



Learning Update March 30, 2022

Please continue to follow the CDC recommendations for layered mitigation strategies which can include, social distancing, hand-washing, masking, and vaccination. Important reminder to keep your children home if they are sick. Take care and please stay healthy.

NEW UPDATES

- **Vision of A Graduate** - What do you want our graduates to know and be able to do when they leave Mascenic Regional School District? We welcome you to participate in this project which will require a few moments of your time, on the phone, in person, or virtually. If you are interested in contributing, please call Katie Desrochers at 603-291-2008 to have a conversation with Superintendent Martin. We hope to collect data to support goal setting for our district and the future of this community. Thank you for your consideration.
- **Important Message and Survey from the Department of Education:** The New Hampshire Department of Education values your feedback and wants to hear from you! The **603 Bright Futures Survey** is an opportunity for you to tell us about your child's educational experience and your experience with your child's school. To ensure we understand the successes and challenges of the recent school year and use that information to plan for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year, we need your feedback. **We Value Your Voice!** The [Family Surveys](#), which are available in English and Spanish, will be open from March 14 to April 29, and family members will be able to take the survey online whenever is most convenient. The surveys will also be accessible on the [New Hampshire Department of Education's](#) website. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful responses. We are excited to receive feedback and continue our efforts to ensure bright futures for all New Hampshire students.
- **Updated 2021-2022 School Calendar** - The school board approved making June 10, 2022 the last day of school for students. The updated school calendar has been posted online. It can be found under the For Families tab, and by following this link: <https://5il.co/17ufm>
- **2022-2023 School Calendar** has been posted online and can be found under the For Families tab, and by following this link: <https://5il.co/17u1d>
- **Kudos to the National Honor Society** on their successful Red Cross blood drive. The goal was to collect 24 units of blood, which they surpassed by

collecting 29 units of blood! Due to the generosity of our community and the great work of the NHS students, the Red Cross has asked them to do an additional drive in the Fall, as well as their customary Spring one. Well Done!

- **Scholarships for Seniors:** Please know that seniors can access scholarship opportunities including local community scholarships through the Counseling Center, Naviance, and the Scholarship binder located in the Senior Lounge.
- **The Mascenic Athletic Boosters Scholarship Opportunity:** The Booster Club has two \$1,000 scholarships available to graduating senior athletes (Male/Female) this spring. The application information and form is below. Applicants must be graduating Mascenic athletes that have played at least one Mascenic sport. The application deadline is May 1st.
 - ☰ **1. Mascenic Boosters Scholarship Application Information**
- **Mascenic Regional School District is looking for input from the community regarding the possibility of having a full-day kindergarten option. Note: there will be no changes in Kindergarten programming for the 2022/2023 school year. If you haven't already, we ask you to please complete the survey by following the link below. Thank you!**
<https://forms.gle/a75qdwtr8KZW8c4i8>
- **Open positions - We are seeking to fill the following positions: Special Education Paraprofessional at Mascenic Regional High School; Preschool Paraprofessional, Kindergarten Paraprofessional, and Special Education Paraprofessional at Highbridge Hill; and, substitute teachers. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, please visit the website to apply!** <https://www.mascenic.org/page/employment-opportunities>
- **Free Summer Math Challenge:** The Quantile Summer Math Challenge is a free, six-week program that helps your child practice math skills taught during the school year. When you enroll your child, you'll get access to daily fun activities and resources designed for your child's grade and ability level. The 2022 Summer Math Challenge will begin on Monday, June 20th. Check out the details by following this link:  Summer-Math-Challenge-Flyer.pdf
- **The NH Department of Education has a new program called [Yes Every Student Scholarship Program](#)** Many families made significant financial sacrifices in order to allow their children to successfully continue on their pre-pandemic educational pathways or to access a new educational environment that met their needs. Sustaining these short-term sacrifices will be difficult. The YES! program will allow those families, and others whose educational pathways were disrupted, to keep their children on a strong educational trajectory.

The NH DOE will provide direct relief to families in need. Over a transitional year, these scholarship opportunities will allow students to have an uninterrupted educational pathway. Funds are limited, so check it out today!

- **Reminder to check the emails/messages from your child's school!** You'll find information about drama club donations, athletics, music events, dances, school events, etc! i.e. BMS is looking for donations of hangers, gently used costumes and flat sheets for their drama club.
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HIGHLIGHTS FROM PREVIOUS MESSAGING

