



SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

*Timothy M. Van Tassel, Ed.D.
Superintendent*

*Melissa Bielonko
Executive Secretary*

January 28, 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians, Faculty and Staff

This update will begin and end on a positive note (if you enjoy snow). To begin, our COVID-19 metrics have continued to decline, and we will be discontinuing the weekly metric updates. Our families are already receiving many communications from your schools and teachers, and lessening the volume of notifications (at least for awhile) will help refocus on what is most important – your children and their progress in school. If we happen to enter into another surge in the future, we will provide these weekly metric updates as a means of keeping everyone informed. I would like to thank you for your support over this past month and taking the extra precautions to keep our students and staff safe and our schools open.

COVID-19 Hartford County and Town of Suffield Metrics

	Date	Number of new cases of COVID-19 (14-day average of new cases per 100,000 population per day)	
		Hartford County	Suffield
<p>Suffield 14 Day New Cases/100K 163.96</p>	Jan 26	122.39	163.96
	Jan 25	138.78	183.83
<p>Hartford County 14 New Cases/100K 122.39</p>	Jan 24	146.63	196.48
	Jan 23	152.82	190.16
	Jan 22	159.30	181.58
	Jan 21	165.77	172.99
	Jan 20	172.25	164.41
	Jan 19	187.37	164.86
	Jan 18	198.00	178.87
	Jan 17	213.65	190.61
	Jan 16	233.04	194.67
	Jan 15	232.65	175.7
	Jan 14	232.26	173.9
	Jan 13	231.87	153.57
	Jan 12	226.27	187.45
	Jan 11	220.19	172.54
Jan 10	221.96	162.6	
Jan 9	221.88	159.44	
Jan 8	213.70	153.57	
Jan 7	205.53	147.7	

The average number of positive cases over 14 days continues to decline in both the county and town. For historical context, the County and Town were at 54.49 and 95.30 respectively on January 26, 2021. On January 26, 2022, the County and Town were at 122.39 and 163.96. At the highest point last January (2021), the Town of Suffield’s average was 115.18 (January 20, 2021).

COVID-19 Suffield Public Schools COVID-19 Trend History

	24-Dec	27-Dec	28-Dec	29-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan	7-Jan	8-Jan	9-Jan	10-Jan	11-Jan	12-Jan	13-Jan	14-Jan	15-Jan	16-Jan	17-Jan	18-Jan	19-Jan	20-Jan	21-Jan	22-Jan	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	26-Jan
# of Confirmed Cases	7	24	11	17	11	10	68	10	8	3	9	12	21	34	9	12	6	4	7	3	9	7	4	7	10	9	7	7	6	3
# of Students Quarantined	101	84	85	86	91	89	111	149	180	183	152	110	63	87	88	97	94	86	72	41	41	36	34	37	40	46	44	44	46	42
# of Certified Staff Quarantined	1	2	3	4	7	8	9	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	4	1	1	0	1	0	0
# of Non-Cert. Staff Quarantined	1	2	2	4	5	5	2	0	0	4	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Cert. & Non-Cert. Staff Totals	2	4	5	8	12	13	11	1	0	5	3	4	13	13	16	12	10	7	8	9	7	7	10	13	13	12	12	13	9	5
Student & Staff Totals	103	88	90	94	103	102	122	150	180	188	155	114	76	100	104	109	104	93	80	50	48	43	44	50	53	58	56	57	55	47

We have adjusted our worksheet formulas to calculate the quarantines of certified and non-certified staff over the 5-day quarantine period. This was not happening in previous data sets, so we have made an adjustment to the spreadsheet moving forward.

SPS Student Absence Reporting

		1/10	1/11	1/12	1/13	1/14	1/15	1/16	1/17	1/18	1/19	1/20	1/21	1/22	1/23	1/24	1/25	1/26
AWS	Student Isolation (Parent-Reported Positive Cases)	9	4	3	2	3	2	0	1	1	2	0	2	5	2	3	0	0
	Student Quarantine (Exposures/Symptoms/Family Member) - "Powerschool Remote"	25	34	54	44	7	-	-	-	24	13	-	7	-	-	13	23	23
	Students Absent - "Powerschool Absent Excused & Unexcused"	29	22	15	23	24	-	-	-	13	13	-	22	-	-	16	11	7
MIS	Student Isolation (Parent-Reported Positive Cases)	17	3	3	3	0	2	2	3	2	0	2	2	3	1	2	4	1
	Student Quarantine (Exposures/Symptoms/Family Member) - "Powerschool Remote"	16	23	30	32	40	-	-	-	6	16	-	15	-	-	7	15	16
	Students Absent - "Powerschool Absent Excused & Unexcused"	51	37	24	26	35	-	-	-	30	20	-	29	-	-	31	17	23
SMS	Student Isolation (Parent-Reported Positive Cases)	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	5	0	3	0	2	1
	Student Quarantine (Exposures/Symptoms/Family Member) - "Powerschool Remote"	12	18	21	18	20	-	-	-	13	14	-	8	-	-	10	10	14
	Students Absent - "Powerschool Absent Excused & Unexcused"	29	31	28	26	44	-	-	-	27	18	-	32	-	-	25	25	23

