

December Bi-Monthly

Thursday, December 8, 2022

DoubleTree Hotel
11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA

In-Person Only
Breakfast and Lunch Included

8:00 Breakfast

8:45 Welcome



9:00 How Districts Have Benefited from Hiring Staff to Manage SNAP Reimbursement and ARP Funds

Andrew O'Leary, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, New Bedford
Julie Mador, Registrar/McKinney-Vento Liaison/Foster Care Point of Contact, New Bedford

The Pandemic has led to a long overdue boosting of support programs for families in need. Existing programs like Medicaid, EBT and SNAP have expanded eligibility and federal and state agencies have applied American Rescue Plan funds in innovative ways. Eligible for numerous grants and partnership opportunities, Districts should consider their staff and family support infrastructure and invest in ways that will boost benefits for homeless students and families most in need.

10:00 What to Know About "An Act Related to School Operational Efficiency" (Chapter 1998 of 2022 Acts)

1 MCPPO credit

Anne Gulati, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Needham
Daniel E. Gutekanst, Superintendent, Needham

This act, which goes into effect on Nov 25, 2022, gives districts several important tools for increasing operational efficiencies, by easing procurement and prepayment restrictions, offering districts the option of operating school transportation like a utility, creating a transportation reimbursement fund to retain valuable reimbursement dollars, and expediting 7D licensing applications at the RMV.

11:00 Massachusetts K-12 Education Budget

Colin Jones, Senior Policy Analyst, MassBudget

Hear an update on our state's K-12 education budget heading into the new legislative session and the 2023-2024 budget process. The presentation will incorporate several budget developments such as the ongoing implementation of the Student Opportunity Act statewide education funding law, as well as the winding down of federal COVID relief grants for education across our state. Implications for our students, teachers, and schools, with particular attention to special education, will be the focus.

12:00 Lunch

12:45 Listserv Live!

Dan Gale, Business Manager, Hudson Public Schools

December is the busiest month for giving and receiving! Short on time to post a question and compile answers? Ask a question and you shall receive real-time answers from colleagues!

1:30 DESE Data Tools

Colleen Holforty, and Michelle Thomas, and Rob O'Donnell, DESE

DESE staff will provide an overview of some of the Department's data tools, including RADAR, DART, and Edwin Analytics, and how districts can use these tools to make spending comparisons and resource allocation decisions.

2:30 DESE Dossier

Jay Sullivan, Associate Commissioner, DESE



February 8: Virtual
March 15: Milford
April 12: Virtual

Cancellations MUST be received in writing no later than December 1 in order to avoid being charged.