

For Immediate release
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Contact: Scott Power
603-225-4199 x300

NH SCHOLARS GRADUATION TO SET NEW RECORD

*2,000 Students from 43 Schools to be
Honored for Academic Achievement*

Concord –You can't really call it the road less traveled anymore. 2,000 high school students and their families will celebrate an important milestone in Concord this month. They will receive their NH Scholars diploma for completing the most challenging courses their schools have to offer. The concept: Tougher classes build better skills and boost chances for gaining acceptance into college and better careers. The four year old program has quickly spread through New Hampshire schools as a growing number of young people voluntarily take on more rigorous academic programs to reach their life goals.

On May 25th, **2,000 high school seniors** in New Hampshire will be recognized for having completed the NH Scholars program. Governor John Lynch and Education Commissioner Virginia Barry will be on hand to congratulate the students and offer them words of congratulations.

“We are thrilled to see so many young people accepting the challenge of NH Scholars and succeeding,” explains Scott Power, Director of the NH Scholars Initiative. “Since we began this initiative, there are more students choosing core classes like physics, foreign languages and advanced math. These classes provide our graduates with a more competitive skill set and they are more likely to be admitted to the college of their choice and secure the career of their dreams.” The NH Scholars Initiative urges students in all 43 participating communities to be aggressive with their course schedules. Four years of English, three years of math and lab-based science, three and a half years of social science and two years of foreign language.”

Graduation rates in participating towns have increased and more students are going to college. “These students have worked incredibly hard for all four years. They are our future. They deserve a special recognition and we are glad to provide that for them.”

All 2,000 NH Scholars will receive medallions marking the achievement. Several representatives of New Hampshire’s colleges and universities will be on hand to congratulate the graduating class of 2011. The founding organization for State Scholars is the New Hampshire College & University Council (NHCUC), a consortium of 17 public and private colleges and universities in the state of New Hampshire. “We are incredibly proud of the effort and dedication of these young people,” says Tom Horgan, President and CEO of NHCUC. “Today’s graduates are tomorrow’s skilled workforce. I believe we are in very good hands.”

WHAT: NH SCHOLARS GRADUATION

WHO: 2,000 High School Students + Families, Gov. John Lynch, NH Education Commissioner Virginia Barry, Chancellor Dr. Dick Gustafson of NH Community College System of NH

WHERE: NH State House Plaza

WHEN: May 25 @ 11:00 AM