

**Amity Regional School District Reopening – February 26, 2021 Update**

The decision of the district's instruction model is developed in consultation with local health departments and with consideration of the leading and secondary indicators and metrics identified in [Addendum 4](#) of the CT Department of Education's reopening plan. These are identified by [town](#) and by [county](#). Superintendents in BOWA meet weekly with health officials from the Orange Department of Health and the Quinnipiack Valley Health District to review weekly data. The purpose of those meetings is 1) to discuss the instructional model that provides maximum educational learning opportunities while mitigating health risks to students and staff and 2) to make decisions that are both responsive to the current health crisis, but that also provide continuity of educational programming based on local data and information.

**Leading Indicator**

Leading Indicator	MORE In-Person Learning	Re-assess strategies to determine appropriate balance of in-person and remote learning (hybrid learning)	LESS In-Person Learning
<b>Number of new cases of COVID-19</b> (14-day average of new cases per 100,000 population per day)	< 10 new cases per 100,000 per day	10 to < 25 cases per 100,000 per day	25+ cases per 100,000 per day

The CSDE and CT DPH use the 14-day average of new cases per 100,000 population per day as the leading indicator for determining the instructional model. The data in the Amity communities since the start of the school year is:

<b>Reporting Period</b>	<b>Bethany</b>	<b>Orange</b>	<b>Woodbridge</b>	<b>Amity</b>
8/30/2020 - 9/5/2020	7.8	3.1	1.6	4.2
09/06/2020 - 09/12/2020	5.2	1.0	1.6	2.6
09/13/2020 - 09/19/2020	5.2	2.0	1.6	2.9
09/20/2020 - 09/26/2020	2.6	3.1	4.9	3.5
09/27/2020 - 10/10/2020*	13.0	4.1	3.2	6.8
10/04/2020 - 10/17/2020	10.4	6.7	4.9	7.3
10/11/2020 - 10/24/2020	10.4	9.7	10.5	10.2
10/18/2020 - 10/31/2020	9.1	12.8	15.4	12.4
10/25/2020 - 11/7/2020	13.0	15.9	12.2	13.7
11/1/2020 - 11/14/2020	24.8	24.1	17.0	22.0
11/8/2020 - 11/21/2020	27.4	27.7	21.1	25.4
11/15/2020 - 11/28/2020	27.4	36.4	24.3	29.4
11/22/2020 - 12/5/2020	31.3	33.3	26.0	30.2
11/29/2020 – 12/12/2020	54.8	42.0	18.7	38.5
12/6/2020 – 12/19/2020	43.0	35.5	10.5	29.6
12/13/2020 – 12/26/2020	30.0	41.0	16.2	29.1
12/20/2020 – 1/2/2021	53.5	59.9	38.1	50.5
12/27/20 – 1/9/2021	74.3	66.6	46.2	62.4
1/3/2021 – 1/16/2021	65.2	45.6	34.9	48.6
1/10/2021 – 1/23/2021	45.6	40.5	22.7	36.3
1/17/2021 – 1/30/2021	41.7	41.5	22.7	35.3
1/24/2021 – 2/6/2021	23.5	30.7	21.9	25.4
1/31/2021 – 2/13/2021	13.0	23.6	21.1	19.2
2/7/2021 – 2/20/2021	26.1	19.5	26.8	24.1

\* The DPH changed from a 7-day average to a 14-day average on October 15, 2020.

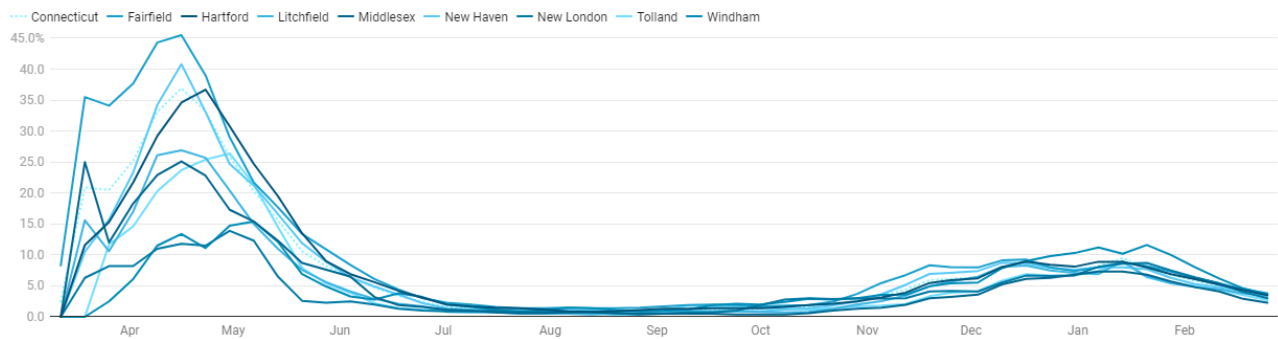
As noted in Addendum 4, “analyzing any of the suggested leading or secondary indicators at the individual town or school district level in our state may result in rates that are too unstable to be of any use in continuous decision-making.” Amity is fortunate that we can consider all three towns that we serve, as well as the New Haven county indicators when decision-making.

