



Back to School 2023-2024

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated educators, administrators, and invaluable support staff for their unwavering commitment to providing our students with a fantastic beginning to the academic year. The collective efforts of our SAU and building-level teams have been nothing short of exceptional in guaranteeing the readiness of our school facilities, meeting the essential requirements of our staff, and ensuring a warm and inviting return for our students and families on September 5th.

Enrollment

The school enrollments for the academic year as of October 1st, 2023 show a mixed pattern of changes. While some schools have experienced increases in their student populations compared to the previous year, such as Carpenter, Effingham, KRHS, and Ossipee, others have seen slight decreases: Crescent Lake, KRMS, New Durham, and Tuftonboro. Overall, the total student enrollment across the district has increased from 2,079 students in 2021 to 2,199 students in 2022 and has remained consistent at 2,199 students in 2023.

<u>SCHOOL</u>	10/01/2023	10/01/2022	10/01/2021
Carpenter	192	181	200
Crescent Lake	174	193	173
Effingham	108	104	98
KRHS	746	724	701
KRMS	361	388	377
New Durham	158	161	153
Ossipee	293	287	273
Tuftonboro	95	100	104
GWRSD	2127	2138	2079
LRTC Sending	72	61	78
Total	2199	2199	2157

Inclement Weather Procedures

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. 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. 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.

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. When in-person learning is canceled, GWRSD will hold a traditional snow day (no remote learning).

Open Houses

All schools held open house events for families during the month of September. The turnout was truly heartwarming and the positive energy that filled our hallways was palpable. These events served as a fantastic opportunity for our staff to connect with parents and for families to explore our vibrant learning environments. The informative sessions provided valuable insights into our educational programs, while our warm and welcoming atmosphere made everyone feel at home. Crescent Lake School hosted a fall mum fundraiser during the open houses as depicted in the picture below.