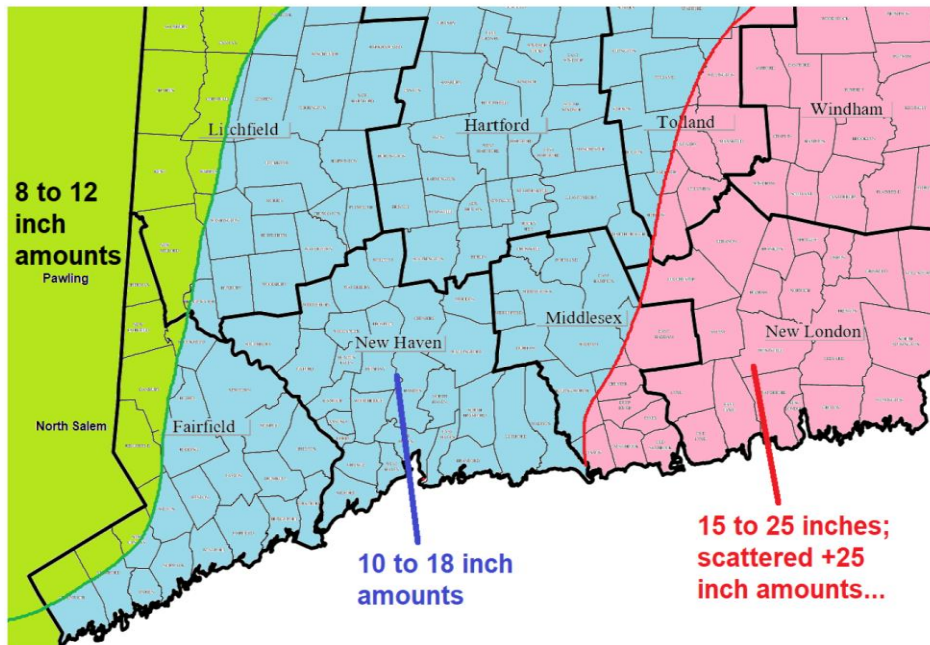
Please note that attendance is reported differently at SHS this week due to mid-terms and finals. Therefore, the high school data does not reflect student absences and has been omitted from this week's attendance report.

SPS COVID-19 PCR Testing

Date	Registered	Tested	Positive		% Tested	% Positive
20-Dec	301	169	2		56.1%	1.2%
29-Dec	447	136	17		30.4%	12.5%
3-Jan	670	313	19		46.7%	6.1%
6-Jan	757	306	17		40.4%	5.6%
10-Jan	814	351	21		43.10%	6.0%
13-Jan	832	252	5		30.3%	2.0%
21-Jan	831	207	9		24.9%	4.3%
24-Jan	816	335	6		41.1%	1.8%

Our percentage of positive cases has reached the level we were prior to the December vacation. As mentioned last week, we will discontinue testing twice per week until further notice. We will still maintain Monday as our testing day unless there is a need to move it to another day of the week due to Monday school closures. Once again, we have rapid at-home tests available in our nurse's offices for symptomatic students and staff.

The Weather



John Bagioni, Meteorologist
Fax-Alert Weather Service, LLC

ARE YOU READY?

Head to the Library to Stock Up Before the Storm!



Ann Lewis, Paraprofessional
Suffield High School

The first weather graphic is from this morning's modeling from our district's meteorologist. Meteorologist Bagioni noted in his forecast that nothing is concrete at this point and that we need to continue to closely monitor this storm. Excessive snowfall amounts and high winds will make for a difficult cleanup on Sunday. Therefore, our schools will remain closed throughout the weekend.

As for the second weather graphic, it was shared by Mrs. Lewis, Paraprofessional at Suffield High School. When I sent the faculty and staff their weather update today, she sent me back her forecasting model for the storm. I liked it so much, I had to include it in this update!

To close, I wish you all a warm and safe weekend.

Sincerely,
Tim
Timothy M. Van Tasel, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools