



SMITH SPECTACULAR

October 16, 2026



RSU 22 Curriculum Office
24 Main Rd. N.
Hampden, ME 04444
(207) 862-0843

Dear RSU 22 Families,

We want to hear about your experience with your child's school. This fall, we are inviting all families to complete the **Feedback and Input Survey**. The survey asks how we could best communicate with you, how welcome and respected you feel, how we support positive behavior, and how our schools could better support your family. Your responses will help us improve our schools for every student.

A note about our surveys this year: In past years, families may have been asked to complete the School Climate Survey in both the fall and the spring. Going forward, the School Climate Survey will be given **in the spring only**, and the Feedback and Input Survey will be given each fall.

The survey is open now through **Wednesday, October 28**. It is anonymous and contains 36 items, most of them quick yes/no or checklist questions, and takes about 10 minutes to complete. **If you have children in more than one school, please complete one survey for each school**, since we use each school's results to make improvements there. You may skip any question you'd prefer not to answer. There are no right or wrong answers.

No identifying information is collected with your answers, and results will only be reported as group responses. If you feel that answering a question about your child would identify you, you may choose "I prefer not to answer."

Survey link: [LINK](#)

If you'd prefer a paper copy, you can pick one up in your child's school office. If you have questions about the survey, **please contact your child's school office**.

Thank you for your time and your honest input. It matters, and we will use it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Nickerson
RSU 22 Director of Curriculum

Feedback and Input Survey

Please click [here](#) to take our Feedback and Input Survey. Thank you.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SMITH SCHOOL

BOOK FAIR

Hello Smith School Families! The book fair is coming soon!

Dates and Times:

**November 2nd - November 6th - during the school day,
including library time**

**November 3rd and 5th - during the school day and after
school from 2:00-3:30**

*If you can't make it to the fair, you can shop in Smith School's online store at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/leroyhsmithschool>. Your purchases will be shipped directly to your home.

*Our fair offers a cash free option called eWallet. It is a digital account that your child can use to shop at the fair. Families can add funds to the eWallet and those funds will be available to make purchases.

We are so excited to have the Scholastic book fair back again this year and we can't wait to see your child (and YOU) there!

Sincerely,
Ms. Ormsby
Smith School Librarian

Picture Retake Day

Smith School students will have picture retake day on **Monday, November 9, 2026**.

Lifetouch has asked that we send the following reminders:

-Please remember to send the order form with your student on the day of retakes. Lifetouch does not accept late orders turned in to school. You may still be able to order online.

-Students who are doing retakes must turn in their original picture package to the photographer in order to receive a retake package.

Volunteers Needed for the Smith School Mentoring Program

The Smith School has been fortunate to offer a school-based Mentor Program since 2008. This program is made possible by grant money received from the Maine Community Foundation.

Mentoring students meet with their mentor during the school day, usually for 45 minutes each week. Some of the activities that the students and mentors may do during this time are: craft projects, building models, playing games, reading and eating lunch together.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested in becoming a mentor, please contact Debbie Smith at dsmith@rsu22.us.

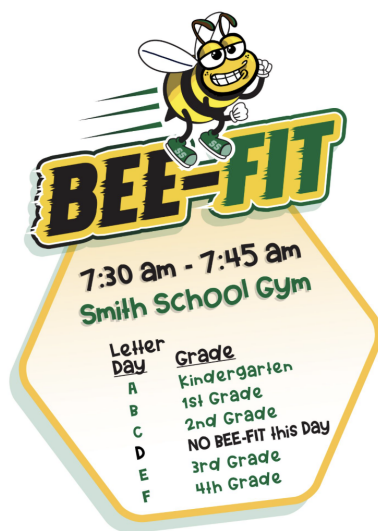
MUSIC

We're off to a great start in music class this year!

- Kindergarteners have been practicing keeping a steady beat and making music faster or slower by changing the speed of the beat; using different kinds of voices including singing voices, and trying loud and quiet singing voices as well.
- 1st graders have been practicing distinguishing between a steady beat and a rhythm, as well as identifying steps vs skips in pitch, both on the staff and by ear.
- 2nd graders have been deepening their knowledge of different rhythms and meters in music, and have been putting their understanding of steps and skips in pitch to use to identify songs that use the pentatonic scale.
- 3rd graders have been learning even more kinds of rhythms and meters, and have been practicing those rhythms and their solfege notes in different ostinato patterns. They have also been learning to sing harmonies for the first time in the form of rounds.
- 4th graders have been learning how to play the first three notes on recorder, and have been given their own recorders to keep! If 4th grade families could continue to help their 4th graders remember to bring their recorders to school on their music class days, that would be wonderful! A good tip is to keep the recorders in their backpacks all the time except when practicing :) And for filling out their practice logs, any and all practicing counts. It does not have to be from the packet of songs I sent home!

I'm excited to continue making music with your children this year!

- Mrs. Belka



It's time for BEE-FIT!

Bee-Fit will begin starting with A Day on Friday, October 23rd!

Bee-Fit is a fun opportunity for students to go to the gym for some morning movement once a cycle!

Students can walk, run, or dance their way around the gym to some fun music with Mrs. Raymond.

This year, students will be able to earn a "toe token" (a colorful bead shaped like a foot!) that they can collect on a lanyard throughout the year! There will also be drawings for fun prizes each month!

Make sure you get to school on time for a chance to participate in this fun activity each week.

*If your child eats breakfast at school. They will be able to grab a breakfast bag to eat in their classroom after Bee-Fit!

Smith School

Autumn Dress Up Day

On Friday, October 30, 2026,
students may dress up however
they'd like: PJs, comfy clothes,
dressy clothes or even a costume*!

*No props or
masks, please!



PIE

Our parent organization (PIE: Partners In Education) will hold its monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month. PIE is always looking for more members. Meetings take place in the Smith School teachers' lounge from 5:00-6:00. We hope to see you there! November's Meeting: Monday, November 9, 5:00 in the Smith School Teachers' Lounge.



ATTENDANCE

Smith School Attendance Update:

Last year at Smith School, 18% of students were considered chronically absent. (Missing 10% or more of school days during the year). This year, our goal is to reduce this number to 15% or less!

Even missing a couple of days each month can add up fast.

As of October 16, 87% of our students have missed 1 day or fewer! Yay, Smith School!

Bee On Time.....

Are You Our Next Morning Worker Bee? 🐝

Help Your Child Bee Here, Bee On Time, & Bee Ready to Learn!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Smith School, our students thrive when they are part of the school hive every single day! We know that getting kids up, dressed, and out the door on time takes monumental effort.

To celebrate your hard work, we are launching our Parent Attendance Awards!

✱ How to Earn Your Wings (The Criteria)

Your family can be entered into a drawing each month by meeting one of these goals:



- The Perfect Hive: 100% on-time attendance with zero absences or tardies.
- The High-Flying Bee: 95% or higher attendance (missing one day or less).

🍯 The Sweet Rewards

Winning parents will be randomly drawn from our qualifying pool to receive some fun prizes!

Names will be drawn at each All School Share starting in October!

Thank you for being our ultimate partners in learning. Let's keep our school hive buzzing together!

WELLNESS

Every Day Counts!!

Showing up to school every day is critical for children's well-being, engagement and learning.

Make sure to send children to school if they are:

- Generally healthy and well.
- Participating in usual day-to-day activities.
- Children can even go to school if they:
 - Have a mild cold, which may include a runny nose and/or cough.
 - Have eye drainage without fever, eye pain or eyelid redness.
 - Have a mild stomachache.
 - Have a mild rash with no other symptoms.
 - Have head lice. Though they are annoying and should be treated, lice are not a reason to exclude a child from school.
 - Haven't had a fever in 24 hours and they have not taken fever-reducing medicine during that time.

Avoid keeping children at home unless they are too sick to participate. Please see the back of this handout for details. Note that in most situations, a health-care provider's note is not needed to return.

