



NH Scholars Scoop

Fall Expectations Resume for Active Schools

Students are back from summer break and eager to challenge themselves this year. Let's kick off another year of New Hampshire Scholars by offering our students various ongoing reinforcement activities.

Fall To-Do List

Schedule presentations for your students today. Integrate the New Hampshire Scholars message into your guidance meetings and student advisory groups.

- ⇒ Introductory presentation to 9th graders
- ⇒ Grades 10-12 assembly program overview
- ⇒ Connect with current business partners (*schedule at least 2 meetings with this group this year*)

- ⇒ Reach out to new business volunteers
- ⇒ Post program details and information on your school's website (*this may be the best way to inform parents*)
- ⇒ Continue recruiting new students to sign on
- ⇒ Provide monthly activities for your students to reinforce the message (*either business presentations or other outreach efforts*)
- ⇒ Work with local newspapers to gain recognition for your efforts
- ⇒ Attend the November 18th event (see below)

Please contact us if you need assistance with materials, scheduling programs,

contacting businesses or PowerPoint presentations.

Please share details about your outreach programs when you schedule them. spower@nhcuc.org



Brand new materials will be available soon and mailed directly to schools to help inform your students

There is no better time than the fall for interested schools to join the State Scholars Initiative. Timing is perfect to introduce the program to current students in grades 9-12 and to prepare 8th graders for winter course selection. Call today to schedule a planning meeting at your school.

School/Business Event Set for November 18th

On November 18, 2008 New Hampshire Scholars will host a breakfast event to heighten awareness on the importance of school/business partnerships.

Online registration will be available shortly. Educators from K-12, Higher Ed and interested business/

community leaders are invited to attend.

Schools and businesses are encouraged to strengthen their collaborations and create new ones at this free event. Attendees will learn strategies on ways to establish strong partners and hear from experts on

the importance of meaningful collaboration.

A reminder email will be sent in October to register. [Click here for the save the date flyer.](#)

Tuesday, November 18
8-11am
Courtyard Marriott, Concord

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Resources on the web in New Hampshire

- www.NHscholars.org
- www.VisitNHcolleges.org
- www.internsnh.com
- www.nhcuc.org
- www.compactNH.org
- www.NHfuture.org
- www.collegeaccess.org
- www.collegereadyne.org
- www.vlacs.org (Virtual HS)
- www.ed.state.nh.us/i4see

School Spotlight

Hello Fall Mountain Regional School District!



There are 11 active Scholars districts. The program began in 2007 with six pilot schools.

This summer New Hampshire added its 11th school district. SAU 60 provides education to students residing in Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, Langdon and Walpole.

As with many other districts, Fall Mountain is looking to heighten expectations in their students. Hearing this constant message from New Hampshire's colleges and employers will bring instant relevance to student's course work.

More schools to join soon!

Please contact Scott Power at (603) 225-4199 x300 or spower@nhcuc.org to schedule a planning meeting at your school. Remember, participating in State Scholars is free. Check out some of the advantages:

- ◆ Seamless integration into guidance, school-to-career and advisories
- ◆ Opportunity to evaluate academic curriculum and course offerings

- ◆ Develop business and community support to reinforce the message
- ◆ Enhance 4-year plan and course selection planning with students
- ◆ Increase financial aid potential for students
- ◆ Motivating incentives for all students
- ◆ Increase expectations
- ◆ Recognition for students
- ◆ Heighten public perception with positive PR

Data Collection

We encourage new schools to upload data this academic year. We can provide support for your data upload and help you get started.

Schools who use *Power-school* can request a template on how to upload data to i.4.see.

Schools are encouraged to begin using *Performance Pathways* on the i.4.see data

system.

Longitudinal data follows the performance of individual students over time. It enhances snapshot data and provides an opportunity for greater mining of information. Most states are still simply using **snapshot data**. New Hampshire is fortunate to have a longitudinal system now in place.

Visit www.NHscholars.org/Article.cfm for ways schools can use longitudinal data to help better prepare teachers for incoming students.

Did you know?

Winnisquam Regional High School doubled enrollment in chemistry and Algebra II Honors and tripled enrollment in CP Physics last year.

Who do I contact with questions about data?

Cyndy Currier
ccurrier@mac.com

Michael Schwartz
mschwartz@ed.nh.state.us

Scott Power
spower@nhcuc.org

Financial Aid



College is the best investment you will ever make in your life.

Should current seniors be concerned about paying for college next fall?

With the hype surrounding the student loan crisis and a struggling economy, students and families need to become more savvy on finding the "right fit college."

Colleges claim that more students enrolled this fall than last and applications increased

as well, meaning that students were not left out in the cold after all.

How can families today prepare themselves for next year's tuition bill?

- Do their homework early
- Research college costs, aid options and loan possibilities now

- Get a handle on personal budget and know exactly what their can afford. Calculate an early EFC at www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov
- Ensure there are ample options when comparing award packages. Be sure to apply to a diverse list of 6-8 schools. This will provide the family multiple offers to choose from.



Seniors Applying to College

Last year New Hampshire schools graduated 145 New Hampshire Scholars students.

Forty-one (41) of those seniors graduated from high schools who just joined the program, meaning that these seniors had already completed the rigorous course of study required by State Scholars.

While the program's premise is to develop 4-year plans and begin implementation as early as eighth grade,

this year's senior class should be taking full advantage of the program as well.

Encourage seniors to join this fall so that the New Hampshire Scholar designation can be included on their transcript prior to mailing college applications.

The most important component in a college application is the high school transcript. Colleges want to examine what that student has done over four years and whether he/she has challenged

themselves. With twenty-five states actively participating in State Scholars, colleges across the country will recognize this designation.

Advantages for seniors to join State Scholars:

1. Positively impact college's first impression
2. Increase opportunity for Federal grants including the Academic Competitiveness Grant and SMART Grant

Q: I am not planning to major in chemistry or physics. Why should I enroll in these courses?

A: Colleges require at least three years of a lab-based science. Studies show that students learn problem solving, critical thinking and analytical thinking skills directly from high school chemistry and physics classes.

Ongoing reinforcement from outreach services and business leaders will help students find relevance in the classes they are taking.

Create a Speakers Bureau for Your Students

Constant reinforcement of the State Scholars message is essential to making this program a success for your students. A good way to do this is by supplementing New Hampshire Scholars with additional workshops.

Please consider these free outreach resources in addition to your local business partners.

New Hampshire Scholars can help schedule these programs or contact them directly.

- *Career Training Concepts* Offers a wide range of workshops including interviewing & resume building. www.careertrain.com, youcanschoolprogram.com
- *Monster's Making it Count* Offers programs for every grade level in high school

including college prep, careers, financial aid & financial literacy. Learn more at www.makingitcount.com

- Various college planning programs by the *Center for College Planning* at NHHEAF. They offer day-time and evening programs for grades 8-12. www.nhheaf.org

When business volunteers reinforce the importance of high-level skills and explain the relevance of rigorous courses... students listen.

Program Highlighted on WMUR Channel 9

Are our students ready for college and career? Thirty-two percent (32%) of New Hampshire eighth graders take Algebra compared to the nation's top states at 56%. Nine percent (9%) of New Hampshire's 11th and 12th-graders take AP exams versus 18% in the nation's top states. (Achieve, Inc 2005)

That said, there are programs, such as State Scholars, that are quickly changing the expectations beginning in 8th grade.

Last year, active State Scholars schools saw increased student enrollment in rigorous core courses particularly math and science.

As schools and business communities come together to form a strong alliance advocating for course rigor and increased skill sets, students will accept this challenge.

Visit <http://www.wmur.com/video/17339136/index.html> to watch the August 31 segment on WMUR Channel 9.



Fred Kocher, NH's Business

By 2012, 88% of New Hampshire's fastest growing jobs will require college or training beyond high school. How prepared are students in New Hampshire for life after high school?



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College Ready, Work Ready, Ready for Life.



New Hampshire Scholars is part of the State Scholars Initiative, a national program that brings business leaders into the classroom to motivate students, beginning in Grade 8, to complete a rigorous course of study in high school—one that will give them a boost in college and careers. New Hampshire Scholars encourages and motivates ALL high school students to complete a rigorous course of study that prepares them for college and careers.



This is a Federal grant-funded program developed and administered through a partnership between the New Hampshire College and University Council, Campus Compact for New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Forum on the Future, the New Hampshire Department of Education and the National State Scholars Initiative Network.

Visit www.NHscholars.org for more information.
Click on the "Resources" tab for archived newsletters.

In the News...

College Week Live www.collegeweeklive.com

CollegeWeekLive (CWL) is a virtual college fair to help prospective students in their college planning by connecting them with colleges in a live, interactive environment. The next CollegeWeekLive college fair is scheduled for November 12th and 13th 2008 and will focus on the college search and application process. Hundreds of schools from across the country and around the world as well as the top speakers in the field will participate.

Attendance is free.

Public Perception of Higher Education

There is a growing public perception that higher education is an absolute necessity for success in today's world.

The number of Americans who believe that higher education is essential for a decent job and place in American society has jumped from 31% in 2000 to 50% in 2007.

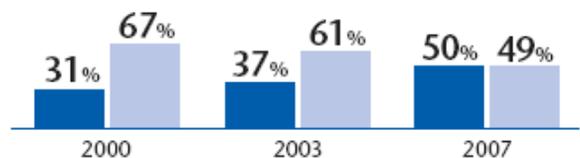
The majority of Americans believe employers are less likely to hire people without degrees even though they could do the job.

The percentage of Americans who believe someone can succeed without college has fallen steadily, down 18% since 2000.

Do you think that a college education is necessary for a person to be successful in today's work world, or do you think that there are many ways to succeed in today's work world without a college education?

Percent who say that:

■ College is necessary. ■ There are other ways to succeed.



Figures courtesy of The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, August 2008