



New Hampshire School Boards Association
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Continuing Resolutions for 2021
Adopted at the October 2021 NHSBA Delegate Assembly – October 16, 2021

1. WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic required school districts to move to remote-only and hybrid instruction models; and

WHEREAS, the availability of broadband Internet services varies from town to town or city to city in New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, lack of access to adequate broadband creates an equity concern for students in towns or cities without 100% broadband coverage; and

WHEREAS, parents who may have elected a remote-only option, did not have that choice based on a lack of access to broadband Internet; and

WHEREAS, the availability of cellular coverage is also poor in many areas of state negating the ability of cellular hot spots to fill the void; and

WHEREAS, state initiatives like the SB170 bonding option are only financially viable for towns or cities with little to no existing broadband coverage; and

WHEREAS, prior to the availability of CARES Act funding, New Hampshire had spent less than \$100,000 in the last 10 years on broadband Internet projects; and

WHEREAS, a hybrid or remote learning option is likely to continue to be needed in the short and long term as a response to public health concerns, weather events, and evolving service delivery models, let it be

RESOLVED: that the state seek to provide viable financial solutions and funding models to assist municipalities in completing the true “last-mile” broadband Internet networks throughout their towns or cities or establish a regulatory framework that requires providers to complete the networks, so that broadband Internet access is available along every public way in the state. (January 2021)

2. NHSBA supports equity and inclusion in all aspects of education. NHSBA supports adherence to all anti-discrimination laws, rules and statutes ensuring that no student is excluded or discriminated against on the basis of sex, gender identity, race, religious creed, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, national origin, economic status, familial status, sexual orientation, health condition, or native language. (January 2021)
3. The Nottingham and Strafford School Boards oppose changes in the IDEA allocation calculations resulting in funds being disbursed directly to the school/district in which the child is registered (in towns which do not have high schools) and not to the student's residence. The Nottingham and Strafford School Boards calls for the immediate return of prior method of calculations for IDEA federal and state funds, as well as maintaining this commitment in the future to keep any and all funds distributed to the student's town of residence. (January 2021)
4. School districts should be held harmless for pandemic related reductions in enrollment that may negatively impact differentiated aid. Differentiated aid should be based upon free and reduced numbers from pre-pandemic enrollment or current enrollment, whichever is greater. The NHSBA will make this a priority in its lobbying efforts. (Adopted January 2021 – Amended October 2021)
5. NHSBA supports diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects in our schools, is committed to the concept that free and open dialogue around such concepts as racism and sexism is a vital component to education, and opposes any actions which limit this free exchange of ideas. (October 2021)
6. The New Hampshire School Boards Association supports amendment of RSA 91-A to allow for remote participation of all public body members in official meetings of full boards and committees. (October 2021)