Children may also avoid school due to anxiety (symptoms may include decreased appetite, feeling tired, stomachache, headache etc). If you are worried that your child may be suffering from anxiety, talk with your teacher, the school nurse, social worker or other school staff to discuss the challenge and identify what can help your child stay in school.

If your child has a compromised immune system or is at high risk for complications from common illnesses, please talk to your school (school nurse if available) about developing a plan with you and your child's health-care provider to keep your child healthy and safe while attending school.

Please note: This document is not meant to take the place of local health department/school district guidance including about contagious illnesses such as Covid-19 and the flu.

What is my symptom?	When should I stay home and when to seek medical care?	When can I return to school?
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Fever	I have a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher. Seek medical care if I have fever and any of the following: ear pain, sore throat, rash, stomachache, headache or tooth pain.	If I have not had a fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and I am feeling better.
Vomiting and/or diarrhea	If I have vomited 2 or more times in the last 24 hours. If my stool is watery and I may not make it to the toilet in time. Seek medical care if I have stomach cramping and fever, I have bloody or black stool, or I am showing signs of dehydration (tired and sleepy, dry mouth and not urinating at least once in the last 8 hours).	If I did not vomit overnight and I am able to drink liquids without throwing up. If my diarrhea has improved.
Persistent cough or trouble breathing	Seek medical care if I have a persistent cough, difficulty breathing or trouble catching my breath or if I develop a fever with the cough. These symptoms may be signs of Covid-19 or flu and should be evaluated by a health-care provider.	Once I am feeling better and I have been cleared for return by my health-care provider. If my symptoms were due to asthma, please make sure that I have permission to use breathing medication at school.
Rash	Seek medical care if the rash has blisters, is draining, is painful, looks like bruises and/or if I develop a fever.	Rash has healed or I have been cleared for return by my health-care provider.
Eye irritation	Seek medical care if I have eye swelling, eye pain, trouble seeing or an eye injury.	Once I am feeling better.
Sore throat	Seek medical care if I have drooling, trouble swallowing or a fever and/or rash.	Once I am feeling better. If I was prescribed an antibiotic by my health-care provider, then I can return 12 hours after the first dose, if I am without fever and I am feeling better.

If you don't know whether to send your child to school or have specific concerns regarding your child's health, contact your child's health-care provider, a local urgent care or the school nurse.

Plan Ahead 2026-2027



RSU 22 greatly values instructional time, and our students benefit from consistent attendance. When looking ahead to the 26-27 school year, please consider these dates when planning holidays, appointments, and vacations.

HOLIDAYS & IN-SERVICE DAYS

LABOR DAY

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 9/7/26

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 10/9/26

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 10/12/26

VETERANS' DAY

NO SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, 11/11/26

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 1/18/27

IN-SERVICE DAY - NO SCHOOL
FRIDAY, 3/12/26

MEMORIAL DAY

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 5/28/27

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 5/31/27

VACATIONS

THANKSGIVING

EARLY DISMISSAL
TUESDAY, 11/24/26

NO SCHOOL
11/25 - 11/27/26

WINTER BREAK

NO SCHOOL
12/23/26 - 1/1/27

FEBRUARY BREAK

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 2/12/27

NO SCHOOL
2/15-2/19/27

APRIL BREAK

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 4/16/27

NO SCHOOL
4/19-4/23/27

EARLY DISMISSAL & TENTATIVE
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
FRIDAY, 6/11/27

Parent notification of Planned Absence

This must be filled out and turned in to the office for planned absences of 3 or more days. Thank you.

Great Body Shop: October 2026

[Click here for the GBS family newsletter](#)

RSU 22 FAMILY RESOURCE NIGHT

Open Doors

Support for your family today, pathways for your student beyond the school doors.



THURSDAY	TIME	LOCATION
October 22	4–6 PM	Hampden Academy 89 Western Avenue, Hampden, ME 04444

Two Featured Presentations

Attend one, both, or just gather resources!

