Purpose:
A new form has been created to update the current code edition information and also seeks to improve the clarity of inspectional requirements. Both the NHFMO Online Reporting Tool and the Paper Form have been updated and are available on our website:

https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/building/SchoolInspectionProgram.html

Definitions:
NFPA 101 Life Safety Code (2015 Edition) defines an educational occupancy as: An occupancy used for educational purposes through the twelfth grade by six or more persons for 4 or more hours per day or more than 12 hours per week.

General Requirements:
NH RSA 153:14 II (b) states:

- Each local fire chief shall annually inspect all school buildings within his or her jurisdiction while school is in session and submit a written report to the state fire marshal on the condition of all such school buildings.
- The fire chief shall furnish a copy of this report to the school district superintendent and school board members.
- The report shall detail any state fire code compliance issues in each school building.
- The report shall be submitted no later than December 15 each year.
- Unless otherwise arranged, the local fire chief shall be responsible to follow up with the school for corrective action for any deficiencies identified in the report. The fire chief shall contact the NH State Fire Marshal’s Office when the identified deficiencies have been corrected.
The educational facility fire and life safety inspection is part of the NH Department of Education school approval process. An inspection is required to show that a public school is in compliance with NH Administrative Rule Ed 306.07 and that a non-public school is in compliance with NH Administrative Rule Ed 403.01(c).

Please remember to update the NH State Fire Marshal’s Office as to any changes within your jurisdiction as it pertains to the educational facilities such as a name change, a new facility, or the closing of a facility. We want to make sure accurate records are kept to reflect the number of operating schools in the state.

References:

(1) NH Administrative Rules Ed 306.07, Ed 403.01 (c)

(2) NH RSA 153:14, II (b)