



## EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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January 2, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the holiday break there has been much discussion regarding increased cases of COVID-19 across our community and the state. There have also been rumors regarding the reopening of schools and the possibility of a return to remote learning.

The East Lyme Public Schools has **no plans to return to remote learning and all families should plan on a full reopening to school tomorrow, January 3, 2022.** Additionally, local school districts and local health departments do not have the authority to issue an emergency declaration to implement remote learning. Such declarations can only be decided pursuant to legislative or gubernatorial authority. Our students are best served within our buildings, and we have worked hard and have been successful in providing a safe environment with the ongoing mitigation measures that are in place.

The Department of Health just released updated considerations for quarantine, isolation, testing, and contact tracing procedures for school districts. **Please look for correspondence from my office over the next few days outlining these adjustments that will be implemented.**

We look forward to having everyone back in our buildings tomorrow and we will maintain ongoing mitigation measures. Please help in talking with your child(ren) about the importance of continued and appropriate mask wearing while in school. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email or reach out to my office at 860 739-3966 ext. 5602.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton  
Superintendent of Schools

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