

9.3.21

Monthly Parent Update:

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

- Open House
- Sign-ups for Middle School Soccer
- Positive Cases
- Reminders: Current COVID protocols; and, Athletics, COVID protocols, and spectator attendance

Open House

Open House is scheduled for each of the schools for the month of September. The Open House format will include both in-person and virtual options for participation. A virtual tour of each school will be provided to families to get familiar with the building. A meet and greet with teachers will be made available outdoors and will be weather dependent. Each individual school will communicate the schedule to families. The dates and times are provided below:

EWHS- September 8 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

EWMS- September 21 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

BBS- September 28 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

East Windsor Middle School Fall Sports Participation:

Middle School Boys and Girls Soccer is scheduled to start on Wednesday, September 8. Parents interested in having their child participate in boys or girls soccer at the Middle School are required to complete and submit the electronic form found on the FamilyID link: <https://www.familyid.com/programs/east-windsor-fall-sports-2021-2022>

Please contact Principal Field at tfield@ewct.org with any questions.

Positive Cases

The number of positive cases will continue to be available and updated on a weekly basis on our website found at <https://www.eastwindsork12.org/about-us/news/ewps-weekly-covid19-positive-numbers/>.

For the first week of school, we had 5 positive cases at the Broad Brook School.

COVID PROTOCOLS

There are no updates to our COVID protocols. Please see the attached protocol that should be followed when your child is beginning to show any symptoms listed in the document. We have been informed that the State Department of Education will be providing updated guidance in the very near future. We will communicate these updates in a timely manner. As a resource, the current guidance that has been previously communicated is below.

Masks

Based on the current guidance from DPH, the Governor's Executive Order, and the Town of East Windsor order, all staff and students will be required to wear masks in school regardless of their vaccination status. The CDC currently requires masking on transportation so all students must wear masks on the buses. Masks are not required when students are outside for physical education or recess.

Masks must still cover both the mouth and nose and may not include vents.

We are providing additional space as feasible within our classrooms and in the school environments. Students will be using individual desks again this year rather than tables to help reduce possible spread of illness. We will have additional space available for lunch since students will have their masks off to eat.

Our buses will have more students riding than last year given the change to all in-person learning. Please help ensure your child has a mask on when getting on the bus. We will be using seating charts to help with contact tracing and the bus company will have windows open unless the weather prohibits to increase ventilation.

Close contact, quarantining and alternative learning

Vaccinated students - may remain in school but we require testing between day 3-5 after exposure. Students may remain in school while awaiting their test results as long as they remain symptom free.

Unvaccinated students - Quarantine test between day 3-5 following exposure and students may return to school on day 7 with a negative test result and no symptoms.

Positive Covid test - In the event of a positive student test, the student is required to quarantine for 10 days and may return after the 10 days and improved symptoms. Alternative learning will be communicated and provided by your child's teachers through the use of remote assignments and/or remote participation with live instruction.

If your child has received the Covid 19 vaccination, please provide a copy of their vaccination card to the school nurse. This will assist the school nurse when determining how long to send students home for quarantine and isolation purposes.

We have received clarification from the Department of Education that remote learning will not be permitted for inclement weather days to count as part of the mandatory 180 days of school. The traditional structure of delays, early dismissal or "snow days" will be in place this upcoming year for school closures (e.g., inclement weather).

Traveling outside of the state for more than 24 hours:

Unvaccinated students - Must quarantine and test between day 3-5 after their return to the state. Day 1 being the day after their return to the state. Students will stay home until day 7 and if test results are negative, they can return to school on day 7 with a copy of their test results and they must remain symptom free.

Vaccinated students - May return to school as long as they remain symptom free.

International travel

Unvaccinated students - Must quarantine and test between day 3-5 after their return to the state. Day 1 being the day after their return to the state. Students will stay home until day 7 and if test results are negative, they can return to school on day 7 with a copy of their test results and they must be symptom free.

Vaccinated students - May return to school. Must test between day 3-5 with day 1 being the day after they return to the state. They can remain in school while awaiting test results and must provide the negative results to the school nurse and remain symptom free.

A PCR test is required for testing and the district has the right to verify a students' vaccination card.

Athletics:

As of today, the CIAC has given the following guidance in terms of indoor and outdoor requirements for fall athletes, coaches, fans, officials.

Indoor: Masks will be required at all times

- Volleyball:

- Practices, matches, scrimmages whether participating or spectating
- Swim:
 - Masks required while not in the water
- Soccer/XC:
 - Masks required if practices are moved inside for weather
- Fans/spectators/officials/staff
 - Masks will be required for any and all staff, officials, fans during any indoor event
 - Indoor seating will be spaced 6ft apart for spectators. We are still exploring the necessity for indoor home events being limited to home spectators only to accommodate the 6 ft of spacing.

Outdoor: Masks ARE NOT REQUIRED AT ANY TIME WHILE OUTSIDE

- Volleyball:
 - If practicing outside
- Soccer/Cross Country:
 - No masks required while participating or spectating outside
- Fans/spectators/officials/staff:
 - NOT REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK
 - Social distancing required
- 100% capacity allowed at sporting events

Athletics: Quarantine, Contacts, Isolation

Fully vaccinated students/staff who are a close contact with a known COVID-19 case do not have to quarantine from sports or other activities, provided they remain asymptomatic after close contact with a known COVID-19 case (Interim Recommendations for COVID-19 Prevention in Connecticut's PreK-12 Schools, July 2021), and wear a mask until receiving a negative COVID-19 test (taken between days 3 and 5 from the date of contact) or 14 days without a test.

Unvaccinated asymptomatic students who are a close contact of a known COVID-19 case will quarantine for 10 days (with a negative test between days 7 and 10) or 14 days without a test.

Vaccinated and unvaccinated students who experience COVID-19 symptoms after close contact with a known COVID-19 case will quarantine for 10 days (with a negative test between days 7 and 10) or 14 days without a test.

As a reminder, going forward Parent Updates will be provided on a monthly basis during the first Friday of every month. Additional updates will be provided with any changes to our processes and protocols that potentially have a significant impact on our students. Please continue to check the Reopening Information tab on our website for the most up-to-date information.

If anyone has questions, please feel free to email or call my office or the main office for your child's school.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Labor Day weekend and looking forward to week 2 with the kids!

Patrick