

## **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #51**

23 Oneida Street, Unit 1
Pittsfield, New Hampshire 03263
Phone: (603) 435-5526 • Fax (603) 435-5331
Lori Lane, Interim Superintendent

# PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD

MEETING AGENDA

June 19, 2025 5:30 PM PMHS Media Center Pittsfield Middle High School School Board Meeting

Video call link: meet.google.com/iry-hwyd-ipx

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. 6:00 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING re: releasing and expending monies from the School District Drake Field Fund
- 4. ACTION ON AMENDED AGENDA
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES June 5 minutes & June 10, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- 6.. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS
- 7.. SITE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE
- 8.. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS- Mrs. Lane
- 9. PES PRINCIPAL Mrs. White
- 10. PMHS PRINCIPAL- Mr. Hamilton
- 11. PMHS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Mrs. Brown
- 12. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES Mrs. Vary
- 13. SCHOOL BOARD
  Fair Funding update

Open Enrollment update
Drake Field Issues
Second Reading of Wellness Policy JJIFA
Second Reading of Policy ACAC – Title IX

- 14. NON-PUBLIC SESSION in accordance with RSA 91:A 3, II if needed.
- 15. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
  - Budget Committee
  - Drake Field and Facilities
  - Negotiations
  - Legislation
  - Foss Family Scholarship
  - Public Relations
  - Selectboard Liaison
- 16. PLAN AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING July 17, 2025
- 17. BOARD COMMENT
- 18. PUBLIC INPUT
- 19. ADJOURNMENT

#### Pittsfield School District

To: Pittsfield School Board

From: Charlene Vary

Subject: Board Meeting – June 19, 2025

Date: June 13, 2025

### **INFORMATION**

- 1. Extended School Year (ESY) Services: Our ESY program will run from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday, from July 7, 2025, to July 24, 2025. These services will be offered to students with special needs who require continued support during the summer to maintain progress in the general education curriculum. Informational letters will be sent to families before the end of the school year.
- 2. <u>Medicaid Payments:</u> Our new platform for Medicaid to Schools will be Relay, beginning July 1. Our reimbursement for the month of May was \$18,231.49. The total reimbursement so far for the 2024–25 school year is \$116,672.68.
- 3. <u>Transitions:</u> Pittsfield has 13 graduating students who have either an IEP or a 504 Plan. Following graduation, our total number of students with disabilities will be 36 with a 504 Plan and 135 with an IEP. To support the transition of a new Director of Student Services, I have been preparing materials and updating checklists to help ensure a smooth and seamless handoff.

### **Pittsfield School District**

**To:** Pittsfield School Board

From: PES Administration, Kristen White Subject: Board Meeting – June 13th, 2025

**Date:** June 19th, 2025

## **INFORMATION:**

**Retirements:** We are honored to recognize and celebrate the retirement of two deeply respected members of the Pittsfield Elementary School team. Mike Curtin and Christy Hinckley have each dedicated nearly three decades to serving the children and families of Pittsfield. Their work, rooted in compassion, consistency, and care, has helped define the culture of our school. As they prepare to begin their well-earned retirements, we reflect with gratitude on the legacy they leave behind.

Mike Curtin, our school counselor of 29 years, has been the heart of our guidance program—supporting generations of students through both everyday challenges and life-changing hardships. Known for his calm presence and ability to connect with every child, Mike brought warmth and humor to his role, often being greeted with hugs and high fives before he even entered a classroom. He led the charge on our MTSS-B implementation, coordinated support for dozens of students experiencing homelessness, and founded meaningful initiatives like our Week of Kindness and the mentor program. Mike was also a critical member of our Emergency Response Team, a quiet leader who offered safety and care in every situation. Whether it was hiding cupcakes, fixing bikes, or building stairs for a family in need (even if he had to call in help), Mike gave his whole self to PES. He retires not only as a counselor, but as a trusted friend, community builder, and steady source of kindness in our school.

Christy Hinckley retires after 28 years of service, most recently as the leader of our Student Success Center. Christy has been a guiding force behind our school's social-emotional learning, introducing Zones of Regulation to younger students, creating bulletin boards and assemblies, and using every hallway interaction as a teaching moment. Known for her quick response, deep empathy, and strong behavioral insight, Christy never waited to be asked, she simply showed up where she was needed most. From ungluing pennies from toilets to calmly navigating explosive behaviors, her grace under pressure and sense of humor never wavered. Christy was also a key member of the MTSS-B team and worked closely with our Responsive Classroom coach to strengthen Tier 2 supports. She's the staff member who checks in, follows up, and believes deeply in second chances, turning her space into one of reflection, reset, and renewal. Her dedication extended beyond the classroom, whether coaching cross country, covering lunch, or staying late to ensure every child got home safely.

Both Mike and Christy have shaped the culture of PES in ways that will be felt long after their final day. Their commitment to equity, compassion, and student-centered care has helped make our school not just a place of learning, but a place of belonging. We thank them for their decades of service, their tireless hearts, and the immeasurable impact they've made on Pittsfield Elementary School.

**Summer Slide** - The summer months often bring a decline in academic skills among students, commonly referred to as the "summer slide." To combat this, Pittsfield Elementary School launched the *10 Weeks of Summer Challenge* last year, a program designed to keep students engaged in learning throughout the summer break. Now in

its second year, the initiative has grown through thoughtful collaboration, student voice, and expanded family engagement.

Last year's challenge was a great success, thanks to the efforts of our Title I team and Reading Specialist, who worked closely together to design a grid of fun, skill-building activities across academic and creative areas. Building on that momentum, the second year of our Summer Learning Challenge reflects even more innovation and responsiveness to student and family feedback. This year, Title I joined forces with our Library Media Specialist, Mrs. O'Leary, to offer students the opportunity to *design their own* summer challenge calendars. This personalized approach allows children to choose activities that interest them and align with their family's summer routines and goals. Students can opt to use the traditional 10 Weeks of Summer Challenge board or create a custom version using the new goal-setting templates.

Every PES student will receive a summer folder containing either a student-created or traditional 10 Weeks of Summer Challenge activity grid, a Clever badge for easy access to online learning tools such as Zearn, Epic, and HMH, a family letter explaining the purpose of the challenge and how to support participation, a resource sheet filled with creative, low-prep activity ideas for home, and optional teacher-added activities or class-specific recommendations.

To maximize reach and engagement, information has also been shared via Class Dojo and posted in the glass case at the front of the school. A key component of this initiative remains the focus on *goal-setting and self-reflection*. Students are encouraged to identify an area they want to grow in—such as math fluency, reading stamina, or physical coordination—and track their progress using a simple graph included in their packet. Families are encouraged to offer motivating incentives, such as extra story time, a favorite treat, or a movie night, for completing rows or the entire challenge. Upon returning in the fall, students who show evidence of their summer learning efforts will once again be invited to participate in a kickball game with Mrs. White and Mrs. Davis—this time as returning champions of year two!

**i love u guys** -On Monday, June 9th, Dusty Durant and I attended the "i love u guys" Foundation training alongside Superintendents, Principals, school based Emergency Management teams, law enforcement, and first responders from across New Hampshire and Massachusetts. This training brought together regional partners with a shared goal: to strengthen school safety and ensure a coordinated, compassionate response during critical incidents.

The "i love u guys" Foundation, founded in 2006, is nationally recognized for its work in school safety and crisis response. The training focused on two key protocols that form the foundation of emergency planning in schools:

• The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is a nationally recognized, action-based plan for crisis response that uses clear, consistent language—Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter—to ensure all stakeholders, including students, staff, and emergency personnel, understand and respond effectively during emergencies.

Currently, Pittsfield School District uses terminology such as Drop, Cover and Hold, Evacuation, Lockdown, Reverse Evacuation, Scan, Secure Campus, Shelter in Place, and Clear Hallways. While these terms are familiar within our district, they are not always aligned with the language used by emergency response teams or surrounding districts.

As an actionable next step, the presenters from "i love u guys" recommend reviewing and comparing our current emergency protocols with the SRP framework, with the goal of potentially adopting or aligning our language and practices. This alignment would support clearer communication during drills and real emergencies and enhance coordination with police, fire, and EMS partners who are already trained in SRP.We plan to bring this forward for discussion at upcoming Administrative Leadership Team (ALT) and Emergency Management Team (EMT) meetings to determine if this is the direction we would like to pursue as a district.

• The Standard Reunification Method (SRM): A structured process for safely and efficiently reuniting students with their families following a school emergency, while maintaining accountability, communication, and safety.

The day included presentations, interactive discussion, and most powerfully, a three-hour simulation. During the simulation, we were placed in rotating roles: parent, student, school staff, and incident command, to experience a full-scale reunification scenario. This hands-on experience highlighted the complexity of real-time coordination, the importance of clear communication, and the critical need for thorough planning and practice.

We left the training with actionable steps and tools to bring back to our district. I will be sharing my notes, training materials, and reflections with our Administrative Leadership Team (ALT) this summer as we continue to build and refine Pittsfield Elementary School's reunification plan. The experience reinforced that reunification is not simply a school responsibility—it's a community effort. Continued collaboration with local police, fire, and EMS partners will be vital to ensuring that, in the event of a crisis, we are prepared to respond with care, clarity, and coordination. This training was an important step in aligning our safety practices with nationally recognized standards and reaffirmed our commitment to protecting the well-being of every student and staff member in our school community.

**PES Staff Inflatable Field Day** – Sometimes the best way to end a year is with laughter, connection, and a reminder of how much we enjoy simply being together. That's exactly what happened at our first annual PES Staff Inflatable Field Day.

Staff partnered up in inflatable costumes and tackled obstacle courses that had us laughing from start to finish. We cheered each other on, danced to the "Cha Cha Slide" in full inflatable gear, and ended the afternoon with ice cream and big smiles. It was silly, fun, and exactly what we needed. But more than anything, it was a celebration of the people who make PES what it is.

Our staff is the heart of this school. They lift each other up, they show up for our kids and for one another every single day, and they do it all with heart. This field day wasn't just about having fun, it was about honoring the relationships that keep us strong. Together. We. CAN! And we do. Every day.

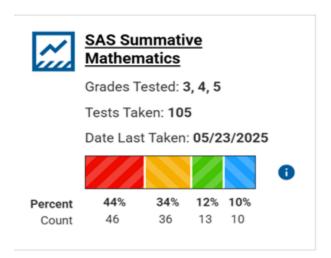
**Graduation Walk Class of 2025-** We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the PMHS Class of 2025 on their remarkable achievement! On Thursday, June 12th, PES had the privilege of welcoming this year's graduates for our annual Graduation Walk—held outside within our circle—surrounded by cheers, high fives, and heartfelt celebration.

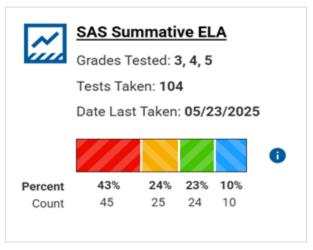
As the graduates made their way through the circle, proud PES staff and students lined the path to honor their journey. The moment was filled with energy and emotion, reminding all of us just how powerful perseverance, community, and education can be.

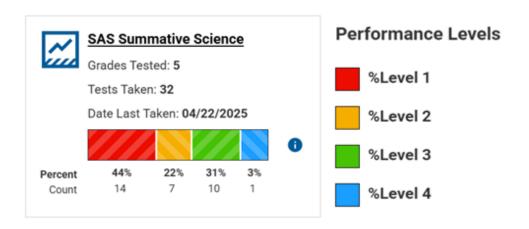
This tradition continues to be one of the most meaningful moments of the school year. It offers our youngest learners a living example of what's possible when you work hard, dream big, and are supported by family, friends, and the incredible staff of PSD. We are incredibly proud of the Class of 2025 and thankful for the inspiration they've given us all. Their walk wasn't just a celebration of what they've accomplished, it was a reminder of what lies ahead for every PES student.

**State Assessments:** PES has successfully completed the spring administration of both the NHSAS and NWEA assessments. These state-mandated assessments provide valuable information about student progress in core academic areas. The data below offers an overview of student performance and highlights areas of strength, as well as opportunities for continued academic growth and targeted support.

## **NHSAS**







NHSAS Proficiency Description Level

Level 1: Emerging Partial understanding; beginning to develop skills and

knowledge.

Level 2: Developing Growing proficiency; requires support to meet grade-level

expectations.

**Level 3: Proficient** Meets grade-level standards with solid understanding and skills.

Level 4: Mastery Exceeds grade-level standards; demonstrates advanced

understanding

## Math (Grades 3-5):

- 56% of students scored at Level 2 or higher, with 22% achieving at or above proficiency (Levels 3 and 4).
- Many students are approaching grade-level expectations, giving us a strong base for targeted instruction and intervention.

## **English Language Arts (Grades 3-5):**

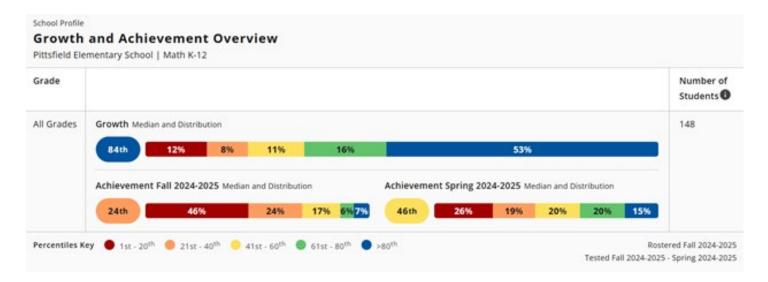
- 57% of students scored at Level 2 or above, with 33% reaching proficiency or higher.
- There is promising growth potential, especially in reading comprehension and writing development.

## Science (Grade 5 only):

• 56% of students scored at Level 2 or above.

- 34% achieved proficiency or higher, demonstrating early strengths in science content knowledge and reasoning.
- grade-level mastery with the right supports in place.
- Over one-third of students in both ELA and Science are already performing at proficient or advanced levels (Levels 3 and 4), showing strong potential for peer mentorship and academic leadership.
- The data helps us clearly identify where to focus our instructional efforts, particularly in moving students from Level 2 into full proficiency.
- This data reflects the positive impact of this continued hard work of our staff, and we will continue to build on these efforts through professional learning and family engagement.

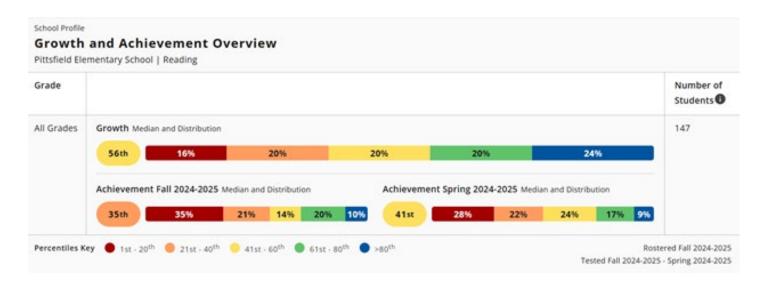
## **NWEA**



#### Math

- Median Growth Percentile: 84th (exceptional)
- 53% of students achieved growth above the 80th percentile
- Achievement Median Percentile: Improved from 24th (Fall) to 46th (Spring)
- % of students in bottom 20%: Decreased from 46% to 26%
- % of students above 60th percentile: Increased from 13% to 35%

Math instruction is driving high growth and significant achievement gains. We had one grade that had 100% Growth!



## Reading (ELA)

- Median Growth Percentile: 56th
- 44% of students grew above the 60th percentile
- Achievement Median Percentile: Increased from 35th (Fall) to 41st (Spring)
- % of students in bottom 20%: Decreased from 35% to 28%

## **Overall Summary**

- Students made notable progress in both math and reading.
- Math growth was especially strong, with over half of students making exceptional gains.
- Achievement gaps are closing, particularly in math.

#### **Pittsfield School District**

**To:** Pittsfield School Board

From: Melissa Brown, PMHS Assistant Principal

**Subject:** Board Meeting – June 19, 2025

**Date:** June 13, 2025

#### **ACTION**

None at this time.

#### **INFORMATION**

1. New Hampshire Scholars. Seven seniors earned the distinction of meeting the NH Scholars requirement for the 2024-2025 school year. At the Senior Awards Ceremony, each student was presented with a pin and a certificate to recognize their accomplishment. The New Hampshire Scholars philosophy is based on the belief that it is better to pass an academically challenging course than to get a higher grade in an easier course.

The NH Scholars Initiative began in 2007 with just six schools. Currently, more than ninety schools are participating across the state. The initiative partners with local business leaders to create a well-defined, rigorous academic curriculum that effectively prepares students for post-secondary education in today's competitive job market.

The NH Scholars program features the following pathways: Core Course of Studies, Career, STEM, STEAM, and Arts. STEM, STEAM, and Arts pathways require a minimum GPA of 3.2 and additional course credits. Students can select one or more of the five options to earn the NH Scholars accolade.

The Guidance Department works with and supports students to complete and submit a NH Scholars four-year planner beginning their freshman year. Students completing the program are eligible for college application fee waivers from select institutions, specific NH Scholars scholarships, and notary of completion on their official transcript and diploma.

2. <u>Master Schedule.</u> Students have submitted their course requests through Alma, our Student Information System (SIS). The master schedule was completed in May for grades sixth through twelfth for the 2025-2026 school year. The plan was to provide students with a copy of their schedule on the last day of school. However, due to the number of open teaching positions we can't be certain that we will be able to run our current program of studies. We hope to make schedules available to students by mid-August.

- 3. TEDX Students and Educator Day. In May, nearly 20 seventh and eighth grade students took a field trip to the Portsmouth Music Hall to a TEDx discussions funded by GEAR UP. They experienced a unique, behind-the-scenes viewing of TEDx Portsmouth during their full dress rehearsal, the day before the main event. In rehearsal, they ran the show from top to bottom, in order, from 12-6 p.m. Students were able to see behind the scenes and authentic moments when the camera crew paused to adjust lighting, tech, or allowed a speaker to gather their thoughts and hear feedback. The students received a unique opportunity to experience all the work that goes into producing inspirational lectures.
- 4. Concord Regional Technical Center (CRTC). On June 11th, the seventh- and eighth-grade students took a field trip to the CRTC, which was funded by the GEAR UP program. This provided an opportunity for students to choose to shadow three of the programs they were most interested in learning more about. The early exposure to this fantastic program is invaluable for students to begin planning and exploring their educational pathways for high school.
- 5. <u>GEAR UP Summer Events.</u> Our College and Career Navigator has scheduled a series of free activities for eighth and ninth-grade students who can sign up to participate this summer. The field trips and activities include building raised plant beds at the Pittsfield Youth Workshop to experiential robotics to soccer skills and college athletics. A total of 14 activities and field trips are being offered. The flyer is attached for your reference.



# SUMMER Events

Free activities are available for 8th and 9th grade students (2026-2027 school year) at PMHS through GEAR UP. Meals are included.

Space is limited, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

MON. JUNE 23RD

# **CAPITAL CONNECTIONS**

Location: Concord NH (Various locations)

Time: 9:15am - 4:30pm





Take a step into the world of NH local government with a special trip to Concord! We'll start at the the **GEAR UP** office to meet the Chief Strategy Officer and learn how lobbyists and policy advocates influence change. We will go out for lunch downtown. Then, explore the historic **State House**, meet local House representatives, and learn how laws are made. We'll wrap up the day by putting our leadership and teamwork skills to the test in a **Concord Escape Room** challenge!

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people

TUES.
JUNE
24TH

# **BUILD & PLANT RAISED BEDS AT PYW**

<u>Location:</u> PYW (18 Park St. Pittsfield)- **Pickup and Dropoff from PYW!** Time: 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Join us for a hands-on day helping to build and plant raised garden beds at **Pittsfield Youth Workshop** (**PYW**)! While working together, you'll explore careers connected to gardening, sustainability, and environmental science, learning about the many pathways that grow from the earth up. Participants will earn community service hours for their contribution to this project!

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people





# **EXPERIENTIAL ROBOTICS (XRP)**



Location: PMHS (walking in town for lunch)

Time: 10:00am-2:30pm

This workshop invites students who haven't taken Environmental Engineering to dive into the world of robotics and coding. Build an XRP robot and learn basic programming skills in a fun, hands-on experience- no prior knowledge needed! We will take a midday walk to **The Friendly Diner** for lunch.

limit 15 people

JULY 9TH

## **BABYSITTER'S COURSE**

**Location: PMHS** 

Time: 9:15am - 3:15pm

Join Jess from Education Alliance for NH as she instructs another amazing Babysitter's course! Here, you will earn your official Babysitter's Certification from the American Red Cross while learning essential safety, communication, and caregiving skills. Perfect for students interested in working with kids or gaining responsibility this summer.

\*This is only for students who did not take the course over February break. Lunch & snacks included, limit 10 people



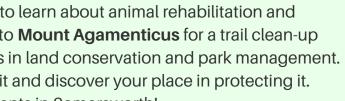
# **WORK IN THE WILD**

<u>Location:</u> Cape Neddick, ME (Various locations)

<u>Time</u>: 8:00am - 4:00pm

Spend the day exploring careers in conservation and wildlife care in the state of Maine. Tour the Center for Wildlife to learn about animal rehabilitation and internship opportunities, then head to **Mount Agamenticus** for a trail clean-up and a short hike highlighting careers in land conservation and park management. Leave nature better than you found it and discover your place in protecting it. \*We will be joined by GEAR UP students in Somersworth!

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people





TUES.
JULY
22ND

# MADE LOCAL: ENTREPENEURSHIP FEATURES

**Location: PMHS** 

Time: 9:30am-2:45pm

Meet two Pittsfield-based entrepreneurs who both launched their businesses this year! Glen, Owner of **Elm Street Barbershop** will share his journey into barbering. In between guests, you can participate in a nail painting activity and lunch catered by **NH Tea Crafters**. Then, Julee from **NH Tea Crafters** will share how she started her tea shop, followed by a chance to blend your own custom tea to take home.

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people

WED. JULY 23RD

## **CREATIVE FUTURES**

**Location: PMHS** 

Time: 9:30am-2:00pm

Get creative with this hands-on art and photography workshop! You'll design your own sun mosaic with guidance from Art Educator and Artist, Ms. Poulin and explore visual storytelling through a photography activity. Then, dive into a discussion on how to market yourself as an artist and explore real-world pathways to turn creativity into a career.

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people



# **GIVE AND GATHER**

<u>Location:</u> Portsmouth, NH (Multiple locations)

Time: 8:30am-5:00pm

Spend the day in Portsmouth exploring careers that make a difference! We'll start by meeting with and volunteering at **Gather**, a nonprofit that helps families facing food insecurity. For lunch, we will either go to the **Great Bay Community College** (GBCC)Gather Cafe or a local restaurant to learn about careers in food service. Next, we'll visit **The Drift Collective**, a local fashion business focused on sustainability and self-expression. To end the day, we'll take a walk downtown and grab some ice cream together.

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people





# THU. JULY 31ST

# **PAWS&PURPOSE**

<u>Location:</u> Stratham and Concord, NH (various locations)

Time: 8:45am-4:00pm



Spend the morning at the **NH SPCA** in Stratham, where you will tour the facility, learning how compassion and service go hand-in-hand. From guinea pigs, to puppies, and beyond, you'll see what it takes to care for creatures big and small. Then, connect the dots between caring for animals and helping people by meeting professionals from the medical and human services fields. Whether you're drawn to nursing, social work, veterinary care, or just love helping others, this day will show you how empathy is at the heart of every helping career. To end our day, we'll be making enrichment toys/blankets to donate back to the SPCA.

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people

# MON. AUGUST 4TH

# **SOCCER SKILLS & COLLEGE ATHLETICS**

**Location: PMHS** 

Time: 10:00am-2:00pm



BUDGET

This one-day clinic is perfect for students who want to improve their soccer skills while learning about college athletics. **Coach Kyle Deremer**, former Division I Soccer Coach at **Dartmouth College**, will lead hands-on drills to help students build technique and confidence on the field. The day will continue with a Q&A about college sports, recruiting, and coaching careers. We will close with prizes and a game of college mascot trivia.

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people

# TUES, S AUGUST 5TH

# **ADULTING 101**

**Location: PMHS** 

Time: 10:00am-2:30pm

What's it really like to live on your own? Learn to make fun, affordable meals like DIY upgraded ramen and Pop-Tarts. Then we'll be joined by **Citizens Bank** for a budget workshop and tips on opening your first bank account.

Finish with a fast-paced adulting trivia game with prizes!

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people



# WED. **AUGUST** 6TH

# **BIG LEAGUE DREAMS: FISHER CATS EXPERIENCE**

Location: Delta Dental Stadium, Manchester NH (Pickup/Dropoff at PMHS)



Dinner included (hot dog, chips, and a drink), limit 18 people

**AUGUST AUGUST** 

## RIPPLE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

**Location: PMHS** 

Time: 9:30am - 3:00pm each day

Take part in a two-day leadership experience designed to build your confidence, teamwork, and communication skills. Through hands-on activities, reflection, and goal-setting, you'll explore what kind of leader you want to be; in school and beyond. Students receive a certificate for completion. Must be available for both days.

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people

FRI. **AUGUST 15TH** 

## CHEF FOR A DAY

Time: 10:00am - 2:30pm

Make your own pizza with a local chef while learning what it's like to work in the restaurant world. Enjoy what you made and chat about the fast-paced, rewarding

Lunch & snacks included, limit 15 people



Location: PMHS

careers in food service and hospitality.

