



## Bethany Public School District

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April 6, 2021

Dear BCS Community,

With spring break less than a week away, district administrators are receiving several inquiries regarding travel guidance. According to the CT Department of Public Health (DPH), "Connecticut is currently seeing an increase in community transmission, which is driving the spread of infection, and travel and social gatherings play a part in the rapid spread of COVID-19."

**If you and your family are planning to travel over spring break, please familiarize yourself with the Centers for Disease and Prevention's [\(CDC\) Travel Advisory](#) and notify Principal Tom Reed-Swale at [treed-swale@bethany-ed.org](mailto:treed-swale@bethany-ed.org) by Thursday, April 8th if your child will require remote learning while they quarantine following travel.**

While the CDC and DPH guidance informs us that [fully vaccinated](#) individuals can travel safely within the United States, many parents are NOT fully vaccinated, and BCS students have not been vaccinated at all, therefore, the [CDC Travel Advisory](#) should be followed.

For those who are planning on [Domestic Travel](#) within the United States, the Bethany Public School District is **strongly recommending** that individuals who are not fully vaccinated follow CDC Travel Advisory guidelines:

- Get tested 1 - 3 days before travel.
- Get tested 3 - 5 days after travel and self-quarantine for 7 days, regardless of the test results or self-quarantine for 10 days, if the individual does not get tested.
- Self-monitor for symptoms.
- Wear a mask (even if the state in which you are traveling does not require mask-wearing) and adhere to all mitigation strategies during travel.
- Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet from anyone who is not traveling with you.
- Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer.

According to the CDC, "International travel poses additional risks and even fully vaccinated travelers are at increased risk for getting and possibly spreading new COVID-19 variants." The CDC recommends delaying [International Travel](#) until an individual is able to get fully vaccinated. If you must travel outside of the United States, the Bethany Public School District is **strongly recommending** that individuals take the following steps to protect themselves and others from COVID-19:

- **Before travel:**
  - Get tested with a viral (PCR) test 1 - 3 days before your trip.
- **While traveling:**
  - Wear a mask over your nose and mouth at all times.
  - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet from anyone who is not traveling with you.
  - Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- **Before arriving in the United States:**
  - All air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens and fully vaccinated people, [are required](#) to have a negative COVID-19 viral test result no more than 3 days before travel or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months before they board a flight to the United States.
- **After travel:**
  - [Get tested](#) with a [viral test](#) 3 - 5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, regardless of the test results.
    - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
    - If your test is positive, [isolate](#) yourself to protect others from getting infected.
  - If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
  - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

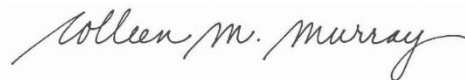
While we hope everyone gets to enjoy a much-deserved break, the responsibility lies with individuals and families to take the necessary steps to protect themselves, their school communities, and others before, during, and after travel, and while engaging in social gatherings. Thank you to all the staff and families who are working collaboratively with the school to keep everyone safe. Your ongoing cooperation and responsible reporting is greatly appreciated.

**REMINDER:**

If you and your family are planning to travel over spring break, please familiarize yourself with the [CDC Travel Advisory](#).

**Notify Principal Tom Reed-Swale at [treed-swale@bethany-ed.org](mailto:treed-swale@bethany-ed.org) by Thursday, April 8th if your child will require remote learning while they quarantine following travel.**

Sincerely,



Colleen M. Murray  
Superintendent