

Merrimack School District/SAU 26
School Board Meeting
Preliminary Agenda
April 4, 2022
Merrimack Town Hall – Matthew Thornton Room

PUBLIC MEETING

- 7:00 p.m. **1. CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 7:05 p.m. **2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- 3. RECOGNITIONS**
- 7:15 p.m. **4. INFORMATIONAL UPDATES**
- a. Superintendent Update
 - b. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Update
 - c. Assistant Superintendent for Business Update
 - d. School Board Update
 - e. Student Representative Update
- 7:25 p.m. **5. OLD BUSINESS**
- a. Approval of 2022-2023 School Year Calendar Cinda Guagliumi
- 7:35 p.m. **6. NEW BUSINESS**
- a. Proposed Eagle Scout Project – Friendship Benches at Reeds Ferry Elementary School Chase Morin,
 - b. Summary of Technology Efforts and Future Projects Bonnie Painchaud
 - c. Curriculum Overview Jason Pelletier
 - d. Approval of Non-Educational Survey, National Youth Tobacco Survey Kimberly Yarlott
 - e. Merrimack High School Senior Withdrawals Everett Olsen
 - f. Other Everett Olsen
- 8:15 p.m. **7. POLICIES**
- a. Second Review of Administration of Federal Grant Funds Policy (DAF) Matt Shevenell
- 8:20 p.m. **7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- a. March 7, 2022 Non-Public Minutes Cinda Guagliumi
 - b. March 21, 2022 Public and Non-Public Minutes
- 8:25 p.m. **8. CONSENT AGENDA**
- a. Educator Resignations/Retirements
 - b. Educator Nominations for 2022-2023 Kimberly Yarlott
 - c. Administrator Nomination Kimberly Yarlott
 - d. Approval of Vision of a High School Graduate
- 8:35 p.m. **9. OTHER**
- a. Committee Reports
 - b. Correspondence
 - c. Comments
- 8:45 p.m. **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**
- 8:55 p.m. **11. ADJOURN to Non-Public Session**
- 9:00 p.m. **12. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3, II (a) (b) (c) (l)**
- Legal
- * These times are estimates and may vary depending on discussion.

Merrimack School District- SAU 26
School Calendar 2022-2023
(Before Labor Day Draft)

Students: 1 MTA: 3

August '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Aug 29- Classroom Set Up

Aug 30- Building Meetings

Aug 31- First Day of School Transition Day

Gr.K,5,7,9 (&new students) Reg Arrival

Returning Students 2hr delay

Students: 20 MTA: 21.5 (info night)

September '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Sept 1 is a full school day for all students

Sept 2- Teacher Workshop- No School

Sept 5- No School- Labor Day

Students: 19 MTA: 20

October '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Oct 7- Teacher Workshop- No School

Oct 10- Columbus/Indigenous people Day

Students: 18 MTA: 19 (conferences)

November '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Nov 11- Veterans Day

Nov 22- Early Release

Nov 23, 24, 25- Thanksgiving Break

Students: 16 MTA: 16

December '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Dec 23-30 Winter Break

KEY

	Teacher Workshop, No School for Students
	First/Last Day of School for Students
	No School, Observed Holiday/Vacation
	Early Release
	Summer Break/Weekends (no school)
	Half Day (June 15 and 16)

Students: 20 MTA: 20

January '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Jan 2- No School

Jan 13- Early Release

Jan 16- No School MLK Jr Day

Students: 18 MTA: 18

February '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Feb 27,28- No School/February Break

Students: 20 MTA: 21 (conferences)

March '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

March 1,2,3 No School/February Break

March 24- Early Release

Students: 15 MTA: 15

April '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

April 24-28 No School/Spring Break

Students: 22 MTA: 22

May '23						
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

May 26, Early Release

May 29- No School Memorial Day

Students: 11 MTA: 11.5

June '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

June 10- Tentative Graduation Date

June 15- Tentative last day for students- ER

June 16- 1/2 day Teacher Workshop

June 16-22 make up

School Start/End Times			
School	Start	End	ER Dismissal
Merrimack Middle School	7:30	2:05	11:00
Merrimack High School	7:30	2:15	11:15
Mastricola Elementary	8:30	2:45	12:15
Reeds Ferry Elementary	8:30	2:45	12:15
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Mastricola Upper Elementary	8:40	2:55	12:25

Important Dates*						
Event	MES	RFS	TFS	MUES	MMS	MHS
Fall Parent Teacher Conferences	November 15 and 17		November 17 & 21	November 9 and 15	October 11, 13, 19	October 20 and 27
Kindergarten Registration	January 9th	January 9th	January 9th	N/A	N/A	N/A
Parent Information Night	September 29		September-TBD	September 22	September-TBD	September- TBD
Spring Parent Teacher Conferences	April 17 and 19		April 13 and 17	February 9 and 15	March 7, 9, 14, 16	
Term/Marking Period End Dates	12/2, 3/10, 6/15	12/2, 3/10, 6/15	12/2, 3/10, 6/15	12/2, 3/10, 6/15	November 4, January 27, April 7, June 15	
Report Cards	12/16, 3/24, 6/16	12/16, 3/24, 6/16	12/16, 3/24, 6/20	12/16, 3/24, 6/20	November 18, February 10, April 21, June 16	
Election Dates	September 13, November 8, April 11					

*Dates above are subject to change with notice

Merrimack School District- SAU 26

School Calendar 2022-2023

(After Labor Day Draft)

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Chase Morin Eagle Scout Project Proposal for Reeds Ferry Elementary School

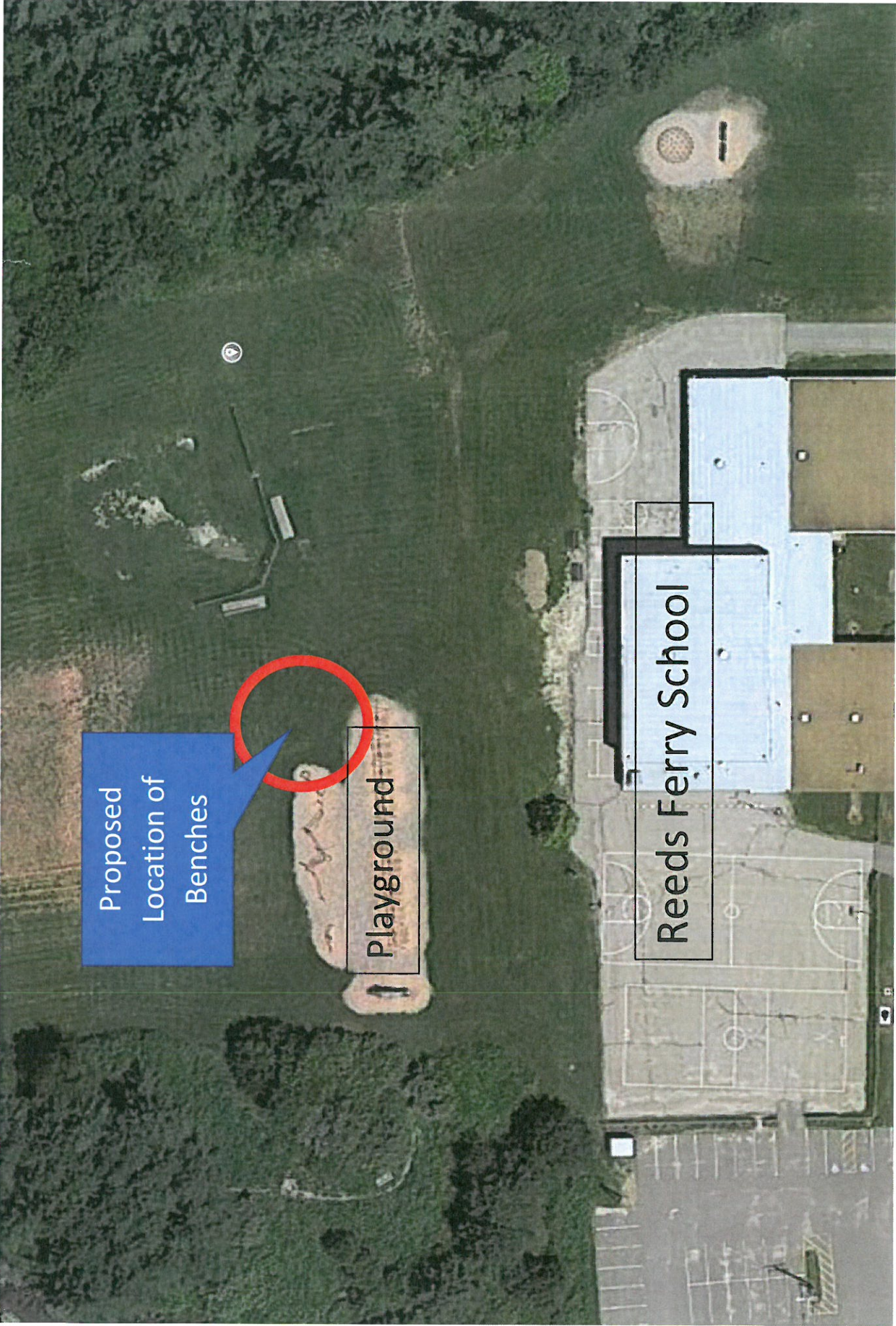
Description: Build Friendship Seating area on the North (3rd and 4th grade) playground at Reeds Ferry Elementary School

Project Cost to school district: \$ 0

Ongoing Maintenance to school: Normal playground maintenance

Estimated Date of Project Work: May 1st through June 30th

Stakeholders: Reeds Ferry School, Laura Livie (Assistant Principal), Tom Touseau (Maintenance director)



Proposed
Location of
Benches

Playground

Reeds Ferry School



Eye Level View of Seating
Area Location

18. in.

8 ft.

Bench Layout

School

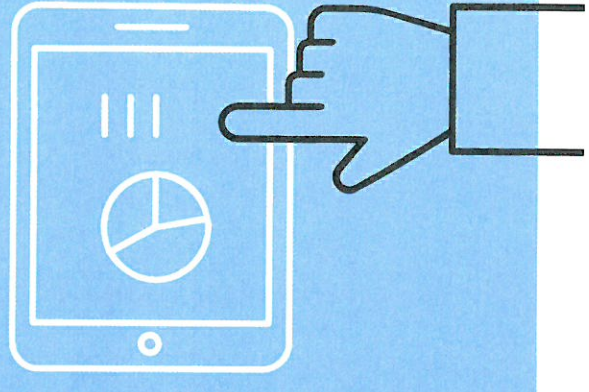
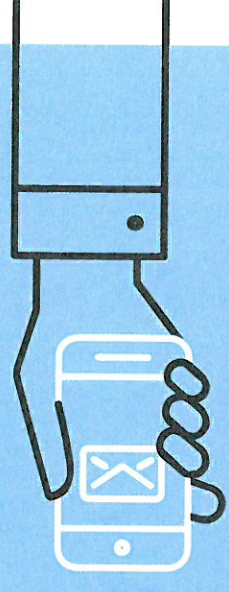
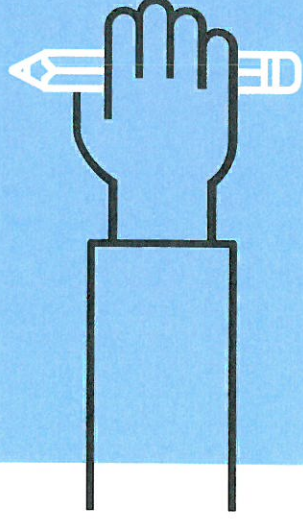
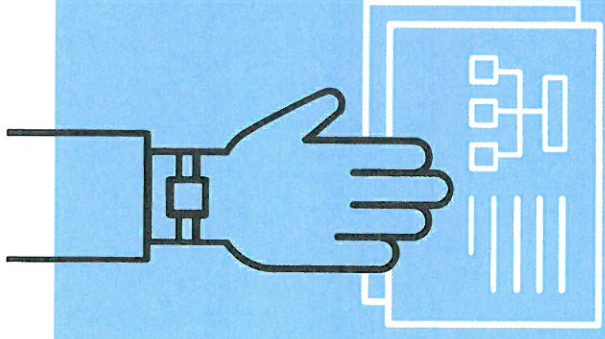
Bench Details:

- 8 ft long
- 18 in wide
- 16-18 in tall (above ground)
- Mounted to concrete below the ground
- 4x4 supports
- Pressure treated wood
- Trex like composite material for top



Merrimack School District

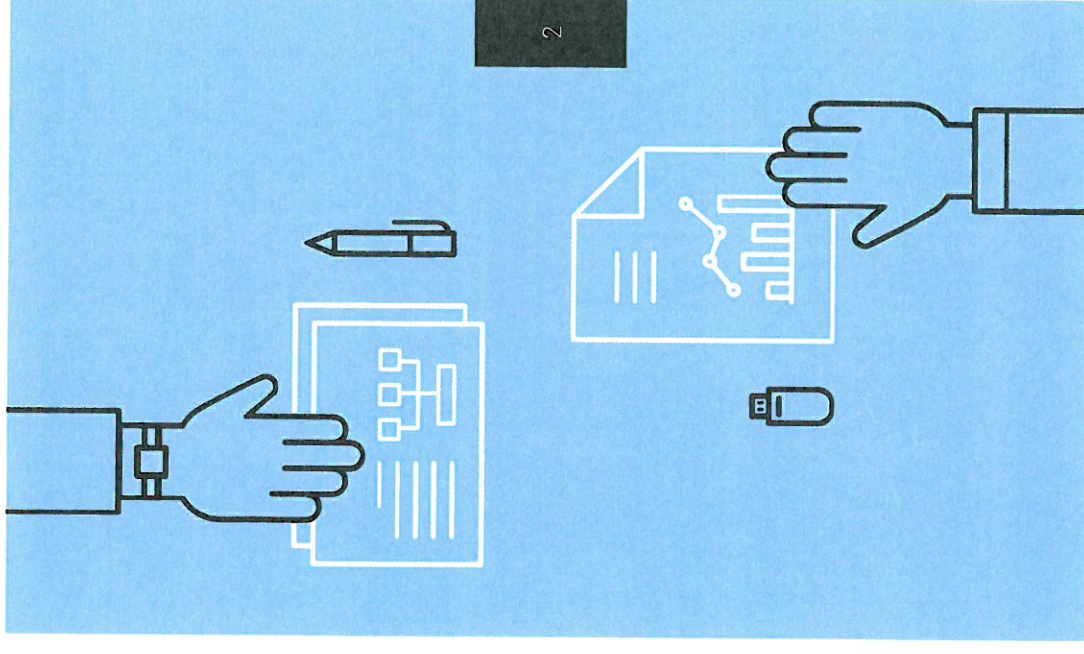
Technology, Learning Systems, and Library



Ingrain Meaningful Use of Technology into the Classroom

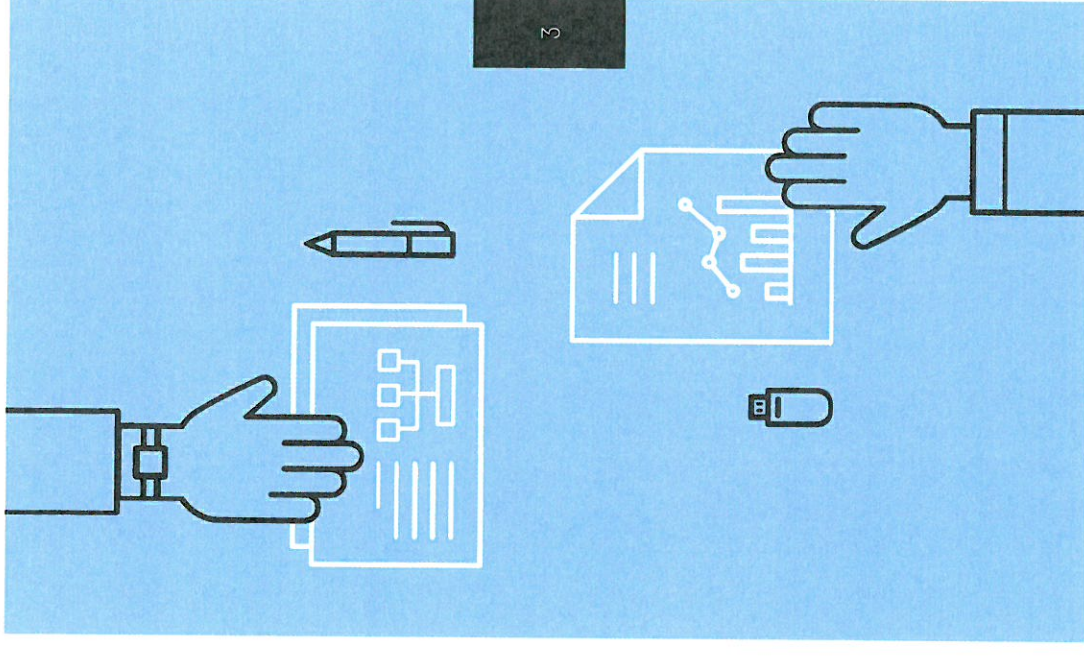
Leverage the resources we already have.

- ▶ Create flexible classroom spaces, both physical and digital
- ▶ Build teacher capacity and skills sets to deliver purposeful, immersive, and impactful lessons using the appropriate educational technology resources



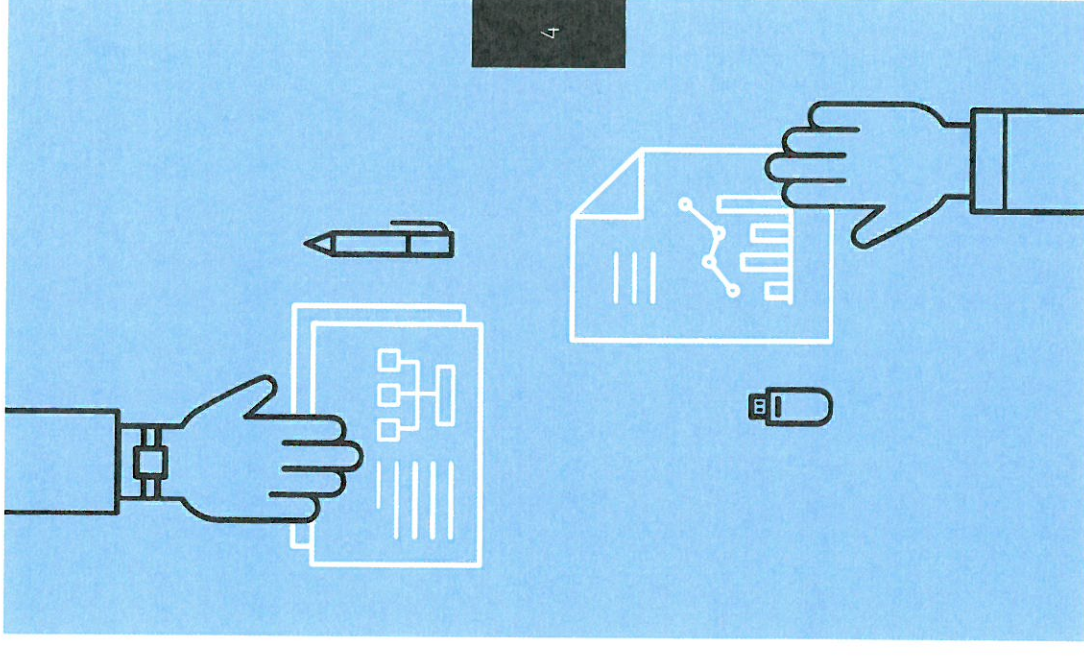
Use Technology to Solve Real Problems and the Problems of the Future

- ▶ Our students need to be prepared to thrive in a world where technology is always changing and build knowledge by exploring real issues and problems.
 - Foster a model of technology use that promotes problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and creation
 - Promote connecting with the community to solve problems locally and globally



How Can We Achieve This?

- ▶ Investing in teachers by giving them purposeful support and training to prepare our students in the best possible ways for their future.
- ▶ Leveraging the expertise of Digital Learning Specialist (DLS) and Library Media Specialist positions to help promote skills needed K-12 to be college and career ready:
 - DLS - critical thinking, problem solving, digital literacy, creation, coaching
 - LMS - critical research skills, increase information literacy, becoming a lifelong learner, community and world connection.
- ▶ Ensure up-to-date technology while also being fiscally responsible doing so.



Thank You!





SocialStudies_K_Unit1_My School & My Family

Unit #: MSD-00131085
Team: Meghan Pearson (Author), Kim Yarlott, Alisha Hansen-Proulx, Jason Pelletier, Kaitlin Soucy, Heather Cummings

Duration: 1.0 Trimester(s)

Grade(s): K
Subject(s): Social Studies

Unit Focus

My School & My Family

Stage 1: Learning Goals

Established Goals

- C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards
 - *Social Studies: K*
 - INDIVIDUALLY AND WITH OTHERS, STUDENTS...
 - Describe roles and responsibilities of people in authority (D2.Civ.1.K-2.)
 - Explain the need for and purposes of rules in various settings inside and outside of school. (D2.Civ.3.K-2.)
 - INDIVIDUALLY AND WITH OTHERS, STUDENTS...
 - Apply civic virtues when participating in school settings. (D2.Civ.7.K-2.)
 - Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions while responding attentively to others when addressing ideas and making decisions as a group. (D2.Civ.9.K-2.)
 - INDIVIDUALLY AND WITH OTHERS, STUDENTS...
 - Explain how people can work together to make decisions in the classroom. (D2.Civ.11.K-2.)
 - Identify and explain how rules function in public (classroom and school) settings. (D2.Civ.12.K-2.)
 - INDIVIDUALLY AND WITH OTHERS, STUDENTS...
 - Explain how scarcity necessitates decision making. (D2.Eco.1.K-2.)
 - Identify the benefits and costs of making various personal decisions. (D2.Eco.2.K-2.)

Long-term Transfer Goal(s)

What kinds of long-term, independent accomplishments are desired? Students will be able to independently use their learning to...

Meaning

Understanding(s)

- What specifically do you want students to understand? What inferences should they make? Students will understand that...*
- U1 Classroom Rules are created by all students in order to prevent and solve problems, insuring a safe and respectful environment for all members
- U2 The health of a community relies on people's active and appropriate participation.

Essential Question(s)

- What thought-provoking questions will foster inquiry, meaning making, and transfer? Students will keep considering...*
- Q1 What is the purpose of rules and how do they keep us safe?
- Q2 Who are the important figures in my school and what is their role?

Acquisition

Knowledge

- What facts and basic concepts should students know and be able to recall? Students will know...*
- K1 The names of classmates and key figures within the school.
- K2 The location of important people in the classroom and school
- K3 Classroom and school procedures, rules, and routines
- K4 Vocabulary: citizen, community, leader, rules, safety, responsibility

Skill(s)

- What discrete skills and processes should students be able to use? Students will be skilled at...*
- S1 Know and be able to follow classroom and school rules and expectations.
- S2 Participate in discussions to formulate classroom rules/expectations and the consequences of their actions.
- S3 Recognize and demonstrate appropriate decision making in regards to themselves and others.
- S4 Identify key figures within the school and their roles within the school (nurse, custodian, principal, school volunteers, etc.)

2022 NATIONAL YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEY (NYTS) FACT SHEET FOR SCHOOLS

Tobacco use is the leading and most preventable cause of disease and death in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conducts an annual survey to document tobacco and nicotine related beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors, and exposure to influences that promote or discourage tobacco and nicotine use among students in grades 6 through 12. This fact sheet answers important questions about the 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS).



What is the purpose of the NYTS?

The purpose of the NYTS is to gather nationally representative data for students in grades 6 through 12 for the following tobacco related topics: (1) prevalence of use [electronic cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars (including cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip; snus; dissolvable tobacco products), hookahs, pipe tobacco, bidis, roll your own cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches], (2) knowledge and attitudes, (3) media and advertising, (4) minors' access and enforcement, (5) school curriculum, (6) secondhand smoke exposure, and (7) cessation.



How frequently is the NYTS conducted?

The baseline NYTS was conducted in 1999, with progress measurements occurring in the spring of 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2009, and annually from 2011-2021. The 2022 NYTS represents the eighteenth progress measurement.



Why is the NYTS conducted?

A core priority of CDC's Office on Smoking and Health is to enhance tobacco control surveillance. The NYTS is the most comprehensive, nationally representative source of data regarding tobacco and nicotine related behaviors and the *only* source of such data for middle school students (grades 6-8). Results are used by CDC to support the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective tobacco use prevention and control programs. Results from the NYTS serve as an index against which state- and local-level data can be compared.



Why should our school participate?

Research suggests that nicotine can harm the developing adolescent brain, impacting attention, learning, and memory. While recent NYTS results demonstrate that e-cigarette use among youth is declining, an estimated 3.6 million youths are still currently using e-cigarettes. Moreover, the data shows an alarming increase in the number of youths who use disposable e-cigarettes and that more than 8 out of 10 youth e-cigarette users report use of flavored products. Everyone plays an important role in protecting our nation's young people from the risks of tobacco products.



Are sensitive questions asked?

Students will be asked specifically about electronic cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars (including cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip; snus; dissolvable tobacco products), hookahs, pipe tobacco, bidis, roll your own cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches. Some students may consider some questions sensitive, especially those asking about content with which they are not familiar, such as pipes, snus, or dissolvable tobacco. In addition, questions regarding a student's sexual orientation and gender identity are asked to obtain data to determine if health disparities witnessed in tobacco use among adults also exists in our youth, thus allowing health professionals to promote health equity and reduce tobacco-related disparities. Students can skip any questions that they do not wish to answer.



Is student participation anonymous? How is student privacy protected?

Survey administration procedures are designed to protect student privacy and allow for anonymous participation. The survey is administered via an internet-connected device provided by the student or school. Students log into the secure survey URL using a randomly generated five-digit access code. Students will not provide any personal identifiers, and the survey follows a skip-pattern logic based on the student's responses. Students not participating in the survey are provided with an alternative activity by their school. Published reports do not include names of participating states, districts, schools, or students.



Are students tracked over time to see how their behavior changes?

No. Each year a new sample of states, schools, and students is drawn. Students who participated cannot be tracked because no identifying information is collected.



Is this voluntary? What if school districts, schools, or students do not choose to participate?

Participation in the NYTS is voluntary. However, to develop accurate national estimates, it is essential that school and student participation rates are high. Selected schools and students cannot be replaced. The goal is to achieve 90 to 95 percent participation by selected schools and students.



What grades are included? What types of schools are included in the sample?

The 2022 NYTS will be administered to students in grades 6 through 12. This includes students from public, Catholic, and private schools with one or more grades in this range (e.g., K-6, 6-8, 6-12, 7-12, 9-12, and 10-12).



What is done to maximize student participation?

CDC provides information to school administrators explaining the importance of the NYTS that can be shared with teachers, parents, and students.



What is the sample size and how are schools selected?

A random sample of approximately 550 schools has been selected to participate in the 2022 NYTS. The probability of a school being selected is based on enrollment in grades 6 through 12. One or two classes (about 25 to 50 students) from each grade 6 through 12 will be selected randomly to take part in each school.



How is the 2022 NYTS coordinated at each school? What role does school staff play?

It is preferable to have a single spokesperson in each school. This can be the principal, another administrator, a teacher, or someone else designated by the principal. The spokesperson provides a list of classes, schedules the survey administration date(s), receives and distributes survey administration materials to teachers, follows up to ensure permission forms have been distributed, and ensures a high student participation rate. Teachers assist with the distribution of parental permission forms and supervising the survey administration.



What is the relationship between this national survey and similar surveys being conducted by state and local agencies?

Many states and local education and health agencies use the same or a similar questionnaire to conduct their own state Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS). Nearly all states have conducted their own YTS at least once. Some states will conduct a YTS during spring 2022 in parallel with the 2022 NYTS.



Why can't a youth tobacco survey conducted by a state and/or local education and health agency be used to arrive at national estimates?

Many states and/or local education/health agencies conduct their own school-based YTS. However, the sampling procedures and questionnaires vary. Thus, it is not possible to combine results from these surveys, even if every state participated.



How long does it take to complete the questionnaire? Is there some sort of physical test?

One class period is needed to complete the self-administered, internet-based, multiple choice questionnaire. It takes approximately 2 minutes for video instructions to be provided and approximately 20-30 minutes for students to record and submit their responses. No physical test or exam is involved.



Do students answer questions truthfully?

Research indicates data of this nature may be gathered as reliably from adolescents as from adults. Internal reliability checks help identify the small percentage of students who falsify their answers. To obtain truthful answers, students must perceive the survey as important and know procedures have been developed to protect their privacy and allow for anonymous participation.



When is the survey conducted? When are results available?

Data collection is scheduled to start in mid-January and continue through May. Results are published by the end of the calendar year. All participating states, school districts, and schools will be notified when the report is available.



What do the schools receive for participating in the 2022 NYTS?

As a symbol of appreciation for contributing their time and support and for being a significant partner in the 2022 NYTS effort, the CDC will provide each participating school with a monetary award. One option is to use these funds for prevention curriculum and educational materials. However, no restrictions will be placed on how schools may use these funds.



Who is the survey contractor for the 2022 NYTS?

ICF, a nationally recognized survey research company in Rockville, Maryland, is contracted by CDC to work with states, school districts, and schools to help obtain clearance, select a sample of students, schedule data collection, distribute survey materials, and ensure a successful survey administration.



Who may I call to obtain additional information and/or make arrangements for data collection in my school?

To obtain additional information and/or arrange for the NYTS to be conducted in your school, call the 2022 NYTS information line *toll-free*: 1-800-287-1815. Someone will be available to help make arrangements for your school between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern time. If no one is available, please leave a message and someone will return your call promptly.

Inquiries to CDC should be directed to Dr. Andrea Gentzke, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office on Smoking and Health, 4770 Buford Highway, MS F-79, Atlanta, GA 30341; email at msv3@cdc.gov, or telephone at (404) 498-1795.

Among high school current e-cig users:



38.9%
use e-cigs
frequently*

22.5%
use e-cigs daily

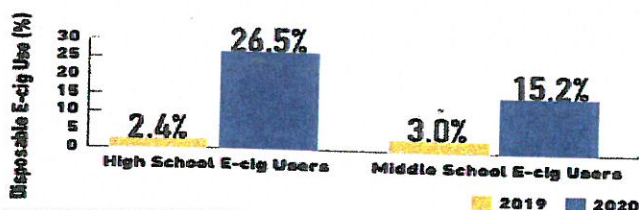


*20 or more days in past 30 days

Disturbingly high rates of frequent and daily e-cig use suggest

**STRONG
DEPENDENCE
ON NICOTINE**

Disposable e-cig use SURGED



More than 8 out of 10
current youth e-cig users use flavored e-cigs



2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey

Sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention


DATE: March 11, 2022
TO: Mr. Everett Olsen Jr, Chief Educational Officer, School Administration Unit 26
FROM: Marianna Vatakis
SUBJECT: 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey

Dear Mr. Olsen Jr.,

I hope this message finds you and your community well. Earlier this year, we sent you information about the 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS), sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). I understand the timing was not optimal for you to consider participating. I am also aware that your approval will require the School Board's approval.

I am contacting you now to respectfully request that you reconsider your participation. Would you please grant me a moment of your time to further discuss participating? We are asking that you add the 2022 NYTS to the agenda of the next School Board Meeting. **James Mastricola Upper Elementary School** is one of 550 schools nationwide selected to participate in the NYTS and **we do not yet have enough participating schools to produce valid data**. We need your help.

Why should my district participate in the NYTS?



The **National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS)**, conducted annually by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), is the nation's leading source of data regarding tobacco-related behaviors among students in grades 6-12

We are asking you to permit us to talk with your selected schools to discuss their participation in this important national student health initiative.

We cannot select someone else. The schools that are randomly sampled are essential to the NYTS effort. If selected schools do not participate, there cannot be national data.

Please call us at 800-287-1815 to schedule your school's participation in the 2022 NYTS

In summary:

- Only **two classes at grade level 6** will be randomly selected to participate.
- Survey administration takes **about 22 - 26 minutes** to complete.
- The school selects a convenient survey administration date before **May 31, 2022**.
- The web-based survey can be administered online via school-provided devices.
- Survey protocols are designed to protect student privacy and allow for **anonymous** student participation. Participating districts, schools, and students are not identified in any published reports.
- The school will receive **\$500** in appreciation for their participation.

As an educator, you understand that healthier students are better able to learn, and that the health and well-being of the nation's youth is of paramount concern. It is essential, particularly now, that we continue to ask our young people about what they know, believe, and do so that we can better target our efforts and resources to support youth health and well-being. Will you help us?

Thank you for your consideration. For your reference, I have enclosed another copy of the invitation materials. I will reach out to you within the next few days to follow up. In the meantime, if you have immediate questions, please call me directly at 212-656-9229, toll-free at 800-287-1815, or via email Marianna.vatakis@icf.org.

-Marianna Vatakis



March 21, 2022

Mr. Everett Olsen Jr.
School Administrative Unit 26
36 McElwain Street
Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chief Educational Officer Olsen Jr.:

I am writing to inform you one school in your district is among the 550 schools randomly selected across the United States to participate in the 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS), sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

We recognize this past year has been very challenging for our nation's schools. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the essential role schools play in the health and well-being of our students. We understand the effects of this public health crisis may continue to impact student learning as we enter the 2021-2022 school year. However, we also believe we must continue to monitor the behaviors that put our youth at the greatest risk for harm. Preventing tobacco product use among youth is critical to ending the tobacco epidemic in the United States. As we continue to adapt, NYTS data will provide valuable insight into the current and emerging trends of youth tobacco behaviors and their influences, thereby enabling states, school districts, schools, and community organizations to adapt their tobacco prevention and control programs to combat the most prevailing issues at hand.

The selected school in your district is shown below, along with the number of anticipated classes at each grade level:

School	Grade (Number of Classes)
James Mastricola Upper Elementary School	6th (2)

First conducted in 1999, the NYTS is an ongoing survey of students in grades 6 through 12 that gathers information on: (1) prevalence of use [electronic cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars (including cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip; snus; dissolvable tobacco products), hookahs, pipe tobacco, bidis, roll-your-own cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches], (2) knowledge and attitudes, (3) media and advertising, (4) minors' access and enforcement, (5) school curriculum, (6) secondhand smoke exposure, and (7) cessation. NYTS 2022 data will describe students' tobacco-related behaviors by school level (middle and high), gender, and race/ethnicity (Non-Hispanic white, Non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native). Each cycle has produced valuable data regarding students' knowledge of and attitudes toward tobacco, exposure to secondhand smoke, and exposure to influences that promote or discourage tobacco use.

The CDC respects the educational mission of schools. For that reason, only a small number of classes in each school, one or two at each selected grade level, are chosen randomly to participate. Data collection will occur during January through May 2022 at the school's convenience. All survey administration materials will be provided for schools to administer the survey during one normal class period using an internet-connected device provided by the school or student. Survey administration will be supported virtually by one of our specially trained technical assistance providers.

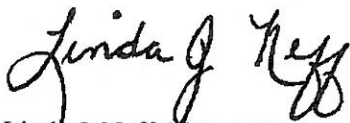
Survey administration procedures are designed to protect student privacy and allow for anonymous participation. States, counties, cities, school districts, schools, and students will not be identified in any published reports.

As a symbol of appreciation for contributing their time and support, the CDC will provide each participating school with a monetary award. One option is to use these funds for prevention curriculum and educational materials. However, no restrictions will be placed on how schools can use these funds.

Your support for this survey will help ensure the voluntary participation of the school selected in your district. The NYTS is the most comprehensive, nationally representative source of data regarding tobacco-related behaviors and the *only* source of such data for middle school students (grades 6-8). Results from the national survey serve as an index against which state- and local-level data can be compared and are used by states to support the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective tobacco use prevention and control programs.

Enclosed are copies of the NYTS questionnaire, sample parental permission forms, and study fact sheets. Within one week, a representative from ICF, a nationally recognized research firm contracted by CDC to conduct the NYTS, will contact you to confirm your receipt of this information and answer any questions you may have. If you have any immediate questions, please call Ms. Alice Roberts of ICF at 1-800-287-1815. Your support for this survey, which will help assess and improve efforts to reduce priority health-risk behaviors among adolescents throughout our nation, is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda J. Neff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linda" being more prominent than the last name "Neff".

Linda J. Neff, PhD, MSPH
Chief, Epidemiology Branch, Office on Smoking and Health
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Enclosures

cc: Andrea Gentzke, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Sean Hu, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Marsha McGill, James Mastriola Upper Elementary School
Alice Roberts, ICF
Jill Trott, ICF
Marianna Vatakis, ICF

This form only needs to be signed and returned if you do NOT want your child to participate.

P

PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM

Our school is taking part in the 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS). This research project is sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Students in grades 6 through 12 will be asked to complete a survey about their tobacco and nicotine related beliefs, attitudes and behaviors, intent to use, and exposure to influences that promote or discourage tobacco and nicotine use.

Students will be asked to use an internet-connected device to fill out a survey that takes about 25 minutes to complete.

Doing this survey will pose no physical risk to your child. The survey has been designed to protect your child's privacy. Students will not enter their names in the survey. Also, no school or student will ever be mentioned by name in a report of the results. Your child will get no immediate benefit from taking part in the survey; however, the results of this survey will help your child and other children in the future. We would like all selected students to take part in the survey, but the survey is voluntary. No action will be taken against the school, you, or your child, if your child does not take part. Students can skip any questions that they do not wish to answer. In addition, students may stop participating in the survey at any point without penalty. If you would like to see the survey, a copy is available in the school office. Your child will be asked specifically about electronic cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars (including cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip; snus; dissolvable tobacco products), hookahs, pipe tobacco, bidis, roll your own cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches.

State and local school officials and a review board at CDC have approved the survey. You or your child may have questions about your child's rights as a participant in this research project. If so, please call the CDC Human Research Protections Office at 1-800-584-8814. Please leave a brief message with your name and phone number. Say that you are calling about CDC protocol #4118. We will return your call as soon as possible.

Please read the section below and check the box **only if you do not** want your child to take part in the survey. If you check the box "no," sign the form and return it to the school within 3 days. Please see the other side of this form for more facts about the survey. If your child's teacher or principal cannot answer your questions about the survey, please call Alice Roberts, Project Director, toll-free at 1-800-287-1815. Thank you.

Child's name: _____

Grade: _____

I have read this form and know what the survey is about.

☐ NO, my child may **not** take part in this survey.



Parent or guardian's signature: _____

Date: _____

Please see the other side of this form for more facts about the survey.

SURVEY FACT SHEET



Why is the 2022 NYTS being done?

The purpose of the NYTS is to gather nationally representative data for students in grades 6 through 12 for the following tobacco and nicotine related topics: (1) prevalence of use [electronic cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars (including cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip; snus; dissolvable tobacco products), hookahs, pipe tobacco, bidis, roll your own cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches], (2) knowledge and attitudes, (3) media and advertising, (4) minors' access and enforcement, (5) school curriculum, (6) secondhand smoke exposure, and (7) cessation.



Are sensitive questions asked?

Students will be asked specifically about electronic cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars (including cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip; snus; dissolvable tobacco products), hookahs, pipe tobacco, bidis, roll your own cigarettes, heated tobacco products, and nicotine pouches. Some students may consider some questions sensitive, especially those asking about content with which they are not familiar, such as pipes, snus, or dissolvable tobacco. In addition, questions regarding a student's sexual orientation and gender identity are asked to obtain data to determine if health disparities witnessed in tobacco use among adults also exists in our youth, thus allowing health professionals to promote health equity and reduce tobacco-related disparities. Students can skip any questions that they do not wish to answer.



Will student names be used or linked to the surveys?

No. The survey has been designed to protect your child's privacy. The survey is submitted electronically, and no one at the school will be able to see your student's responses. Students do not enter their name in the survey.



Do students take the survey more than once to see how their behaviors change?

No. Each year a new sample of states, schools, and students is selected. Students who take part one year cannot be tracked because their names are not on the survey.



How was my child selected to be in the survey?

About 24,000 students from approximately 550 schools across the country were selected to take part. One or two classes (about 25 to 50 students) in each grade 6 through 12 were picked randomly to take part in each school.



How long does it take to fill out the survey? Does the survey include a physical test?

One class period is needed to fill out the survey. The survey does not include a physical test or exam.



Can I see the questions my child will be asked?

Yes, a copy of the survey is at your child's school.

A

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Child's name: _____

Grade: _____

I have read this form and know what the survey is about.

Please check one box:

☐ **YES**, my child may take part in this survey.

☐ **NO**, my child may **not** take part in this survey.



Parent or guardian's signature: _____

Date: _____

Please see the other side of this form for more facts about the survey.

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MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Administrative Unit #26
36 McElwain Street
Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054
Tel. (603) 424-6200 Fax (603) 424-6229

KIMBERLY YARLOTT
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum

EVERETT V. OLSEN, Jr.
Interim Chief Educational Officer

MATTHEW D. SHEVENELL
Assistant Superintendent for Business

To: Cinda Guagliumi
Laurie Rothhaus
Shannon Barnes

Jenna Hardy
Lori Peters
Kaitlyn Vadney

From: Everett V. Olsen, Jr.

Date: March 28, 2022



Subject: Merrimack High School Senior Withdrawals

Between September 1, 2021 and March 25, 2022, thirty-four (34) seniors have withdrawn from Merrimack High School. The reason for these withdrawals is noted below.

3	Students moved (8.8%)
2	Students successfully completed their HiSet (High School Equivalency) (5.9%)
1	Special education student aged out (2.9%)
4	Students will pursue HiSet on their own (11.8%)
8	Students successfully completed the requirement to earn their diploma (23.5%)
9	Students discontinued working on HiSet and chose to quit (26.5%)
7	Students dropped out (20.6%)

The HiSet (High School Equivalency Test) is one of several high school equivalency tests that allows a student to achieve the equivalent to a high school diploma. It has been developed and published by the Educational Testing Service, and is based on the Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education via the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education.

**Merrimack School Board Special Meeting
Merrimack School District, SAU #26
Merrimack Town Hall – Matthew Thornton Room
March 21, 2022**

6:30 p.m. Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91 – A:3, II (a) (b) (c) – Merrimack TV Training Classroom

• **Staff Welfare**

Present: Chair Guagliumi, Vice-Chair Rothhaus, Board Member Hardy, Board Member Barnes, and Board Member Peters. Also present were Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Yarlott, Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen, and Student Representative Vadney.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Guagliumi called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Guagliumi pointed out that the School Board would accept public comment via email and to do those members of the public could send emails to publiccomment@sau26.org.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

3. RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

4. INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

a. Superintendent Update

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen thanked the members of the community who attended the School's Deliberative Session.

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen said there would be an early release day on Friday, March 25th so staff could discuss collaborative problem approaches regarding discipline. He also noted the district was advertising for the position of Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction as well as the Assistant Principal for Merrimack High School and they received several applications.

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen congratulated the First Robotics Team at Merrimack High School for winning the "Engineering Inspiration Award."

b. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Update

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Yarlott said the collaborative problem-solving approach was one of three initiatives established for the school year under social & emotional learning. She said the other two were UDL (Universal Design for Learning) and the Canvas initiative. She also noted

that the training would occur at all six schools for all staff including paraprofessionals and professional staff.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Yarlott stated that they had trained staff persons on how to use the EduPlanet 21 tool for curriculum development and the health curriculum would be loaded to the platform.

c. Assistant Superintendent of Business Update

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell said they appeared before the Trustees of Trust Funds and secured the sum of \$42,500 to supplement the \$100,000 the parent group had already raised for the inclusive playground at the Thorntons Ferry Elementary School. He added there was \$30,000 in the operating budget for associated site work.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell said they also presented a request for funds to renovate the Merrimack High School library.

Chair Guagliumi thanked the parents of the Thorntons Ferry Elementary School for all of their efforts regarding the playground.

d. School Board Update

There was none.

e. Student Representative Update

Student Representative Vadney reported the high school students were taking SAT's and there were no block days in the current week.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Approval of Revised Student Conduct, Discipline, & Due Process Policy (JICD)

Vice-Chair Rothhaus said she felt core values were extremely important to discuss with the students, for example, respect, responsibility, character, courage, and trustworthiness.

She suggested that the student handbook and the discipline policy be placed together on the website.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus requested further information regarding "Planned Ignoring" indicated on page 4 of the policy, and also asked for further clarification regarding "Time Away from Activity/Group." She suggested changing the sentence: "the district will not require apologies but will work with students to understand the need to repair the harm caused in relationships" to "we would encourage all students to apologize for their behavior."

Vice-Chair Rothhaus, referring to page 8 of the policy, said when a student had a long-term suspension, there should be a meeting with the principal, the parents, and the student to re-engage them back into the environment.

Board Member Barnes suggested having meetings with the parents and student prior to the student returning, perhaps over Zoom.

Board Member Peters commented that she agreed with adding the verbiage Vice-Chair Rothhaus suggested.

Chair Guagliumi said the staff handbook should be aligned with the discipline policy and the student handbook. She suggested Ms. Heather Barker, Director of Student Services and Ms. Fern Seiden, Director of Student Wellness also provide input.

Chair Guagliumi said page 5 of the policy indicated that "Middle and High School Graduated Disciplinary Consequences" included Superintendent involvement and said she did not know if it was customary to have every disciplinary action include Superintendent involvement.

Chair Guagliumi also suggested there be more discussion regarding situations that were a manifestation of a disability. She added there was a section that indicated "any administrator's decision cannot be appealed" but noted there was a contradiction on page 9 which stated, "Any student who repeats any of the long-term suspension infractions listed above may be referred to the School Board for an expulsion hearing."

Additionally, Chair Guagliumi noted she had questions on page 10 of the policy regarding "Any act of physical or sexual assault would be a felony if committed by an adult." She asked if all of the students would be treated as "students" or some as "adults."

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen suggested the Board send their comments to him and he would discuss the items with the leadership team.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review of the 2022 – 2023 School Calendar

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen said he wanted to ensure that the school calendar was readable and noted there were many factors, some of them mandated, that were considered in the creation of the calendar.

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen indicated that he included a "Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances" that reviewed holidays and how those holidays were observed.

The School Board collectively agreed that school should begin prior to Labor Day which was in line with what most of the parents had indicated on the survey.

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen said the 2022 – 2023 School Calendar would be on the next meeting's agenda.

b. The Vision of a Merrimack High School Graduate

Mr. Steve Claire, Principal, Merrimack High School, Ms. Dayna Chow, Special Education Teacher, and Ms. Marcy Pope, Art Teacher presented a PowerPoint presentation as summarized below:

Mr. Claire stated the Vision of the Graduate statement was the cornerstone of the NEASC (New England Association of Schools & Colleges) accreditation work.

Ms. Chow said the driving question was "What do Merrimack High School graduates need to know and what should they be able to do to be successful?"

Ms. Chow said they developed three phases of the Vision of a Graduate journey:

1. Develop a Process
2. Synthesize, Distill, & Create
3. Approval Process

Ms. Pope explained that a committee was created, and work began working on a draft in the spring of 2020 to identify the skills and attributes a graduate should have. She read aloud the Merrimack High School Vision of a Graduate as follows:

Merrimack High School Vision of the Graduate

Merrimack High School students engage in authentic learning that prepares them for necessary life skills to become independent as individuals and active participants as citizens upon graduation.

Merrimack High School Graduates are Positive Community Members

Graduates are effective, creative, and critical thinkers. They feel empowered to be leaders, to care about their self-worth, others, and their local & global community. This may be evidenced by being resilient, ethical, open-minded, confident, and flexible.

Merrimack High School Graduates are Future Ready

Graduates are driven to achieve their goals. Merrimack High School graduates take ownership of and responsibility for their choices and will continue to be self-directed, life-long learners.

They have prepared for this by:

- Participating in a dynamic curriculum that aligns with the State and National standards.
- Developing executive functioning skills.
- Becoming digitally and financially literate.
- Developing communication skills in areas of listening, speaking, and writing.

Ms. Pope stated that in October of 2021 the plan was presented to the faculty and received 94% approval, and received approval by the District's Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Committee on November 18, 2021.

Mr. Claire stated they would move forward with the NEASC accreditation process that would culminate in the decennial visit in the spring of 2022.

Chair Guagliumi said the item would be on the next meeting's Consent Agenda.

c. Review of 2022 Proposed Voter Information Guide

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell reviewed the proposed Warrant Articles and asked Board members to send him comments and/or edits.

1. Election of School District Officials
2. Accepting Gifts on Behalf of the School District
3. Merrimack Teacher's Association Contract
4. Merrimack Teacher's Association Contract (Special Meeting)
5. Merrimack Teacher's Association Contract – Market Adjustment

6. Thorntons Ferry Elementary School Roof Replacement
7. Authorization to Retain Year-End Unassigned General Fund Surplus
8. Merrimack School District Operating Budget

d. Scheduling the 2022 Graduation Date

Interim Chief Educational Officer Olsen said the graduation for the Merrimack High School seniors would be on Saturday, June 18, 2022.

7. POLICIES

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell reviewed the below policy given its' first reading.

- a. Administration of Federal Grant Funds Policy (DAF) (1st Reading)

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. February 21, 2022 – Public Minutes

MOTION: Board Member Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2022, meeting, as presented. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5 – 0 – 0.

- b. March 7, 2022 – Public Minutes

MOTION: Board Member Barnes made a motion to approve the non-public minutes from March 7, 2022, as presented. Board Member Peters seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4 – 0 – 1. (Abstained – Chair Guagliumi)

- c. March 7, 2022 – Public Minutes (After Deliberative Session)

MOTION: Board Member Hardy made a motion to approve the non-public minutes from March 8, 2022, as presented. Board Member Peters seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5 – 0 – 0.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Educator Retirement

- Ms. Patricia Cunningham, Music Teacher, Merrimack High School

- b. Educator Nomination

- Ms. Toni O'Keefe, Special Education Teacher, James Mastricola Upper Elementary School

MOTION: Board Member Barnes made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, as presented. Board Member Hardy seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5 – 0 – 0.

260 **11. OTHER**

261
262 a. Committee Reports

263
264 Board Member Barnes stated that the Parks and Recreation Committee had met on March 16th
265 where they reviewed ordinances that had not been reviewed in five years.
266

267 Board Member Barnes also said the Professional Development Committee met on March 17th
268 where they discussed devices for paraprofessionals, so they did not have to use their own. She
269 also said IPDP (Individual Professional Development Plan) deadlines were discussed as there were
270 people who were going into their third year of certification.
271

272 b. Correspondence

273
274 Board Member Barnes said she received correspondence from a non-resident who asked if
275 teachers who taught in Merrimack could receive a discounted tuition if their children attended school
276 in the Merrimack School District. Board Member Barnes noted the teachers did not receive a
277 discount.
278

279 Chair Guagliumi said she received correspondence from a parent who was concerned about
280 starting school prior to Labor Day.
281

282 c. Comments

283
284 Vice-Chair Rothhaus thanked Ms. Lynn Christensen, School District Moderator for all of her years
285 of dedication in addition to Board Member Barnes and Chair Guagliumi.
286

287 Board Member Barnes asked the administration to place a new agenda item regarding the dropout
288 rates for the next meeting.
289

290 Board Member Hardy noted that at some point she would like to see further information regarding
291 the district's trade programs.
292

293 Board Member Hardy thanked Mrs. Cunningham for her years of service.
294

295 Board Member Peters thanked both Chair Guagliumi and Board Member Barnes for their work in
296 the past year.
297

298 Chair Guagliumi suggested placing an agenda item on the next meeting's agenda regarding the
299 removal of accepting public comments via email.
300

301 Board Member Peters requested information regarding how many teachers had left the district to
302 go to competitive districts. Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell replied he would
303 gather the data and present it to the Board at a future meeting.
304

305 **12. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

306
307 Ms. Heather Robitaille, 45 Springfield Circle, addressed the Board and thanked the School
308 Calendar Committee for all of the thought and transparency that went into creating it. She also said
309 she wholeheartedly supported the information that would be made available in the Voter Information
310 Guide.
311

312 Ms. Jennifer Motyl, 27 Ellie Drive, (Board Member Barnes read aloud the following email into the
313 record)
314

Anticipating that the mid-term elections will be well-attended in 2022, I am personally uncomfortable as a parent and community member with having school open on November 8th. I have worked at the schools in prior years when the schools were open on Election Days and in times when elections were not as well attended. I found that even back then, the closed spaces can cause disruptions to the school day. This includes a disruption in gym classes, school lunches, arrival & dismissal procedures, and other disruptions. Some students are able to roll with these changes quite easily, but others might find these changes much more difficult to adjust to. I also feel that security cannot be guaranteed. Despite the very best efforts and planning, there is always a possibility for a kid to wander into the wrong area or for a door to be left unsecured and/or unguarded. I also have concerns about busy and potentially chaotic parking lots during school arrivals and dismissals. I respectfully ask the Board to consider having school closed on election dates, specifically our mid-terms, but I would prefer closure on both Election Days for the reasons stated above. I do appreciate the new look of the calendar, what an improvement and thank you for all of the thoughtful planning and work that the team put into planning and creating it.

MOTION: At approximately 8:33 p.m. Vice-Chair Rothhaus made a motion to go into a non-public session. Board Member Hardy seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Board Member Hardy, Board Member Peters,	5
Board Member Barnes, Vice-Chair Rothhaus, &	
Chair Guagliumi	

Nay:	0
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The motion passed 5 – 0 – 0.

At approximately 8:59 p.m. Board Member Peters made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Barnes seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5 – 0 – 0.