

School Administrative Unit 21

March 19, 2021

Dear SAU 21 Families and Community,

2 Alumni Drive Hampton, NH 03842 603-926-8992 sau21.org

Trimester 3: Five days per week offered in all SAU 21 schools

I am very pleased to announce that as of Monday, March 22nd, 2021, all SAU 21 schools will offer in-person instruction five days per week. I want to extend a great deal of gratitude to all of our staff including teachers, facilities, food service, technology, administrative assistants, educational associates, administrators, counselors, and nurses. We are able to welcome more students in buildings due to their continued dedication and care. That said, we could not implement these plans without families' support and adherence to the safety protocols. Thank you for your diligence with regards to the online screening and all of our requirements so that we can return to buildings safely.

Caroline P. Arakelian, Ph.D. Interim Superintendent of Schools

SAU 21 Vaccine Closed Pod

Schools

Through the Seacoast Public Health Network and the Hampton Fire Department, we are holding a vaccine closed pod for our employees this weekend: Saturday, March 20th and Sunday, March 21st. All SAU 21, 90 and Sacred Heart employees may attend the pod this weekend at Winnacunnet High School to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. We are incredibly grateful to the Hampton Fire Department, North Hampton Fire Department, and Hampton Falls Fire Department for working all weekend to vaccinate our staff members. Thank you to the Winnacunnet staff for providing the venue and all SAU 21 School Nurses who are also working to support the event.

David T. Hobbs, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum. Instruction and

Assessment

Matthew C. Ferreira, M.S.Ed. Business Administrator

NH DHHS Travel Guidance Update

SAU 21 will follow the new travel guidelines for staff and students. Per the March 17th, 2021 NH DHHS Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak, Update # 38, New Hampshire residents are no longer required to quarantine after domestic travel (US and US Territories). People who travel internationally or on a cruise ship are still required to quarantine upon return to NH, unless diagnosed with COVID-19 infection in the prior 90 days or fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Serving the communities of:

Hampton Falls

North Hampton

Seabrook

South Hampton

Winnacunnet High School

Travelers should still uphold all safety precautions (mask-wearing, social distancing, hand washing) and monitor their health for any symptoms very carefully for 14 days upon return from any travel. In addition, DHHS/CDC still recommend getting tested 3-5 days after travel (with a molecular or PCR-based test).

As always, please reach out to us if you have questions at any time. We are a community.

Sincerely,

Caroline Arakelian

Interim Superintendent of Schools

carakelian@sau21.org

Statewide Assessments (Grades 3-8) and Academic Support (Grades 9-12)

Statewide Assessments (Grades 3-8)

Each year, New Hampshire public and charter schools are required by state law (RSA 193-C) and federal accountability laws (Every Student Succeeds Act) to assess students using a standardized assessment. SAU 21 utilizes several assessments in order to comply with these requirements.

Our schools are working hard to coordinate the administration of the statewide assessments to ensure students have access to the assessments in a safe environment. This year, it's important to note that <u>the statewide assessments must be taken in person</u>.

If a parent/guardian is not comfortable with having their child take the assessment in person, they can choose to exempt their child from participation. In the coming weeks, schools will be in touch with SAS testing windows, requirements, and opt-out forms for our remote students.

Families in grades 3-8 will be receiving the <u>official NHDOE notification letter</u> in their email. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at <u>dhobbs@sau21.org</u> or your building principal.

Academic Support (Grades 9-12)

To support the Trimester 3 transition process, academic support is available at WHS for all students every block. Students can access teachers from various departments remotely or in-person. The schedule can be found here and on the return to school website. Students can click on the teacher's link or stop by their room at any time during the block. No appointment necessary. They are there and ready to help you!

- Dr. Hobbs, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment, & Instruction

COVID-19 Guidance & Resources / Nurses' Corner

VACCINE Phases, Information, Registration for New Hampshire https://www.vaccines.nh.gov/

<u>COVID-19 Testing Sites: SAU 21 Towns</u>: SAU 21 Nurses compiled this table that includes testing site information from Newburyport to Hampton to Stratham.

NHDHHS COVID-19 Schools Dashboard: The Schools dashboard shows COVID-19 data for schools and their surrounding communities. Select a specific county using the map on the left. This selection will display county-level COVID-19 activity and cases in every school in the county.

Previously Shared Information

The following information was shared in a previous communication to families. The information is still relevant for this week and month and has been updated where appropriate.

SAU 21 Updates & Notices

In the case of **inclement weather**, all SAU 21 Districts will either have a remote learning day or be closed for the day.

Remote Learning Day: All staff and students will work remotely during a remote learning day. This day counts as a school day and will not have to be made up at the end of the year. Schools/grades that are currently remote will adhere to the same schedule. Schools that are in-person (full or hybrid) may have an augmented schedule (published by your building principal).

<u>Closed</u>: Families and staff will receive a message regarding a school being "closed" meaning no students are attending virtually or in person. These days are reserved for substantial power outages across our region. These days will resemble the "snow days of the past" and will need to be made up at the end of year.

SAU 21 B	oard/Budget Con	nmittee Meetings	
Visit SAU21.org	for Zoom links	or location information	

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March		
2021-03-23 (Tue)	SAU21 Joint Board Meeting — 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	
2021-03-29 (Mon)	SAU21 Superintendent Search Committee — 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	
April		
2021-04-01 (Thu)	South Hampton School Board Meeting — 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	
,	North Hampton School Board Meeting — 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	
2021-04-13 (Tue)	Seabrook School Board Meeting — 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	
,	Hampton Falls School Board Meeting — 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	
2021 - 04-14 (Wed)	Joint Board Policy Committee Meeting — 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	
2021-04-19-23 (Mon-Fri)	Spring Break - No School - Barnard School, South Hampton	
2021-04-26-30 (Mon-Fri)	Spring Break - No School - Lincoln Akerman School, Seabrook Schools,	
,	North Hampton School, Winnacunnet HS	

We are hiring!

SAU 21 is a great place to work and an equal opportunity employer. Please check out our website, <u>sau21.org</u> for current employment opportunities.

We currently have openings for:

- Teaching position for the 21-22 school year
- Facilities positions at various schools, a night custodian position and two part-time positions
- Substitute positions including school nurse substitutes
- Educational Associates for our Special education program

If interested, please apply at: https://www.applitrack.com/sau21/onlineapp/default.aspx

Meal Distribution Information

Meals (breakfast and lunch) continue to be free for all students in buildings and learning remotely in 2021. We encourage full participation in our meal distribution program to any/all families regardless of free/reduced lunch eligibility.

Pick up

- Meal Pick up time is at least during 9:00am-10:00am at LAS, NHS, Seabrook, and WHS.
- Pickup will be provided Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays unless otherwise noted for holidays.
- Parents/guardians from all five SAU 21 districts may pick up at any location for any of their children.

Delivery

- Delivery will be provided Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays unless otherwise noted for holidays.
- <u>Click here to view the bus routes.</u> Please check back frequently as stops and routes are subject to change. Please allow for a 3-5 minute range before and after the posted bus stop time. Buses will beep upon arrival to bus stops.
- Click here to access: <u>Family Food Resource List Other Resources</u> (As posted on the <u>SAU 21 Meals Program Page.</u>)

If you have any questions regarding receiving meals, please contact your Principal, Nutrition Director, or School Counselor/Social Worker.

Seacoast Family Supports & Early Learning Survey

Dear Parents & Guardians of Children age 8 or younger,

We hope you are staying safe and well in these challenging times. Right now, we are partnering with United Way of the Greater Seacoast and the school districts serving Hampton, North Hampton, South Hampton, Hampton Falls, and Seabrook to help complete a regional needs assessment. This process will help us understand how Seacoast families are connecting with family supports and early learning resources. Our hope is to use this information to make sure all families have what they need to prepare their children for kindergarten.

Click <u>here</u> to be directed to the 2021 Seacoast Family Supports and Early Learning Survey by Monday, March 22nd, 2021. In appreciation for your time, we are raffling off \$25 gift cards.

Please take a few minutes to share your insights through this survey. The more people that answer the survey, the better information we will have to help make sure all families can access the child care and early learning supports they need.

On behalf of SAU 21 we thank you for all you do for your child and your family. We thank you for taking the time to complete this survey so we can serve you better.

Sincerely,

The Preschool Development Leadership Committee SAU 21 & 90







child care and pre-K!
Visit bit.ly/FamilySupports

And enter to win one of our 100 \$25 gift cards!