- **A warm welcome and congratulations to Ms. Julia Coquillette.** Ms. Coquillette will be joining the Mascenic Team beginning in July as principal of Highbridge Hill Elementary School.
- **Congratulations to Dr. Elizabeth Pogorzelski!** Dr. Pogorzelski will be taking the helm as Principal of Mascenic Regional High School beginning in July.
- **New Covenant Church Food Pantry: FYI -** The food pantry at New Covenant Church in Greenville has expanded significantly due to their new partnership with the New Hampshire Food Bank. They still have the flexibility to serve anyone who walks in the door without requesting family information. They simply ask for the number of people in the household. But they now have a much greater quantity and variety of food. It's currently operating on Tuesdays from 12 to 2, but that time frame may expand as well.
- **Potential School Milk Shortage -** As you may have seen on the local news, H.P. Hood, our milk vendor, experienced a significant cyberattack that has shut down all operations within their company. As Hood is by far the largest producer of milk in 8 oz packaging in New England, this attack will affect the majority of school nutrition programs throughout New England. Fresh Picks is currently working with all of their vendors to source other milk products and substitutes. In the event that we are unable to obtain milk, we will be offering students either bottled water or 100% juice.
- **Rekindling Curiosity Program.** The New Hampshire Department of Education is once again partnering with summer camps and school age summer programs across the state. Discounts are being offered for these programs in an effort for children to experience some fun summer opportunities! Spaces are limited, so you need to act quickly. Information can be found by following this link: <https://rekindlingcuriosityeducation.nh.gov/>
 2022RekindlingCuriosityHandout8.5x11.pdf
- **Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests.** Each family in the U.S. can now receive four free at home COVID-19 tests. Just follow the link <https://www.covidtests.gov> and order yours today.

- **Parent/Guardian COVID-19 Isolation & Quarantine Update** has been posted. See the updated information by following the link: <https://5il.co/14h0c>

- **Important Message from our School Nursing Team:** Please do not send students to school with any symptoms of illness and to be sure to report illness, covid exposures, positive cases, and travel to the school nurse. For any questions, our School Nursing Team can be reached at:

HHES: Ms.Kristy Zina 878-4387 ext. 2012

BMS: Ms. Lindsay Heaphy 878-4800 ext. 3005

MRHS: Ms. Abigail Nichols 878-1113 ext. 4005

- **New Hampshire Rapid Response Access Point**

NH DHHS has created a hotline that provides 24/7 access to mental health and/or substance use crisis support via telephone, text and chat services. If you or someone else is in need of support, dial **988**. More information can be found at: <https://www.nh988.com/>

- Dr. Martin has instructed our nurses to only answer school email and their school phones as it relates to student care, specifically, anything related to Covid-19. It is not fair to expect our nurses to answer calls from families, or staff, after hours. When in doubt about whether your child should go to school or not, keep them out and call the nurse during school hours. You may also email the building principal, but again, your inquiry may not be responded to until school hours. As always, if you have a medical emergency, please consult with your family physician. Also, please refer to the linked document for guidance regarding quarantine and isolation. [Quarantine and Isolation requirements](#).
- If your child is absent from school due to COVID-19 quarantine, please know that these absences are excused.
- Our website has been updated to reflect the current positive cases in the district, as well as important information concerning self observation and quarantine rules, maintaining masking and suspected cases. <https://www.mascenic.org/page/resources>

Snow Days - In the event of a weather emergency at some point this year, Dr. Martin will send out a robo call and text message to inform the community that our schools are closed for the day. We will be returning to a traditional snow day format.

- **Message from Voices of the Vikings Co-Editor, Kimberly Leroux:** Voices of the Vikings is a creative writing journal dedicated to showing off Mascenic's creative side! The journal features fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and artwork from Mascenic high school students and staff, and the journal can be found on the Mascenic High School website at this link: <https://sites.google.com/mascenic.org/voicesofthevikings/home>! We are constantly updating the website, and we are hoping to extend our journal across the district in the future!
- **The River Center has some great winter programs scheduled. You can check them out at:** <https://www.rivercenternh.org>
- **The District would like to send a huge THANK YOU** out to all staff who have truly stepped up to cover classes of their colleagues in all areas during this latest increase in COVID transmission. Your dedication to our school district is impressive and greatly appreciated!
- **A warm welcome to Mr. Russell Wilson** who is joining the Mascenic Regional High School team as the automotive teacher!
- **Congratulations to Wyatt Antos**, a 3rd grader in Ms. Knight's class at HHES, for winning the Annual Report Cover Contest. The Annual Reports will be available at the Deliberative Session on February 2, 2022.
- **Mascenic Regional High School has several students and a coach being recognized this fall! Congratulations to all for these achievements and accolades.**

Autumn Hughes has earned New Hampshire All State honors for Treble Choir, and will be performing later in the school year with many other New Hampshire students.

James Crawford has been selected as Mascenic's recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) award. Students selected for this reward are recognized as exemplary citizens in our community. James will be recognized at the State House in the spring.

Annika Martel was chosen as the Division III Player of the Year in girls' volleyball, along with Lyla Buxton and Kenzie Cormier being named Division III All State 2nd team.

Karen Gibson was named the Division III Girls Volleyball Coach of the year.

- We would like to notify you that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has now authorized the emergency use of a COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11.

The decision to receive a vaccine or have your child receive a vaccine is one for you and your medical provider to determine. No vaccines will be administered to minor children without the advance approval of you as a parent or caregiver.

The State of New Hampshire has preordered an initial 15,000 doses of the vaccine for this age population, which will be distributed to more than 200 health care providers. In addition, there are currently about 70 pharmacy sites throughout the state that will be offering this vaccine to children ages 5 to 11. These sites include select CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid, Osco, Hannaford, Walmart and Sams Club locations.

