Month, a time dedicated to honoring the diverse identities within our community. At the Governor Wentworth Regional School District, we are committed to supporting and affirming individuals of all identities, ensuring that everyone feels valued and included.

The GWRSD School Board has recently passed an equity policy that underscores our dedication to creating an environment where all students and adults can thrive. Our newly approved strategic plan emphasizes fostering a culture of belonging, an effort that extends beyond our school walls and into the wider community. We believe that by working together, we can create a supportive and inclusive environment for everyone.

We encourage everyone in our community to engage in activities that promote understanding and empathy, such as participating in educational events, using inclusive language, and advocating for safe spaces. Your involvement in these small but significant actions can help cultivate a welcoming atmosphere for all. Being an ally involves more than just vocal support; it requires ongoing efforts to maintain an inclusive environment. These efforts not only support individuals but also strengthen the fabric of our community.

For more resources and support, please visit PFLAG.org, an organization dedicated to supporting LGBTQ+ individuals and their families, and StopBullying.gov, which offers comprehensive resources on preventing and addressing bullying.

Together, we can make a difference in creating a community where everyone feels they belong. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Caroline Arakelian'.

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

Summer Camp Reimbursement Update: Registration Form

GWRSD families have the opportunity to receive reimbursement for child(ren) to attend a state-approved camp this summer. List of qualifying camps can be found here:

<https://rekindlingcuriosityeducation.nh.gov/>

Applying for the NHEd Rekindling Curiosity camp reimbursement (income-based) is not required to receive the GWRSD reimbursement. The GWRSD reimbursement is not income-based.

Reimbursement from the district may be received after you have registered and paid for camp.

To receive reimbursement, [please complete this form](#) for each child who is attending camp. You must also send proof of payment such as receipt from the camp. Reimbursement from the district may be received after you have registered and paid for camp.

Reimbursement will not exceed \$1,000 per child. If you submit in excess of \$1,000 for a child, you will receive \$1,000 reimbursement for that payment.

Please note that this reimbursement is for state-approved camp attendance only. Camps to be held at the GWRSD schools (ESY/ Schools' Out/ Camp Invention) and Bear Camp slots have separate instructions and a separate sign up process. Please be in touch with school administration with any questions about these camp opportunities.

Middleton camp reimbursement for camp is pending state approval of funds.

Bear Camp Slots Available

The Governor Wentworth Regional School District is excited to announce their partnership with Bear Camp in providing summer camp experiences for students this summer. Space is limited! Sign up your child for one week or all six at no cost. Hurry activities are filling up quickly. For more information about Bear Camp eligibility, please email Deb Bunting at dbunting@sau49.org. Bear Camp is fully funded (for up to 6 weeks of Bear Camp) that is \$1,350. This is different from the reKinding curiosity reimbursement program. Bear Camp would bill the district directly.

Here are some important and time sensitive things that Bear Camp needs from us:

1. Confirmation of your participation. Please reach out to Lianne Prentice, Bear Camp Director regarding what weeks your child is planning on attending. If you need help with this, please let the district know, by responding to this email or calling (603) 569-5167.
2. Bear Camp runs weekly from July 8th - August 15th, Monday through Thursdays from 7:45 - 3pm. Sign your child up for one week or all six. Session dates are included on the sign up sheet.
3. This is NOT a reimbursement program. The district is able to pay Bear Camp directly. Families DO NOT need to pay upfront. The district just needs to know what weeks you will be attending to make those accommodations.
4. Transportation will be provided to Bear Camp by the district to and from a common (centralized) location (i.e. Elementary School). If you do not need transportation, please let the district know.
5. Please fill out the [Bear Camp Activity Sign up sheet](#).

School Spotlights

As we venture into the final weeks of school, students and staff are wrapping up another year of learning! Here are a few highlights:

- **Carpenter School:** Carpenter students have shared their year of learning and growth this past month at a Curriculum Night for each grade level! Students showcased math and literacy, as well as science and social studies activities and projects. Third-grade art students studied atmospheric perspective and monochromatic palettes to create New Hampshire-inspired landscapes. These will be on display June 1-17 at the Libby Museum. It was great to see many community members attend the school's Memorial Day celebration, and students will enjoy a Field Day on June 7. For more highlights and upcoming events, read the [Carpenter School Connection newsletter](#).
- **Crescent Lake School:** CLS rocked the District Spelling Bee, providing both the Champion and Runner-Up! Also this past month, fourth graders visited the Remick Farm Museum to learn how to make maple syrup, milk goats, and determine water quality by studying macroinvertebrates. They also capped off their Social Studies unit on NH history and government by visiting the State House and NH Historical Society. For more information on CLS happenings, see the latest [Crescent Lake Connection newsletter](#) or the school's Instagram account @clsotters.
- **Effingham Elementary School:** Effingham fifth graders will join other schools next week on an overnight experience at Ecology School; there, they will be putting their knowledge of ecosystems to use! Sixth graders recently visited the middle school to get a tour of where they'll be next year, and to get a sneak peak at potential programs at LRTC that might pique their interest. June will be a busy month, with sixth grade promotion, field day, and kindergarten graduation. See [Effingham's Snippets](#) for more celebrations and upcoming events.
- **Kingswood Regional High School:** The end of the year is always busy at KRHS, as seniors prepare to graduate with end-of-year events such as prom, Senior Academic Awards Night, and Senior Signing Day, among others and students gear up for final exams. Students in Health and Psychology classes participated in a training around suicide awareness and prevention and are now ready to go into the community and present to their peers. National Honor Society members have also volunteered their time in reading at district elementary schools. To learn more about KRHS happenings, see the [KRHS website](#).
- **Kingswood Regional Middle School:** Busy as always, KRMS students have finished NHSAS state testing and are working on culminating projects and performances in many of their classes. The band and chorus students presented a wonderful concert not only to their families, but to their peers and elementary school students. The school-wide focus this month is Respect, and students and staff are brainstorming ideas and demonstrating that theme in and beyond the classrooms! Find other information and upcoming events on the [KRMS Website](#).
- **Lakes Region Technology Center:** Culinary Arts students recently hosted a local community group in a sushi-making workshop; it was wonderfully successful and will be followed next year by more cooking class collaborations between our students and the community. Last week, LRTC held their Year End Celebration Event for students, parents, and community members. They gathered to recognize members of our community who have served LRTC as Career Technical Student Organization Officers, Program Completers, Concentrators, and Ambassadors. Find more updates on the [LRTC website](#).
- **Middleton Elementary School:** Middleton recently hosted their Arts Spotlight Night, which showcased students' musical and artistic abilities. It was wonderful to see families celebrating our students and their learning! The Walking Club has been a great success, and students are eager to participate in more clubs next year. The Strong Leader Team also completed an amazing service project by organizing a fundraising event to support the ballfield repair; it has been

wonderful to see students involved as active citizens in their community! Follow the [MES Facebook page](#) and [school website](#) for other celebrations of student learning.

- **New Durham School:** Like other schools, NDS is busy with end-of-year activities. Fifth grade students went to the Currier Museum of Art, sixth graders are going to Ecology School in early June, third graders are learning local history with a visit to Wolfeboro's Clark Museum, and fourth graders visited the State House and explored the state's maritime history down in Portsmouth. Students are pitching in with an upcoming PTO Fun Run to raise money for a new playground, as well. Learn more about NDS celebrations and upcoming events in the [NDS School Newsletter](#) or the school's Instagram account @ndswildcats.
- **Ossipee Central School:** OCS will be showcasing what their clubs and classrooms have been working on this spring on June 4 from 5:30 to 6:30 at the school. This is a wonderful celebration of student learning! Band and Chorus students recently held their spring concert, and sixth grade students will be joining other sixth graders from across the district at Bridges Day on June 3. For more events, see the [OCS Newsletter](#).
- **Tuftonboro Central School:** TCS has had a busy May! Students had a presentation from a local beekeeper and several students won an Earth Day contest, highlighting not only their understanding of issues around our environment, but also writing skills. Fourth graders showcased their recorder skills at the spring concert, and students in various grade levels practiced math concepts in engaging ways such as Tic-Tac-Toe Math and Place Value Yahtzee. For more TCS happenings, see the [TCS School Newsletter](#) or Facebook page.

Upcoming Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
6/3/2024	<i>Bridges Day</i>
6/3/2024	<i>GWRSD Retirement Reception 4:00pm @ KRHS Cafeteria</i>
6/3/2024	<i>GWRSD School Board Meeting @ KRHS Lecture Hall (Non-Public 6:00pm / Public 7:00pm)</i>
6/12/2024	<i>Middleton School Board Meeting 6:00pm</i>
6/14/2024	<i>KRHS Graduation 6:00pm @ Alumni Field Rain Date 6/15/2024 10:00am</i>
6/19/2024	<i>EES 6th Grade Promotion</i>
6/20/2024	<i>CLS, NDS, OCS, TCS 6th Grade Promotions</i>
6/20/2024	<i>Middleton Elementary Last Day of School - Early Release</i>
6/21/2024	<i>GWRSD Last Day of School - Early Release</i>
6/24 - 6/28	<i>Camp Invention</i>
7/9 - 8/8	<i>Summer School (Tues-Thurs)</i>
9/3/2024	<i>First Day of School GWRSD and Middleton Elementary School</i>

~ 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.

GWRSD/MSD ESSER III Funds Survey

“ESSER” stands for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief. These are funds that have been allocated to the schools from the federal government for financial assistance during COVID. The funds have been allocated in three phases. They are intended to assist schools with certain circumstances associated with the pandemic, such as personal protective equipment, staffing, safety in school buildings, keeping schools open, supporting academic growth, and social and emotional learning. ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III grants are posted on the GWRSD website for the public to review.

As we look to allocate the final of the ESSER III funds, the School Board proposed and approved to improve the air quality in schools after soliciting community input for more than one year. Middleton is considering several projects including storage solutions. Of this final phase, 20% (GWRSD \$1.2 million; MSD \$40k) must be allocated toward mitigating “learning loss” as a result of the pandemic. ESSER III must be spent by September 30th, 2024 unless the district applies for a late liquidation waiver for an additional few months.

We have compiled a list of needs across the district and will provide that here as well as in a survey to parents. We are soliciting community input on this list and any other items families would like to provide. You may elect to complete the survey, email us directly, or call the school or SAU office. We hope you will provide input as to your thoughts on how the funds should be spent.

GWRSD Identified needs:

- Transportation: Replace seven vans mainly used for out of district placements. They are on average ten years old with approximately 300k miles. Replace one 24 passenger bus. Replace cameras on all buses.
- Supplies for all schools.
- Technology: student chromebook replacements.
- Summer Professional Development & materials
- Training: behavior de escalation/ safety / special education topics/ Assessment (Academic Achievement)
- Summer Programming open to all students.
- Summer Materials for all students: books, supplies, STEM kits.
- Onboarding for online platforms.
- Safety materials for classrooms
- Other strategic plan activities such as the wellness and equity audits/ data collection.

GWRSD/ MSD ESSER III Funds Survey: [Click here to take the survey.](#)

Email: sau49@sau49.org [title the email: ESSER III]

Call: SAU Office (603) 569-1658 or your local school.

Go to www.GWRSD.org About > ESSER Funds to find all of this information.