



WOODBIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road – South
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Jonathan S. Badd, Ph.D. – Superintendent

December 30, 2021

Dear Woodbridge School District Community,

Please read carefully these details related to health and safety at Beecher in the upcoming days and weeks:

- Mirroring trends, we have continued to see an increase in COVID-19 positive individuals within our Beecher community. Since my last communication in this regard, we have contact-traced based on notifications that 7 members of our community tested positive for COVID-19, and were at Beecher Road School when potentially contagious:

Case	Reported to BRS	Last at BRS	Contract Tracing Accomplished	# of additional BRS community members quarantined
1	12/23/21	12/21/21	12/23/21	14
2	12/25/21	12/23/21	12/25/21	26
3	12/26/21	12/22/21	12/26/21	6
4	12/27/21	12/23/21	12/27/21	12
5	12/28/21	12/23/21	12/28/21	13
6	12/28/21	12/21/21	12/28/21	3
7	12/28/21	12/23/21	12/28/21	13

In addition, we have been made aware of other individuals within our Beecher community who have tested positive for COVID-19, but whose illnesses have not initiated contact tracing because their last time at Beecher was more than 48 hours prior to their onset of symptoms or positive test result. Again, we are not alone in noticing an uptick in positive cases.

- The Connecticut State Department of Education has clarified to Superintendents that in-person learning must continue in January, with the following three key strategies:
 - Vaccination:
 - Please consider vaccination for you and/or your child.
 - After vaccination, please forward a copy of your child's vaccine card [to our Nursing Supervisor, Robin Froehle, RN](#), to assist us when we need to contact-trace; although we notify all families when they are close contacts of a COVID-positive individual at Beecher, fully-vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.
 - Testing:
 - We continue to participate in free weekly COVID-19 testing for students at Beecher. Testing is accomplished by external health personnel on Wednesday afternoons; your child will be escorted from class to and from the testing in our South Assembly Room. If you are interested in signing up your child for this testing, please complete [this Consent Form](#) and return it [to my attention](#).
 - We have been advised that CSDE/DPH will be distributing to all Connecticut K-12 schools COVID-19 rapid self-test kits and N-95 masks for distribution to families. When further details are available, I will communicate them to you.

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o Mitigation:

- Please keep your child home from school when your child feels sick, or has a fever, runny nose, or shortness of breath.
- Please continue to communicate the value of frequent thorough hand-washing, and use of hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Please continue to be prudent in activities involving crowds and/or travel.
- Please continue to note the value of masking and social distancing.
- Please review [the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention \(CDC\) website](#) for additional details.

• You may have heard that the CDC recently issued updated guidance on isolation and quarantine periods for the general population. At this time, the CT DPH has not issued any guidance on applying the new CDC recommendations to school settings. Thus, we must continue to implement the prior guidelines, found in ["Addendum 5" from CSDE](#). If updates in this area occur, I will communicate them to you.

• Until we return from winter recess, if your child tests positive for COVID-19, please continue to e-mail all of the following three individuals so that we can advise you appropriately on next steps related to your child's education:

BRS Principal Analisa Sherman (asherman@woodbridgeps.org)

BRS Assistant Principal Jimmy Sapia (jsapia@woodbridgeps.org)

Superintendent Jonathan Budd (jbudd@woodbridgeps.org).

On behalf of every child and staff member of the Woodbridge School District, thank you for your part in ensuring our community's health and safety. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time (jbudd@woodbridgeps.org / 203-387-6631) with any questions, concerns, or feedback.

Sincerely,



Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D.
Superintendent

*Thank you
for your continued
support of the health
and safety of all in
our community.*