4:15–4:45 PM
Behavioral Health Home Case Management
Resources to support your whole family
PRESENTED BY **PENQUIS**

5:00–5:45 PM
Transition to Adulthood
Services available for students beyond high school
PRESENTED BY **UCP OF MAINE**

Visit Agency Resource Tables

Agencies from Penobscot & Waldo County will have tables open all evening, even during the presentations. Stop by to ask questions and take home helpful information and materials on:

 Behavioral Health Professionals	 Mental Health Providers	 Case Management
 Guardianship	 Vocational Rehabilitation	 Adult Services

FREE All families & students welcome!

Questions? Contact the Office of Special Services • 862-2774

Note from the Nurse

If you have questions about any dental health programs we offer, please reach out to me, and I can help you!

Kassandra Dominique BSN, RN, NBCSN

kdominique@rsu22.us



Subject: Important Update Regarding Unsolicited Food at RSU #22

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The health, safety, and well-being of our students is our top priority. We are writing to inform you that, according to the RSU #22 Wellness Regulation, we will "Not allow unsolicited food for children in the schools during the school day".

In order to maintain a safe environment for students with severe food allergies and to ensure equitable practices during celebrations we will be adhering to this "no outside food" rule for all classrooms and school events.

Going forward, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- No Outside Food: Only snacks and home lunches for your student are permissible.
- No Homemade Treats: Homemade cakes, cupcakes, or baked goods are no longer permitted to be brought in and shared with the class.
- Celebrations and Birthdays: If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday or a special milestone, please consider non-food alternatives such as donating a book to the classroom library, handing out stickers, or bringing in pencils.

Please note that this policy helps us protect children with life-threatening allergies and ensures that all students are included equally in classroom activities.

If your child has specific dietary restrictions, medical conditions, or requires accommodations, please contact the school nurse or main office so we can make the necessary arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and partnership in keeping our school a safe and healthy place to learn.

Incredible 5-Point Scale

At Smith School, we use the Incredible 5-Point Scale to help your child understand and express their emotions. This simple tool teaches students to recognize how they're feeling and gives them strategies to manage their emotions in healthy ways. By learning to identify their feelings, students can make better choices about how to respond and stay calm throughout their day.

	Looks Like	Feels Like	Looks & Sounds Like
5		Super Mad	Screaming Yelling Throwing things
4		Frustrated	Face is hot Say mean things Do things without thinking
3		Upset / Over Excited	Bothered Annoyed I don't want to talk about it
2		Ok	I will try I will listen I will feel good about it when I'm done!
1		Good to Go!	Interested I can do this Calm Happy

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Oct 22: Open Doors family resource night, 4–6 PM

Friday, October 23: Boo Bingo, 5:30-7:00 PM

Wednesday, October 28: All School Share; Survey closes

Friday, October 30: Autumn Dress Up Day

November 2- November 6: Book Fair

Monday, November 9: Picture retake; PIE meeting 5:00 @ Smith School
Wednesday, November 11: No School: Veterans Day
Thursday, November 19: Parent/Teacher conferences after school hours
Monday, November 23: Parent/Teacher conferences after school hours
Tuesday, November 24: Early dismissal at 11:30; Parent/Teacher conferences (PM)

Volunteer

We are always looking for volunteers to help with photocopying and laminating. If you are interested, please fill out a volunteer form, and we'll be in touch. [Volunteer Form](#)

Lunch and Tardies

If your child arrives after 10:00 AM, we will only be able to offer a choice lunch - PB&J (rather than the main hot meal) because of the additional prep time needed for the main entree. Please note the only difference is the entree — all students will still have access to the salad bar. Thank you.

Dismissal Reminder/Change of plans

If your child will have a change in their after-school plans, the office must be notified no later than 1:00 PM. This will ensure that your child's updated schedule reaches their classroom teacher on time. Thank you for your cooperation. Please send all changes to afternoon plans to: Smithoffice@rsu22.us.

"Bell to Bell Law"

Community Events

This website will provide you with information about events, sign-ups for clubs, etc., available to your children. Please check often. We will be putting flyers, etc., directly into this folder.