To access a map that highlights the various pharmacy sites in New Hampshire where the vaccines are available for these younger children, visit [vaccine-sites-map-children.pdf \(nh.gov\)](https://www.nh.gov/vaccine-sites-map-children.pdf).

Thank you for your flexibility and resilience throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Class of 2021** - thank you for waiting so patiently after a challenging COVID year! Your yearbooks have arrived! Graduates and/or family members can pick up yearbooks at MRHS on Friday, October 29th, between 11:30 - 2:00. A station will be set up by the side door near the art room/ gym corridor.

Please hurry - we had 12 extra books and 3 have already sold. Email Ms. Scanlon at mscanlon@mascenic.org to purchase a book before they are sold out, or to make separate arrangements for pickup. **Go Class of 2021!**

- **Congratulations to the Mascenic Boys Golf Team for winning the Division IV State Championship!!!**
- **Thank you to the community and the Mascenic Athletic Boosters for an exciting and successful Homecoming! Also, congratulations to Conner Traffie for winning the Viking 5K and to Highbridge Hill Elementary School for winning the award for most participation from a school!**
- **Attention Families: Please share the following information with any homeschool families that you are aware of.**
- **High School Homeschool students: Mr. Mellish would welcome any to participate in Band or Chorus at Mascenic Regional High School. Please contact Mr. Mellish at: jmellish@mascenic.org**
- **Middle School Homeschool students are welcome to participate in our band/chorus program at the middle school. Please email Ms. Marelllo at amarrello@mascenic.org. Band is every other day during student's Unified Arts time. Chorus is Tuesday at 1:45 for grades 5 and 6 and Thursday at 1:45 for grades 7 and 8.**
- **The following link provides useful information about proper masking. Please know that this is the information we rely upon when masks are required to be worn.**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>



Have two or more layers of washable (or disposable), breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps



Have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask



Wear a gaiter with two layers, or fold it to make two layers

- **Seeking Bus Drivers!** Community Transportation is seeking part- time Bus Drivers. Excellent opportunity for parents and grandparents! Clean driving record and a good attitude a must, training is provided. Please call Community Transportation at 603-532-4079 or email them at commtran@gmail.com to apply or for more information.

- **USDA Waiver for Food Services:** The USDA has extended the waiver that allows ALL Students to receive free meals through the 2021-2022 school year. This waiver, set to expire on June 30, 2022, allows all students to have a no charge breakfast and lunch at school each day as long as they choose a fruit or vegetable with their meals. These meals are provided free of charge as part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, USDA Food & Nutrition Service waiver. More information can be found here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/covid-19/parents-and-guardians-waiver>
- **MealTime application for Free and Reduced Lunch:** The MealTime Apply Online application is NOW online and on our website www.mascenic.org. We have received significantly fewer applications this year than last. While all meals are free at this time the waiver is temporary. However, we will need to know who qualifies for assistance moving forward. Click on the link for the application: <https://www.mymealtime.com/Apps/SignIn.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fApps%2f> Please know that meal delivery is not available for the 2021/2022 school year.
- **The bus routes have been posted to the website. Please check it out by following the link:** <https://mascenicnh.sites.thrillshare.com/browse/245389>
- **Important Message regarding buses: After consulting with our attorney, we must comply with the CDC and require masking on the school buses.**
- **Substitute Teacher Application Information:** If you are interested in substitute teaching, we have placed a copy of our application in our Parent Resource section on our website that you may print out and complete (*please scroll down through the documents in the Parent Resource section to see "MRSD Employment Application"*). If you would like to pick up a paper copy, please call Katie Desrochers at the SAU office at 291-2008. Once you have completed your application, you may scan it and email it to Katie Desrochers kdesrochers@mascenic.org or drop it by the SAU office at 16 School Street, Greenville. Once we have your completed application, we will call to set up an interview with you.
- Our process for being hired as a substitute teacher in our district consists of the following:
 - Completed employment application

- Interviewing with one of our administrators
- Reference checks conducted
- Once you have been approved to substitute, we will then have you complete the following:
 - Criminal Background Check
 - Completion of W-4 Employee Withholding Certificate, I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification form
 - Direct Deposit Form
 - Substitute availability form

Please call Katie Desrochers at 291-2008 with any questions.

- **NH DHHS recently released an updated FAQs for Covid-19 education:** Please visit our Parent Resources page (in the Covid-19 section) for more information.

- **NH Housing Relief Organization:** Are you on the verge of losing your housing due to COVID-19? Do you have past-due housing related expenses that may impact your ability to remain housed? The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery has announced the New Hampshire Housing Relief Program, an initiative designed to keep people from losing their housing and to secure or maintain permanent housing. Applications are available now. Please contact us today! www.capnh.org or call 2-1-1 from any NH phone. Please visit our Parent Resource section on our website www.mascenic.org (click on the COVID-19 Resources link) for more information.

- **Covid-19 Data Dashboard:** The set of dashboards below is designed to provide an overview of the current and past state of COVID-19 in New Hampshire. Please click on the link below to access the dashboard:
 - <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/overview.htm#dash>