



Scarborough Public Schools

September 19, 2025

A Message to our Scarborough Public Schools Community

Dear Scarborough Public Schools Community,

I cannot fully express my deep appreciation for the grace and support extended to our schools—especially Scarborough High School—this week, following the heartbreaking loss of Jake Brown, our beloved Assistant Principal.

The outpouring of care from students, staff, families, and the wider community has been profoundly moving. I want to recognize the remarkable leadership and dedication shown by Mr. Theriault, Ms. Blaisdell, Mr. LeGage, and the entire Scarborough High School staff. Their strength and compassion during this incredibly difficult time have been nothing short of inspiring.

None of us enters this work expecting to navigate a tragedy of this nature. There is no guidebook for managing a loss that touches the very heart of our school community. Yet what has stood out in this moment of sorrow is the deep, unwavering commitment of the adults who care for your children—not just in times of calm, but especially in times of struggle.

What has been equally powerful is witnessing our students show up for one another, and for the adults in our schools, with empathy, kindness, and genuine care. It speaks volumes about the strength of our community. In the face of grief, we have come together in a way that reminds us of the incredible support system we share here in Scarborough. For that, we are truly grateful. In case you have not seen it, I also want to share the public release that was provided to the media earlier this week. It highlights the significant contributions that Mr. Brown made to our schools and the broader community:

Scarborough Public Schools is deeply saddened by the loss of beloved school leader Jacob “Jake” Brown.

Jake began his career in Scarborough in 2014 as a middle school teacher, later serving as a student lead and overseeing middle school athletics. He was also an involved hockey coach, starting as an assistant before being promoted to head varsity coach in 2017, where he brought both a deep knowledge of the program and a strong commitment to excellence. In 2020, he joined Scarborough High School as Assistant Principal, where he quickly became a trusted leader, colleague, and friend.

Throughout his career, Jake left a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of working with him. He had a natural gift for building meaningful relationships; his fun-loving spirit, warm smile, and steady presence lifted those around him. His impact extended far beyond our schools—he was a respected member of the Scarborough community, the Southern and Central Maine hockey community, and the Maine Principals’ Association through his volunteer work.

In every role, Jake exemplified commitment, compassion, and service. He consistently put the needs of others first, leaving a legacy of kindness and connection that will live on in the lives of the many students, staff, families, and community members he touched.

At this time, our priority is to support our students, staff, and community as we grieve this profound loss and honor the remarkable impact Jake made in Scarborough and beyond.

Grief-Based Supports for Students and Families

We understand that many students and families are navigating a range of emotions during this time. Several families have asked about available resources to help support their children. Below are some community-based organizations that are ready to help:

- **The Center for Grieving Children**
Phone: (207) 775-5216
Website: www.cgcmaine.org
- **The Family Center of Maine (Scarborough Locations)**
50 telehealth slots have been set aside specifically for SHS students. Please mention your child attends SHS when reaching out.
 - Dunstan Crossing Location: (207) 303-0061
 - 306 US Route 1 Location: (207) 219-8227
- **NAMI Maine Support Lines**
 - Text Line: (207) 515-8398
 - Phone Line: 1-800-950-6264

Thank you, again, for being part of such a compassionate and caring community. In moments like this, your support matters more than ever.

With gratitude and care,

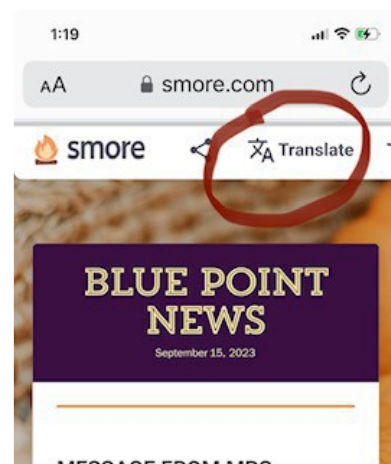
Diane Nadeau, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Our Newsletters are TRANSLATABLE 😊



If you look at the embedded photo above which shows you what our newsletters look like when you open them on a computer, you will see that **every newsletter we send has the ability to translate to 90 languages!!!** Harnessing the power of translation tools in Smore is an essential step in making sure ALL of our families are included and have the most up to date information.

The picture to the side shows the translate feature on a mobile device.






Communicating With School Personnel

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 document, created in partnership with th Scarborough Education Association, helpful in your interactions this coming school year!

We appreciate all communications, questions, and reach outs, and would encourage consideration of respectful tone and dialogue, even when conversations are difficult.

Scarborough Schools Expectations for Adult Collaboration and Communication

Elements of Engagement	School Community Expectations	Examples of Expectations
<p>Communication</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage students to advocate for themselves Assume positive intent Be polite and respectful in interactions with all members of the school community Communicate directly with appropriate staff first to resolve issues before going to administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help students draft written communication to staff (emails to teacher, note to bus driver, etc.) Brainstorm communication strategies that your child can use at school when they are having difficulties Seek to clarify your student's version of events with staff directly involved to bring about peaceful resolution Voice concerns about school issues to staff, instead of using social media Discuss issues with appropriate staff (teacher, bus driver, coach, etc.) when they happen
<p>Collaboration</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare for the school day Encourage students' academic, social, and emotional growth Support students in following school and classroom rules Reinforce school policies and expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know students' schedules and help them be prepared with necessary materials (ex. bus scan cards, laptops, library books, snacks, weather-appropriate clothes, etc.) Create and maintain a consistent dismissal schedule Support healthy habits (sleep, eating, managing emotions, limited screen time, time management, etc.) Read district, building, and classroom newsletters and communications Check take-home folders and online programs regularly (ex. PowerSchool and SeeSaw) Emphasize appropriate and safe use of technology (laptops, cell phones, smart watches, etc.)
<p>Community Culture</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat staff as trained educational professionals Respect staff time Prioritize safety and educational time for all students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge the hard work, expertise, experience, and education of staff 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.) Be positive when posting about Scarborough Schools on social media Understand that staff will attempt to respond to communications in a timely manner but that staff will prioritize instructional time Appreciate that safe driving is a bus driver's top priority Limit interruptions during the school day (ex. avoid texting and calling students during school hours)

Gym Dandies Children's Circus



Gym Dandies Children's Circus

Online Registration for 2025-2026 (3rd to 12th grade)

Practices will begin the week of **September 29th**
and run for 22 weeks through **March 20th**

The Gym Dandies Children's Circus of Scarborough is the largest continuously operating children's circus in the United States, having received state and national recognition as an outstanding program for children.

To register, please go to:

[GYM DANDIES REGISTRATION LINK](#)

PLEASE USE THIS [LINK](#) STARTING **SEPTEMBER 11th!**

Registration will be open for only 2 weeks only, through September 25th.

PLEASE make a note: There will be an INFORMATIONAL MEETING on **Thursday, September 25th** at the **Wentworth Cafeteria** from **6 - 7pm**

Gym Dandies is a Scarborough School Extra-Curricular Program. All Scarborough School-age children in grades 3 and above may register for this program. (Home-schooled and private school children are welcome.)

No special skills are required to register for the Gym Dandies Circus Arts Program. A willingness to practice is the key. Please visit gymdandies.org for more information about the Gym Dandies.

Registration is \$260 (+\$13 admin fee),
which includes:

- Participation in one session per week for approximately 22 weeks
- Gym Dandies t-shirt
- A unicycle will be provided for the class
- Opportunities to participate in parades and exhibitions, often with bus transportation

Sessions (held at Wentworth Gym):

Monday 5:00 to 6:30 (Beg & Intermed)
Tuesday 3:30 to 5:00 (Beg & Intermed)
Wednesday 3:30 to 5:00 (Beg & Intermed)
(Early release days class will be 2-3:30)
Thursday 5:00 to 7:00 (Performance level)
Friday 3:30 to 5:00 (Beg & Intermed)



Please note that **YOU** are responsible for purchasing your child's own set of **SAFETY GEAR!**

A helmet, knee and elbow pads, and wrist guards are mandatory to ride a unicycle!
[LINK](#) for recommended safety gear.

****If your child is in Performance Level, the selected white helmet must be purchased. ****
Please label all gear with their NAME!

2025 - 2026 List of Important Dates:

September 25 - Parent info night, Wentworth School Cafeteria, 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Week of September 29 - Classes begin! **(Send your child with their safety equipment!)**
Starting October 22, Open Gym begins on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.(separate registration to come)
Dec. 15 - Wells Christmas Parade (All levels)
Date to be announced: (plan for January) - Maine Celtics Halftime show (Performance Level riding, Beginner/Intermediates: flag ceremony)
Mark your calendars: March 13 and 14 - Community Performances, Wentworth School (All levels and classes)
Date to be announced for March - Manchester (NH) St. Patrick's Day Parade (All levels)
Week of March 20 - Classes End
Monday, April 13, End of the year Celebration! Wentworth School Cafeteria, 7:00 pm
May 2 - Kennebunk May Day Parade (All levels)
May 25 - Scarborough Memorial Day parade (All levels)
New: TRIP to FUNTOWN for the Intermediates and Performance Level Gym Dandies!
July 17 - Yarmouth Clam Festival Parade (All levels)

If you have questions regarding registration, please contact:

Kate Swinburne - Administrative Assistant
Email: mainegymdandies@gmail.com

If you have questions regarding the program, please contact:

Ellen Benson - Director of the Gym Dandies Children's Circus
Email: gymdandiesdir@gmail.com

Visit our [Community Bulletin Board](#) for a downloadable copy of this information.

What To Expect When Visiting Our Schools



For the past couple of years, Scarborough Public Schools has been using the Raptor Visitor Management System in all of our schools to strengthen our program of campus safety for students and staff. Part of keeping students and staff safe is knowing who is in our buildings at all times, and the Raptor system assists in screening visitors, contractors, and volunteers in our schools, providing a safer environment for our students and staff.

What to Expect:

- Upon being allowed through the exterior door of a district building and navigating to the main office, all visitors and outside contractors are asked to present a photo ID such as a driver's license.
- Your ID will either be scanned or manually entered into the system by office personnel at the transaction window.

- Once cleared, you will receive a pre-printed badge with your photo on it and where you are going in the building.
- You will then be directed to the appropriate location that you are going to.
- This badge must be worn at all times when in the building. When in the building, you are only approved to go to the specific location requested. You should not go to any other area of the building without returning to the main office for approval first.
- When leaving the building, please be sure to return to the main office and sign out with office personnel.

What does the Raptor System do?

- The Raptor system checks to ensure that registered sex offenders are not entering our school campuses without our knowledge. It checks the visitor's name and date of birth for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders. **The registered sex offender database is the only official database. No other data from the ID is gathered or recorded, and the information is not shared with any outside agency.**
- The Raptor system also checks for any court issued custodial orders, restraining orders and other custom alerts as established by the School District. The safety of our students is our highest priority, and the Raptor Visitor Management System allows us to quickly identify those that may present a danger to our students. Thank you in advance for your support in following the school safety protocols in our district

Please Complete the Beginning of School Forms

Parent Forms in PowerSchool

PowerSchool is our student information system (an application used for managing and disseminating student data). In an effort to go paperless and streamline data collection, forms are now being submitted and processed electronically. This includes forms for updating student information, such as demographics, parent and emergency contacts, medical information, and more. Additional forms give parents the ability to provide their annual consent for things like use of school technology, administration of over-the-counter medication, field trip participation, photo use, school handbooks, and more. In order to access these forms, as well as other educational information, families will need to have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account.



If you already have an account set up and linked to your students, we are asking you to please log into the Parent Portal at <http://scarborough.powerschool.com/public>, click on the Forms button in the navigation bar, and fill out any incomplete 2025-26 forms.

