

I hope this week has been treating everyone well. In this week's Parent Update, we want to share important information and updates about:

- Remote days for vaccinations
- Phone disruption
- COVID cases
- Home visits

REMOTE DAYS FOR STAFF VACCINATIONS

I would like to thank everyone for their understanding about our upcoming remote learning days for staff vaccinations tomorrow (Friday, March 5), and next month on Tuesday, April 6. I sent a School Messenger out on Tuesday evening informing families of the remote day we're having tomorrow.

There have been some questions about why we picked a Friday and a Tuesday for vaccines. The health district provided the date for tomorrow's vaccination, and we also that we can start the vaccination process as soon as possible. The goal is to get both doses of the vaccine to all staff who want it and allow the two weeks needed for developing full protections prior to April break.

There is a very small window in which staff can receive the second dose. By scheduling the second day this way, we have planned for a remote day on Tuesday, April 6 and we are already remote on Wednesday. This should reduce or possibly eliminate the need to have any unplanned remote days should a high percentage of staff who get vaccinated experience side effects, which would result in lack of coverage on a typical in-person school day.

Meals on Friday, March 5, and Tuesday, April 6, will be available for pick-up, but only at East Windsor Middle School from 8 am – 10 am. Meals for students from all three buildings can be picked up at EWMS on that day.

PHONE DISRUPTION

The phone systems will be offline for maintenance after school on Wednesday, March 10, at approximately the following times: HS/BOE: 2:30pm – 4:30pm, MS: 4:30pm – 6:30pm, BBES: 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Please use email if you need to contact the schools during those time periods.

We are pleased to have the ability to upgrade our phone systems through an Alliance grant specifically available for capital projects.

HOME VISITS

Please remember that our social workers and members of our teaching and administrative staff are happy to conduct home visits with families. All mitigation strategies are followed, and visits are conducted with EWPS staff outside. These home visits have helped some students and their parents/guardians feel more comfortable with a return to in-person learning and can help with a student's transition to school, even after he or she has returned. If you are planning for your child to return to 5 days a week in-person when that occurs, you may also find it helpful to have a home visit in preparation. Please contact your child's teacher, building principal, or social worker if you would like to schedule a home visit.

PLANNING FOR 5 DAYS PER WEEK

The administrative team has begun discussing a return to in-person learning 5 days per week. We have not established a firm date at this point. We have started to review and discuss factors that need to be considered prior to our students returning full time. We will continue to provide updates to our families as decisions are made.

The first step we will be taking is to survey all of our remote students next week and determine if any of those students will return to school when we move to 5 days per week. This will help us to ensure we plan as well as possible. We appreciate those families completing the survey.

COVID CASES

We have had one positive case since the last parent update.

Again, thank you for all of your support, patience, and flexibility through this past calendar year.

Take care

Christine