

In this week's Parent Update, we want to share important information and updates about:

- Mask requirements
- Senior activities and high school exams
- End of year activities
- Warm weather
- COVID 19 vaccines for 12–15-year-olds
- “Opt out” and use of parent choice for remote learning for 2021-2022 school year
- COVID-19 cases

MASK MANDATES

The mask requirements in Connecticut recently changed and have created some uncertainty for our families. In the East Windsor Public Schools, we are continuing to require masks in the school and will for the remainder of the academic year. Many of our students are too young to be vaccinated and many have health issues that would increase their risks for contracting or having complications due to Covid – 19. In addition, not all of our staff is vaccinated. We are requiring masks at least through the end of this year to protect our students and staff – our goal is to keep our students in school 5 days per week until June 15, our scheduled last day of school.

Please see an updated resource from the Department of Public Health which includes the requirement for all people, vaccinated and unvaccinated, to wear a mask in schools.

Please see the website Reopening Information page for details about our quarantine and testing requirements.

Thank you for respecting our protocols and helping us keep our students and staff safe.

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

All three of our schools are planning end of year activities including prom, graduation, 8th grade promotion and our 4th grade field day. Please check the portals for each school for information that has been sent home or any updates that may be provided in the upcoming weeks.

WARM WEATHER

I am pleased to say that warmer weather is upon us. Please send a water bottle with your children for their use during the day. We also ask that parents review the dress code for any guidelines that may apply to clothing worn in warmer weather. This includes not wearing flip flops at the elementary level for safety.

COVID VACCINES FOR 12 – 15 YEAR OLDS

As you may know, the Pfizer vaccine has received emergency authorization for use in children ages 12-15. I have reached out to the North Central Health District and we are in the process of coordinating a clinic for our students age 12-15. I will update you as soon as arrangements are finalized. In the meantime, if we are informed of any clinics we are happy to share those on our Facebook page

“OPT OUT” FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

The Connecticut State Department of Education has shared that, at this time, they do not anticipate continuing the option of parents voluntarily choosing to have students do remote learning for the year. The East Windsor Public Schools will not allow the continuation of students “opting out” of in-person learning for the 2021-2022 academic year as was allowed by the state during COVID 19. Students enrolled in the EWPS will be expected to attend classes in person next school year. Full time remote learning has presented many challenges for students and staff and our data does not support the voluntary continuation of that option.

Some students may still require remote learning at times due to quarantine or being identified as a close contact for students who are not vaccinated. The need to use remote learning in those cases will be determined by nursing and school administration. We look forward to having all of our students back, in person next year.

COVID-19 CASES

We have had 0 positive cases since the last parent update.

Thank you and enjoy the weekend!

Christine