

# Scarborough Public Schools August 22, 2024

Welcome Back Students and their Families



Dear Families,

As we approach the start of a new school year, we are filled with excitement and anticipation for the opportunities that lie ahead. On behalf of Scarborough Public Schools, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our students and families.

One of the true hallmarks of Scarborough Public Schools is the

exceptional expertise and dedication of our staff, across every single department and segment of our organization. We are proud to have highly skilled educators and support personnel at every level, committed to fostering an enriching and supportive learning environment. Towards that end, much work has taken place over the summer to prepare for a year full of growth, learning, and success for our students. We are confident that the passion and shared commitment of our amazing staff will make this school year a memorable one for your child.

#### Start of School Dates and Information

- Wednesday, Aug. 28 for Grades 6 and 9
- Thursday, Aug. 29 for Grades 6-12
- Tuesday, Sept. 3 for all students K-12
  - Note: All K-5 students will have "by appointment days" with their families on Aug. 28 and 29

We encourage you to stay informed about important updates and events by regularly reading our district and school newsletters, checking our website and keeping an eye on communications from your child's school and teachers. Should you have any questions or need assistance at anytime during the year, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in making Scarborough Public Schools a great place for our students to learn and grow. We look forward to a fantastic school year ahead!

Warm regards, Diane Nadeau, Ph.D.

## 2024-2025 Bus Routes



Our bus routes are currently all loaded in MY Ride K-12 software. You can access the bus routes via the My Rides K-12 app on your cell phone or by the <u>My Rides k-12 website</u> on your computer. <u>Here are the directions</u> to access via the phone app or the website. If you don't know your child's ID number, please call the school your child attends and they can share the child's ID number (it is the same number as your child's lunch number). All of the <u>bus routes are also linked here</u> with the start and end

times of each run and their streets/roads they service.

If you have any questions regarding your child's bus stop, accessing the My Bus k-12 software, or other route information, please call the Transportation Department at (207) 730-4145, or email the Transportation Supervisor, Sarah Redmond, at <u>sredmond@scarboroughschools.org</u>.

## Transportation

Please be aware that there are currently challenges associated with our bussing system that may impact your family's daily routine. Not unlike surrounding school districts, we are struggling to find enough school bus drivers to meet our needs. Please know that we are actively working to address these issues and ensure a smooth and efficient transportation experience for all our students. Our transportation team is dedicated to minimizing delays and any



increases in bus routes, but these may occur, especially as we adjust bus routes in the first few weeks of school. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through these challenges.

#### **Communicating With School Personnel**

Over the course of the 2023-2024 school year, the Scarborough Education Association partnered with district level staff to create a document, as pasted below, that would assist families in knowing how to best partner with school staff. We all share a common interest to ensure that

students have a positive school experience, and the partnership between families and staff cannot be overstated. We hope that you find this helpful in your interactions this coming school year!

### Scarborough Schools Expectations for Adult Collaboration and Communication

Elements of Engagement	School Community Expectations	Examples of Expectations
Communication	<ul> <li>Encourage students to advocate for themselves</li> <li>Assume positive intent</li> <li>Be polite and respectful in interactions with all members of the school community</li> <li>Communicate directly with appropriate staff first to resolve issues before going to administration</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Help students draft written communication to staff (emails to teacher, note to bus driver, etc.)</li> <li>Brainstorm communication strategies that your child can use at school when they are having difficulties</li> <li>Seek to clarify your student's version of events with staff directly involved to bring about peaceful resolution</li> <li>Voice concerns about school issues to staff, instead of using social media</li> <li>Discuss issues with appropriate staff (teacher, bus driver, coach, etc.) when they happen</li> </ul>
Collaboration	<ul> <li>Prepare for the school day</li> <li>Encourage students' academic, social, and emotional growth</li> <li>Support students in following school and classroom rules</li> <li>Reinforce school policies and expectations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Know students' schedules and help them be prepared with necessary materials (ex. bus scan cards, laptops, library books, snacks, weather-appropriate clothes, etc.)</li> <li>Create and maintain a consistent dismissal schedule</li> <li>Support healthy habits (sleep, eating, managing emotions, limited screen time, time management, etc.)</li> <li>Read district, building, and classroom newsletters and communications</li> <li>Check take-home folders and online programs regularly (ex. PowerSchool and SeeSaw)</li> <li>Emphasize appropriate and safe use of technology (laptops, cell phones, smart watches, etc.)</li> </ul>
Community Culture	<ul> <li>Treat staff as trained educational professionals</li> <li>Respect staff time</li> <li>Prioritize safety and educational time for all students</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Acknowledge the hard work, expertise, experience, and education of staff</li> <li>Recognize that educators make decisions with the safety and benefit of the group as a whole in mind (ex. being mindful of allergies, cultural differences, etc.)</li> <li>Be positive when posting about Scarborough Schools on social media</li> <li>Understand that staff will attempt to respond to communications in a timely manner but that staff will prioritize instructional time</li> <li>Appreciate that safe driving is a bus driver's top priority</li> <li>Limit interruptions during the school day (ex. avoid texting and calling students during school hours)</li> </ul>

## 2024-2025 School Calendar



This year's calendar will allow for up to two " traditional snow days" (or any type of no school days). If more than the allotted two days are needed, those days will be asynchronous remote learning days.

The 2024-2025 school calendar can be found here.

## **Community Bulletin Board Information**

Below are some great community events and fundraisers going on in Scarborough. Click on this link <u>Community Bulletin Board</u> for more information.



- New Fall SCS Catalog
- Scarborough Education Foundation
- Scarborough Public Library

# Upcoming Scarborough Public School Events



#### Mark Your Calendar!

#### 2025 School Calendar

- August 30th No School
- September 2nd Labor Day Holiday and No School
- September 5th Business School Board Meeting
- September 11th Early Release Day
- September 19th Workshop and Business School Board Meeting

Early release times:

Grades 6-12: 12:55pm Grades K-5: 1:45pm



Scarborough Public Schools is HIRING!

Scarborough Public Schools is currently hiring. Interested candidates may visit the School District's Employment site for details and application instructions by using this link here:

https://www.applitrack.com/scarborough/OnlineApp/default.aspx



Custodians



**Bus Driver** 



## **Food Service Specialist**

## SMCC Workforce Training

### **Educator Apprentice Program**

Are you interested in becoming an Ed Tech in our schools in the Fall? Click<u>here</u> to read about the completely FREE training program through Southern Maine Community College starting August 12, 2024. This program allows you to earn college credits, including



your associate's degree, while working as a member of the school staff. For those who are interested in continuing on to a bachelor's degree, USM is working with SMCC to accept the workforce hours as credits.

# Scarborough Community Services' Fall Catalog is now available

Fall 2024

Click HERE to view the catalog



## What to do in Scarborough?



For upcoming <u>Scarborough Community</u> events, be sure to check out Scarborough Community Services website and follow them on Facebook.

# Links to Our Schools



**Blue Point** 



**Eight Corners** 



**Pleasant Hill** 



Wentworth School



Middle School



**High School** 

#### **Services & Information**

<u>Spec. Services</u> | Chris Rohde, <u>crohde@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Transportation</u> | Sarah Redmond, <u>sredmond@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Food Services</u> | Peter Esposito, <u>pesposito@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Athletics & Activities</u> | Mike LeGage, <u>mlegage@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Curriculum</u> I Katie Vetro, <u>kvetro@scarboroughschools.org</u> <u>Facilities</u> | Todd Jepson, <u>tjepson@scarboroughschools.org</u>

**Tech Support** 

For technology assistance with SPS student laptops, please visit <u>https://tickets.scarboroughschools.org</u> to open a ticket and someone from Technology will be in touch to assist you.



#### **Scarborough Schools**

Website: www.scarboroughschools.org Location: 259 U.S. Route 1, Scarborough, ME 04074, USA Phone: (207) 730-4100 Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/scarbmeschools/ Twitter: @scarbmeschools

**Cheryl Callahan** Cheryl is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters