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Greetings to our NH Scholars schools.

Thank you to those who attended our Breakfast of Champions Business Education event last Friday. I will send a separate follow up email and photos soon.

With the academic mid-year approaching, three important topics below will be of the utmost interest to you.

1. SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR NH SCHOLARS

As you talk to your students this winter, please make them aware of the following benefits and incentives for successfully completing the NH Scholars program. **High schools are strongly encouraged to indicate NH Scholars on their student's transcript during the fall and winter. Give those students on track to graduate as NH Scholars the advantage of these great benefits and rewards.** If it's not on their transcript, colleges will likely not offer them the same awards.

Our member colleges have designed language providing NH Scholars grads with specific merit award opportunities. Designate on their transcript and have students highlight it in their applications. **See the attached scholarship flyer that describes awards from nearly all of our insitutions.**

- Better prepared for college – more likely to go to college and succeed there
- Better prepared for career – courses help students attain the 21st century skills employers are looking for
- Better candidate for scholarships (both locally and with the colleges)
- Great first impression on college applications
- Gold medallion to wear at graduation
- Foil seal designation on transcript
- Possible business-partner networking/mentoring

2. GOLD MEDALLIONS AND PATHWAYS

With the two new achievement levels this year, STEM and Arts, can a student qualify for multiple pathways?

I would expect most students who qualify for NH Scholars STEM or NH Scholars ARTS, would also qualify for the original NH Scholars Core. So, yes, students may qualify for multiple pathways. Students will only receive one medallion however. While most students will want the STEM or ARTS recognition, I will survey schools later this winter to determine how many medallions/cords need to be ordered.

All NH Scholars will receive the same gold medallion. However, each pathway will be identified with a different colored cord/lanyard. Upon feedback from several schools, students will also receive customized foil seals for their diploma matching the pathway they have achieved. Students will receive one medallion, one foil seal and a certificate. These will be mailed to you prior to your senior award nights.

3. NH SCHOLARS DAY

On May 5, 2016, we will recognize all NH Scholars seniors during a special celebration at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester. Dignitaries and state leaders will offer congratulations and all students/schools/families are invited to stay for the Fisher Cats game immediately following the celebration. Schools should plan to arrive between 9-9:30am. Reserve your buses now. We will pay for your transportation after the event.

I will send you official RSVP forms for tickets and lunches after the New Year. In the meantime, **please complete this very brief survey to confirm your interest in attending.**

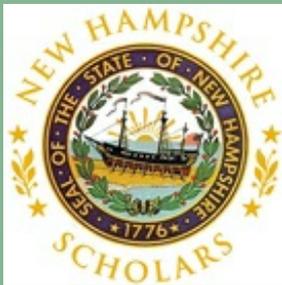
Please remember - we have partnered with The College Board to offer the AP Calculus Exam on May 19, 2016, with no additional fees. This unique opportunity enables all NH Scholars to attend NH Scholars Day.

Thank you for completing the brief survey by clicking here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NW852J9>

Enjoy your holidays. Thank you for your great work on this project. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Merry Christmas!

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