## Secondary Indicators

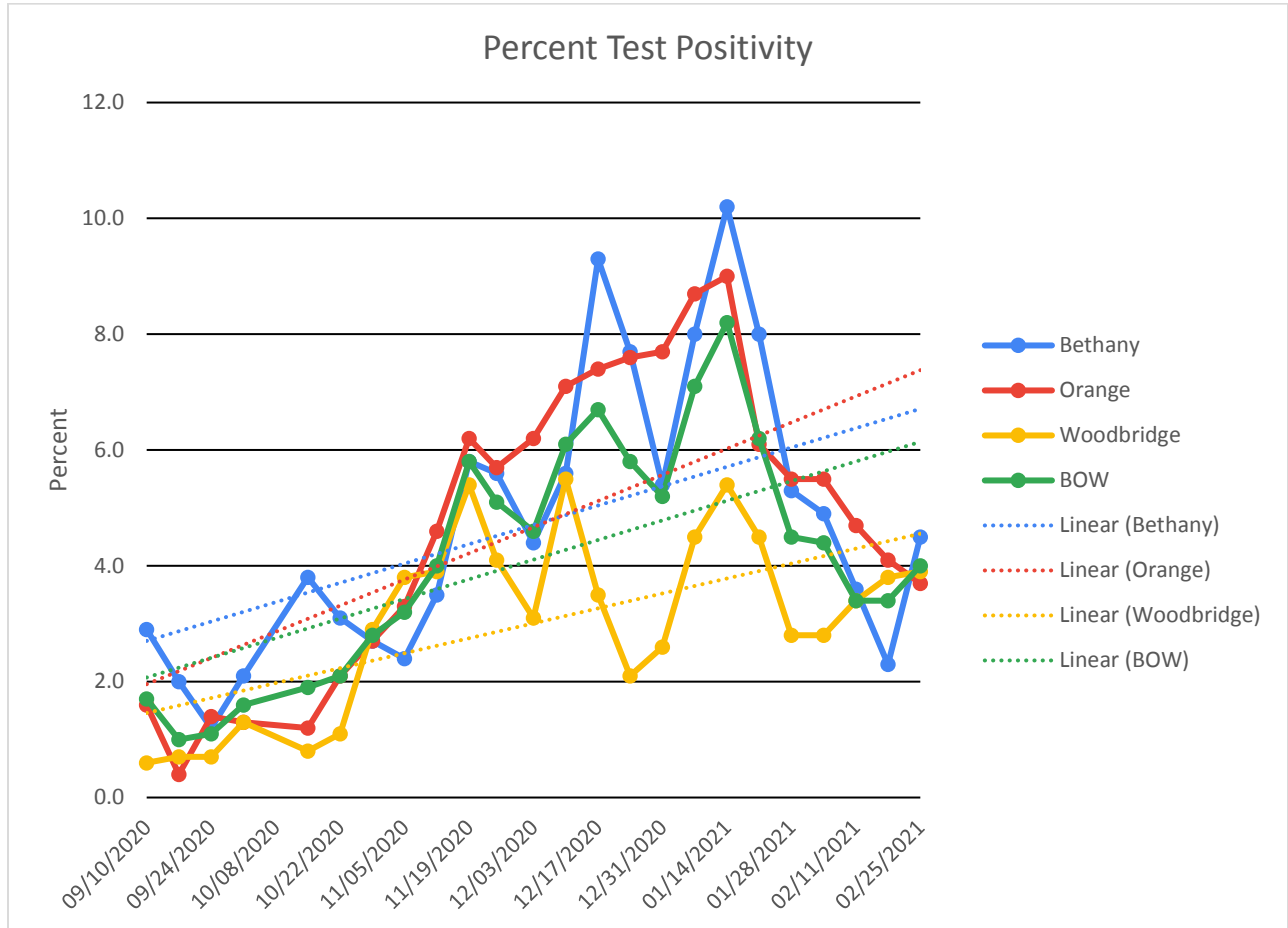
Secondary Indicators	MORE In-Person Learning	Re-assess strategies to determine appropriate balance of in-person and remote learning (hybrid learning)	LESS In-Person Learning
<b>Percent positivity rate</b> <i>(# of positive tests/ # of total tests, 14-day average)</i>	Secondary Indicators trending down to flat	<u>Direction of Change:</u> Secondary Indicators trending flat to upward	Secondary Indicators trending upward
<b>Number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population</b> <i>(14-day average)</i>	No statistically significant changes to Secondary Indicators	<u>Speed of Change:</u> Any statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators	Consistent, statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators
<b>COVID-like and Influenza-like Illness (CLI and ILI) Syndromic Surveillance</b>			

From a historical perspective, the percent test positivity at the start of the pandemic in Connecticut in March 2020 is very different from now – even as cases increase in the state.

