

Bethany Public School District

Colleen Murray, Superintendent

44 Peck Road Bethany, Connecticut 06524 cmurray@bethany-ed.org Phone (203) 393-1170 Fax (203) 393-0239 www.bethany-ed.org

February 19, 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), as well as, the instructional model decision for next week.

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 10 positive cases with a rate of 13.0 positive cases per 100,000 for the weeks of January 31st through February 13th. This recent data takes Bethany out of the Red Zone and into the Orange Zone.

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 Quinnipiack Valley Health District (QVHD), **BCS will remain in-person learning for the week of Monday, February 22nd**.

Responsible Reporting

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

Please do not send your child to school to be assessed by the nurse if they are experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms. By doing so, our chances of controlling transmission and preventing quarantines become challenged.

Thank you to all the staff and families who are working collaboratively with the school to keep everyone safe. 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. Your ongoing cooperation and responsible reporting is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Colleen M. Murray Superintendent

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