Parent Handbook

[View the Parent Handbook](#)

SCHOOL LETTER DAYS



October



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 E	2 F
5 A	6 B	7 C	8 D	9 Early Dismissal
12 Holiday	13 E	14 F	15 A	16 B
19 C	20 D	21 E	22 F	23 A
26 B	27 C	28 D	29 E	30 F

OCTOBER MENU

OCTOBER		LEROY SMITH SCHOOL		2026	
BREAKFAST					
Includes Juice, Milk, Cereal, Fruit, Grains, & More. Each day of the week has a feature that rotates monthly.					
Banana Bread	Mini Pancakes	Egg Sandwich	Muffins	Warm Donuts	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
LUNCH					
Includes Milk, Fruit, and Salad Bar each day. Check the cafeteria menu board for Chef's Specials and Peanut Butter & Jelly Meal.					
SALAD & FRUIT BAR Offered at Lunch Every Day 		MAINE APPLE CRUNCH DAY On Wed Oct 14 we will be celebrating with students from across the state by crunching down on a local apple at noon to make one big CRUNCH! 		1 DELI SANDWICHES choice of Ham, Turkey, Cheese & Veggie toppings Pickled Red Onions Chips	2 Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 
5 Chicken Sandwich Crispy chicken on a whole grain bun with choice of sauces and toppings. Smiley Fries	6 Emoji Waffles Whole Grain waffles with syrup Sausage Strawberries	7 Hot Dog Steamed frankfurter in a toasted bun Baked Beans Potato Salad	8 Marinara Meatballs Italian meatballs in tomato marinara sauce Mozzarella Cheese Garlic Knot	9 SNACK PACK TO GO early dismissal	
12 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY  NO SCHOOL	13 Sloppy Joe Sandwich USDA Ground beef with zesty sauce on a whole wheat bun French Fries	APPLE CRUNCH DAY Popcorn Chicken Crispy white chicken baked golden brown with choice of sauces Italian Veggie Pasta Salad	15 Asian Noodle Bowl Whole grain noodles with carrot, onion, & broccoli in a sweet chili sauce	16 Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
19 Pasta & Meat Sauce Our spaghetti sauce is made in house with herbs, spices, and ground beef Dinner Roll	20 Chicken BLT Pasta Salad All white chicken tossed with Ranch sauce, bacon, tomato spinach, & whole grain pasta	21 Walking Tacos Served with seasoned beef, cheese, salsa, and toppings Mexican Street Corn	22 DELI SANDWICHES choice of Ham, Chicken Salad Cheese, & Veggie toppings Chips	23 Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
26 BBQ Chicken Tender pieces of chicken roasted with tangy BBQ sauce Smiley Fries Breadstick	27 French Toast Sticks Baked whole grain french toast served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, Sausage & Hashbrown	28 Chicken Nuggets with Dipping Sauces Italian Veggie Pasta Salad	29 Mac & Cheese Baked Pasta with a creamy cheese sauce Garlic Knot	30 Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special Halloween Cookie	
Menu Subject to Change. This institution is and equal opportunity provider.					

2026–2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August				
M	T	W	Th	F
17	18	19	20 Sped NT	21 NT
24	25 Ed Techs TP	26 M	27 I	28 I
31 Gr. 1-9				
September				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1 Gr 1-12 UTC	2	3	4
7 H	8 (Pre-K - K 1st day)	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		
October				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9 ED
12 H	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
November				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11 H	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24 ED	25 C	26 H	27 V
30				
December				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23 V	24 V	25 H
28 V	29 V	30 V	31 V	
January				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1 H
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18 H	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
February				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12 ED
15 H	16 V	17 V	18 V	19 V
22	23	24	25	26
March				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12 I
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
April				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16 ED
19 H	20 V	21 V	22 V	23 V
26	27	28	29	30
May				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28 ED
31 H				
June				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11 ED
14 I	15	16	17	18



Email: dmoore@rsu22.us

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Phone: [207-223-4282](tel:207-223-4282)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/smithschoolwinterportfrankfort>



Dawn Moore

Dawn is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters