

Update R - Continuation of Remote Learning

Dear Families, Faculty, and Staff,

December 2, 2020

The leading COVID health indicator continues to trend upward from 28.1 cases per 100,000 last week to a rate of 36.1 cases per 100,000 and the secondary indicator of positivity rate has risen from 5.9% to 7%. Both of these indicators are generated from the 14 day period from November 8th - 21st. According to the Brookfield Health Department, these indicators are on the rise. The data will be updated this Thursday and can be accessed in the CT Data Portal: <https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-data/wa3g-tfvc/>.

While in the Remote Learning model our school community members continue to contract the COVID-19 virus. **Our public health and medical advisors anticipate that many individuals will likely have had exposure during the Thanksgiving weekend.** Staffing the schools will continue to be extremely challenging.

Therefore, out of an abundance of caution and upon the strong recommendation of our health and medical advisors, we will remain in Remote Learning through January 15th. We plan to return to in-person instruction on January 19th. Determination of the model (Hybrid or 100%) will be communicated upon our return from the winter recess and will be made based upon the health metrics at that time.

Beyond providing for the health and safety of our students, staff, and families, this action provides adequate notice for families to plan their long term schedules for child care needs and work obligations. This plan also eliminates the continued disruptive adjustments for both families and employees that result from the week-to-week waiting and unpredictable nature of multiple changes.

There is no universally agreeable solution to the complicated circumstances of this health crisis. The decisions made in Brookfield are determined after careful consideration of a variety of variables and with the input of teams of educators and health professionals. Your continued support, understanding, and trust are appreciated.

Stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Dr. John W. Barile
Superintendent