Percent Test Positivity (14-Day Average)



The first of the secondary indicators, percent test positivity, is shown below for all three towns since the start of the school year. While there are fluctuations from data point to data point, the plot of the trend line demonstrates the overall pattern.



The Indicators on COVID-19 hospitalizations and COVID-like and Influenza-like Illness cannot be monitored at the town level, since numbers on the town level are so low. However, it can be monitored at a county level and the data per 100,000 per population per day from New Haven County since the beginning of the school year is as follows:

<b>Reporting Period</b>	<b>COVID-19 Hospitalizations</b>	<b>COVID-like illness</b>
8/30/2020 - 9/5/2020	0.4	1.7
09/06/2020 - 09/12/2020	0.6	1.9
09/13/2020 - 09/19/2020	0.5	2.0
09/20/2020 - 09/26/2020	0.4	2.1
09/27/2020 - 10/10/2020	0.5	2.5
10/04/2020 - 10/17/2020	0.6	2.7
10/11/2020 - 10/24/2020	0.8	2.9
10/18/2020 - 10/31/2020	1.3	3.5
10/25/2020 - 11/7/2020	2.1	4.5
11/1/2020 - 11/14/2020	3.6	5.8
11/8/2020 - 11/21/2020	4.6	6.9
11/15/2020 - 11/28/2020	4.7	7.5
11/22/2020 - 12/5/2020	5.0	7.3
11/29/2020 – 12/12/2020	5.2	7.6
12/6/2020 – 12/19/2020	5.1	7.5
12/13/2020 – 12/26/2020	5.4	6.9
12/20/2020 – 1/2/2021	4.8	6.7
12/27/2020 – 1/9/2021	4.9	6.4
1/3/2021 – 1/16/2021	6.0	6.8
1/10/2021 – 1/23/2021	6.0	6.5
1/17/2021 – 1/30/2021	5.3	5.7
1/24/2021 – 2/6/2021	4.6	5.0
1/31/2021 – 2/13/2021	4.4	4.3
2/7/2021 – 2/20/2021	4.2	3.7

As noted in Addendum 4, “analyzing any of the suggested leading or secondary indicators at the individual town or school district level in our state may result in rates that are too unstable to be of any use in continuous decision-making.” Therefore, the state also summarizes data by county to assist school districts in decision-making. The February 25, 2021 released data is summarized below. New Haven County is identified in the high category for both leading and secondary indicators.

## Summary Table

County	Leading		Secondary			Reporting Period	
	New COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population per day	Leading Indicator Risk Category	Percent test positivity	New COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population per day	Percent COVID-19-like illness hospital ED visits		Secondary Indicators Risk Category
Fairfield	24.2	Moderate	3.8%	2.9	4.0%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
Hartford	20.2	Moderate	3.5%	2.5	2.7%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
Litchfield	19.3	Moderate	3.4%	0.9	2.7%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
Middlesex	21.6	Moderate	2.3%	2.1	2.7%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
New Haven	26.7	High	3.6%	4.2	3.7%	High	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
New London	21.6	Moderate	3.0%	2.8	2.9%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
Tolland	15.2	Moderate	2.7%	0.1	2.7%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
Windham	18.2	Moderate	3.6%	1.8	3.0%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021
Connecticut	22.8	Moderate	3.5%	2.8	3.2%	Moderate	02/07/2021 - 02/20/2021

## Current School COVID Data

The chart below provides a snapshot of the current COVID-19 status of our schools and district. This chart indicates the number of new cases and new quarantines over a 1-week period. Please note that this is a moment in time and the actual number of positive cases in isolation and close contacts in quarantine changes daily. **Below is the February 18, 2021 update.**

Schools are required to report every positive COVID-19 case for all staff and students. This includes staff and students who are working remotely or who have already been quarantined and are not in the school environment. The letters that are sent to the community are only sent when a community member has been in the school recently and contact tracing and notification is required.

### COVID Data – 2/12/2021 – 2/18/2021

	+ Cases	Quarantine*
AMSB	0	2
AMSO	2	6
ARHS	8	9
District	10	17

\*Several individuals are in quarantine as a result of travel; not as a result of exposure to an index case.

## Next Steps

Based on the metrics from the past week, Amity schools will continue status quo operations. The middle schools will remain open full in-person and the high school will continue to operate in a hybrid instructional model.

We recently had a site visit with the health districts to plan for increasing the amount of in-person learning in all our schools. Information about instructional model changes will be shared early next week.

We are collaborating with QVHD and OHD to develop closed vaccination clinics for education staff to help with increasing in-person learning opportunities for students.