



Bethany Public School District

Colleen Murray, Superintendent

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February 12, 2021

Dear BCS Community,

This correspondence serves as an update to the current levels of COVID-19 in the Town of Bethany and in the Bethany Community School (BCS). Also included is the instructional model decision for next week, as well as a [Travel Advisory](#) reminder.

The Department of Health (DPH) continues to report town-level data for the number of new cases per 100,000 population and for the percent test positivity in the following dataset: [COVID-19 Case Rate by Town](#). BCS reports zero positive cases this past week, and the Town of Bethany reports 18 positive cases with a rate of 23.5 positive cases per 100,000 for the weeks of January 24th through February 6th.

The District remains committed to providing in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible while mitigating health risks to students and staff. Based on the most recent COVID-19 metrics for Bethany, and in collaboration with our local health advisors at Quinnipiac Valley Health District (QVHD), **BCS will remain in-person learning for the week of Monday, February 15th.**

REMINDER: There is no school on Monday, February 15th, and Tuesday, February 16th in observance of Presidents' Day and a winter recess day.

Responsible Reporting

PLEASE continue to contact the school to report absences and contact the school nurse, Cheryl Santore at csantore@bethany-ed.org, BCS: (203) 393-3350 x615 or cell (203) 494-8156, if a student/staff, **or a household family member**, tests positive for COVID-19 or if student/staff has been identified as a close contact requiring quarantining.

Travel Advisory



Some BCS children are reporting that their families plan to travel over the long weekend. On behalf of DPH and QVHD, we have been asked to remind our entire Bethany school community about the necessity to act in a responsible and safe manner. Health officials are asking Connecticut residents to consider limiting their travel and decreasing the mobility between people. If families/staff must travel they need to adhere to the [Travel Advisory](#) guidelines before students/staff can return to school/work.

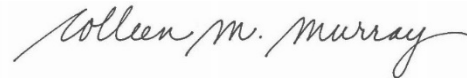
Per the Governor's order, anyone traveling into Connecticut from a state or territory, other than New York, New Jersey, or Rhode Island, or from a country other than the United States will need to adhere to **one** of the following reentry requirements:

1. Staff/Students must quarantine/self-isolate for 10-days before returning to school.
2. Staff/Students can obtain any COVID-19 test, other than the antibody test, **within 72 hours prior to leaving the red (visiting) state**. The test results would need to show the individual tested **NEGATIVE** and a copy must be provided to the school before resuming in-person schooling.
3. Staff/Students can obtain any COVID-19 test, other than the antibody test, **after returning to Connecticut**. However, they would need to wait until the results come back **NEGATIVE** before returning to school. The test results would need to show the individual tested **NEGATIVE** and a copy must be provided to the school before resuming in-person schooling.

Our health department strongly recommends getting a PCR test due to better accuracy and reliability.

The goal of having children attend school, in-person, is only safe when a community works together to control transmission and the spread of the virus. Therefore, your ongoing cooperation and responsible reporting is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen M. Murray".

Colleen M. Murray
Superintendent