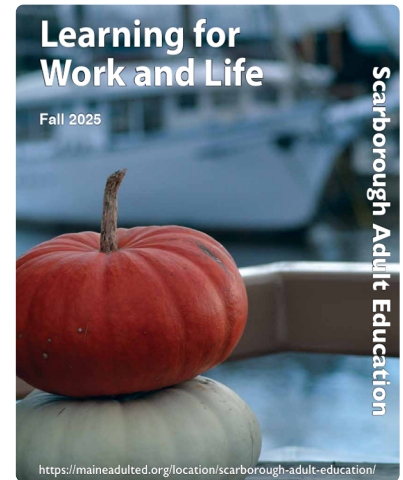
If you do not have an account, or your account is not linked to one of your students, please consult the step by step instructions linked below.

- [Creating a New PowerSchool Parent Portal Account](#)
- [Adding Students to Your Existing PowerSchool Parent Portal Account](#)

You will need access keys, unique identifying codes used to validate each parent/student relationship, in order to set up your account. If you do not have these keys, please contact your child's school (access keys were sent to parents of new students via email at time of initial enrollment).

Scarborough Adult Education

FALL 2025 Registration is now available! Our general office hours are Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday afternoons. Students may [register 24/7 online](#) or email adulted@scarboroughschools.org for assistance!



Calendar of Events for September

UPCOMING EVENTS



Hey, Scarborough High School fans—get ready for a school year full of energy, talent and school spirit! Our high school athletes and club members are bringing their A-game, and they want YOU there to cheer them on! From thrilling matchups on the field to inspiring performances from our incredible student clubs, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're a fan of football or theater, your support helps build pride, connection and

community.

Visit our new [events page](#) to explore all the exciting ways to support Scarborough. Rally your friends, wear your school colors with pride and join the celebration. Let's go Red Storm—Scarborough strong!

2025-2026 School Calendar

[2025-2026 School Calendar](#)

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



Central Office Hours



Scarborough Public Schools' Central Office is open Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm. On Fridays, because Municipal Offices are closed, please use the video intercom system located to the right of the main doors (Route 1 front doors only) to contact the School Department and be allowed entry into the building. As always, if you have any questions, please contact the Central Office at 730-

4100.

Community Events & Bulletin Board Information



Please access this link to the [Community Bulletin Board](#) for information about great community events and fundraisers going on in Scarborough. In this week's posting, you will find information relating to the:

- Cub Scout Flyer
 - Gym Dandies' Registration
 - Girl Scouts of Maine Flyer
 - 2025-2026 Scarborough Public Library Parent Letter
 - USM Hockey - Maine Evolution
 - Landline Kids Information
 - Scarborough Education Foundation
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Important Dates

[2025-2026 School Calendar](#)

- October 2, 2025 - School Board Business Meeting
- October 10, 2025 - Students No School - Staff Day
- October 13, 2025 - No School; Indigenous People's Day
- October 15, 2025 - Early Release Day**
- October 16, 2025 - School Board Workshop & Business 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>

Scarborough Community Services' Fall Catalog is available

Click [here](#) to view catalog.

What to do in Scarborough?



For upcoming [Scarborough Community](#) 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

[Spec. Services](#) | Chris Rohde, crohde@scarboroughschools.org

[Transportation](#) | Sarah Redmond, sredmond@scarboroughschools.org

[Food Services](#) | Peter Esposito, pesposito@scarboroughschools.org

[Athletics & Activities](#) | Mike LeGage, mlegage@scarboroughschools.org

[Curriculum](#) | Katie Vetro, kvetro@scarboroughschools.org

[Facilities](#) | Todd Jepson, tjepson@scarboroughschools.org

Tech Support

For technology assistance with SPS student laptops, please visit

<https://tickets.scarboroughschools.org> 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](https://twitter.com/scarbmeschools)



Cheryl Callahan

Cheryl is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters