



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024



1066 Front Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03102

Phone: 603.945.9151 | Fax: 603.228.9629

[www.sparkacademynh.org](http://www.sparkacademynh.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENT: SPARK IS A YASS PRIZE SEMIFINALIST!

Out of thousands of applicants nationwide, Spark Academy has been named one of 25 semifinalists for the Yass Prize.

From the organizers: “The 2024 Yass Prize Semifinalists represent a microcosm of 21st century, personalized approaches that better educate students, pre-K and beyond. The extraordinary breadth and depth of these competitors for the grand prize are carving pathways to success that defy convention. From educational metaverses and AI-driven organizations that address the whole learning cycle, to more familiar yet unique learning environments, and from content-rich learning solutions to training and leadership, these amazing 25 awardees are all transforming education for students at every level and every stage of life.

This year’s awardees are not only unconventional in their ethos and work but they share a passion and commitment to defying educational malaise. They are not just entrepreneurs. They are challengers.

Together, the new cohort of 25 can address the needs of every sort of student and family, every kind of terrain, community and challenge.”



Spark Academy is thrilled to receive this recognition, and we look forward to bringing even more opportunities to students with our innovative high school and early college program!

### CAR PICKUP LINE – PLEASE READ

Parents, when you pick up your students after school it is important that you line up rather than parking somewhere in the lot. Having that many students walking between the cars at that time of day is a serious safety hazard. We ask that you come into the upper parking lot, drive straight ahead, follow the perimeter of the lot all the way around to the left, and line up next to the maintenance shed. (See the diagram below.) **Students should wait to be picked up in**





**the areas next to the walkway, or in the walkway. Student drivers, you need to be mindful of foot and auto traffic in the parking lot at all times.** We remind you that your privilege of parking a car on the MCC campus can be revoked if you are not operating your vehicle in a safe manner. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep everyone safe.

## JO CARTER & WOMEN IN MANUFACTURING!

One of our Fourth-Year students, Josephine Carter, has become a Student Ambassador for the Northern New England chapter of Women in Manufacturing! We are very proud of her as she works with them to engage with the future workforce in new and creative ways. Great job, Jo.



## CONSTRUCTION CAREER DAYS

We will again be sending all of our First- and Second-Year students to the annual NH Construction Career Days on 9/26 and 9/27. Permission slips will be sent home soon – please keep an eye out and return them promptly.

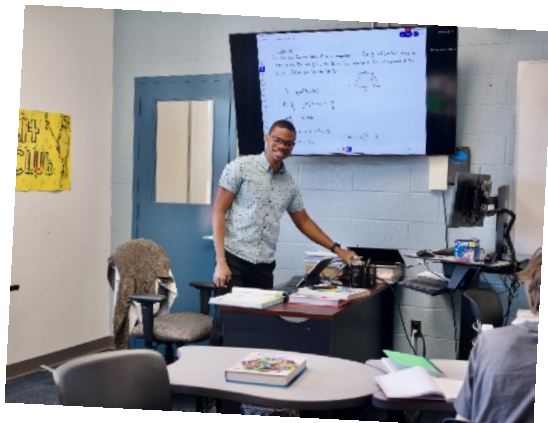
## ANNOUNCING: THE RETURN OF PIZZA FRIDAYS!

Our Fourth-Year students will be selling pizza every Friday at lunch time to raise money for their graduation activities. Please consider supporting your senior class by taking a break from sandwiches and enjoying some delicious pizza! Just \$3/slice or \$5/two slices. Thank you to West Side Domino's for their ongoing support!



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Thank you to all the families who attended our Building Spark Community Ice Cream Social. We hope you had fun, met some other families, and got some ideas as to how you can get involved with your school. It was wonderful to see you all! If you didn't turn in your talent survey, please send it in with your student or email it to Mrs. Laroche. If you would like a survey to fill out, let us know.



## PLEASE RETURN FORMS

1. If applicable to your family, please fill out the income eligibility form attached to the email accompanying this newsletter. While we do not have a lunch program, having such information can help us take advantage of various funding opportunities, including ways to help our community members who are experiencing food scarcity. Send your completed forms to school in an envelope marked 'Mrs. Laroche – Confidential.'
2. Handbook Acknowledgement: we need everyone to return the acknowledgement form, with signatures indicating that you have

read the current handbook, **as soon as possible** if you have not yet done so. The form is the last page of the handbook.

## AMAZON WISH LIST

Don't forget we have a wish list on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1O53RBICC56D3?ref=wl_share) if you're ever looking for an easy way to help out! Please note that some items are brand-specific, such as toner and printer paper.  
[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1O53RBICC56D3?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1O53RBICC56D3?ref=wl_share)

## THIS WEEK'S PHOTOS

Photos in this edition highlight our amazing, dedicated, hardworking Spark staff members. Thank you for all that you do!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thursday, 9/19	Electrical Technology Day @MCC
Saturday, 9/21	Wicked STEM @Hampshire Dome
9/26 & 9/27	NH Construction Career Days
Wed. 10/2	Open House 4:30pm – current families
Friday, 10/4 8-2:30	NH MEP Summit @Castleton Center
Friday, 10/11	Semester 1 Progress Reports Distributed
Saturday, 10/19	VEX Robotics Competition @MCC

## TUTTLE THOUGHTS

As we continue to work out the kinks to the new school year, it is great to see all the progress we've made already and the excitement that everyone has. We had over 240 people sign up to be part of our first family engagement activity of the year. I am so excited that we are starting the year on such a positive note. This is a true example of the school showing our Spark values with: Spirit.

We have even more things coming our way! MCC is having their third Electrical Technology Trade show on 9/19/24 from 2-6. We will be bringing some of the students out to this event. On 9/21/24, we will be participating at the Wicked Stem event. We are still looking for volunteers to help us man the table! This event is free for all to attend. On 9/26 + 9/27, we will be sending students to NH Construction Career Days. This is a great hands-on opportunity for students to see some options that are available for them in the future.

I hope that you all have a great weekend and I am so sorry that I was not able to make the ice cream social. I hope to see you at the next Family Engagement event!

