



WOODBIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road - South
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Christine Syriac – Interim Superintendent
Cheryl Mammen – Special Services Director | Alfred Pullo, Jr. – Director of Business Services/Operations

November 6, 2020

Dear Beecher Road School Parents and Staff,

At the time I am writing this letter, we have completed 40 days of in-person learning. The success of reopening to in-person learning is contributed to the efforts of the entire BRS community. Compliance with our mitigation strategies, wearing masks, hand washing, co-horting, home health screening, social distancing, and providing creative opportunities for more outdoor learning have all contributed to our remaining in full in-person learning. It is important that we keep following the established protocols to keep the Covid numbers down.

As I mentioned last week, Woodbridge is on the rise and this week moved to *Red* on the town-level Covid response framework published weekly by the Connecticut Department of Public Health. The Woodbridge numbers moved from 10.5 last week to 15.4 this week. With the rise in local and state metrics, we would be remiss if we did not prepare for the possibility of a change in our instructional model. Should we need to further reduce the person-density at Beecher Road School, we will move to the Hybrid Model with half of our students attending school in-person and half of our students learning remotely. Our current remote students would remain all remote.

Our teachers spent time during the November 3 in-service day to develop a schedule for the *Hybrid Plan*, and there is a working group of teachers who are meeting weekly to finalize the *Hybrid Plan*. This is extremely challenging work that is being accomplished along with their day-to-day efforts to teach our students during a pandemic. None of this is possible without the dedication of our teachers and without the continued support of our BRS community.

To better prepare for a move to a *Hybrid Model*, we will be practicing on Monday, November 23 and November 24, the two student days prior to the Thanksgiving Break. On **Monday, November 23** students **A-K** will attend **in-person** and students **L-Z** will learn *remotely*. On **Tuesday, November 24** students **L-Z** will attend **in-person** and students **A-K** will learn *remotely*. The administration and teachers will utilize a portion of the in-service time on November 25 to adjust the plan as necessary. Additional information about the *Hybrid Plan* will be sent to parents by administration as we get closer to practice dates.

Monday November 23	Tuesday November 24	Wednesday November 25	Thursday November 26	Friday November 27
Hybrid A-K Students In-person L-Z Students <i>Remote</i>	Hybrid A-K Students <i>Remote</i> L-Z Students In-person	In-Service Day for Teachers <i>No Students</i>	No School	No School

Additionally, in consultation with both the Orange Health Department (OHD) and the Quinnipiac Valley Health District (QVHD), the **Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, and Amity school districts will participate in a week of full remote learning** in an effort to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 following the Thanksgiving Holiday recess, as noted on the next page: (*Please Note: Lunch will be provided during the week of remote learning - additional details to follow.*)

Superintendent (203) 387-6631
Fax (203) 397-0724

Business/Operations (203) 389-3413
www.woodbridge.k12.ct.us

Special Services (203) 389-6598
Fax (203) 389-8164

Monday November 30	Tuesday December 1	Wednesday December 2	Thursday December 3	Friday December 4
Full Remote ALL Students	Full Remote ALL Students	Full Remote ALL Students	Full Remote ALL Students	Full Remote ALL Students

According to both the OHD and QVHD public health officials, most of the scientific studies have demonstrated that on average it takes 5–6 days for symptoms to appear after being exposed to a confirmed positive Covid-19 case/person. Therefore, during the week of remote learning, it is important to keep track of the daily symptoms. Families and staff who are traveling out of state are reminded of the [Governor’s Executive Order 9C](#) and the [International Travel Advisory](#) from the CDC. Persons traveling to [restricted states](#) are required to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days upon return to Connecticut or present a negative RT-PCR Covid test prior to returning to work/school. Please plan accordingly if your holiday plans include out of state travel.

As the holiday season is approaching, and as a friendly reminder, please follow mitigation strategies such as physical distancing, hand washing and avoiding large crowds. The Covid-19 virus spreads primarily through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks, so it’s important to practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow) and wearing a face covering/mask when unable to keep distance during social gatherings. No doubt the holidays will be different this year, but these practices will assist in the health and safety of our community and in keeping our schools open.

I wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,



Christine Syriac
Interim Superintendent

CS/md