

N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 0

# Superintendent Goguen's Newsletter



## Welcome Back to School In the Hybrid Model

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to school for the Hybrid model of schooling! On Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, we will welcome Cohort A students for in-person learning on Mondays and Tuesdays and Cohort B students for in-person learning on Wednesdays and Thursdays. (Note: alternate days of the week are all remote for Cohort A & B). All Cohort C students will continue to come to school Monday thru Thursday for in-person learning and remote learning on Friday. Cohort D students are remote only learners and they will continue to participate in remote learning from home.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### Thanksgiving Holiday

½ Day Nov. 25

No school Nov. 26

No school Nov. 27

#### ½ day of school

½ day of school for  
BHS

FRIDAY

DEC. 4

#### Winter Break

No School for  
students Dec. 21  
thru Jan 1

### Safety Protocols

Please take the time to discuss the **SAFETY Protocols** with your child/children:

1. Masks must be worn in school and on the bus. Masks need to cover your nose and mouth. There will be scheduled mask breaks throughout the day. **Parents/Guardians are asked to wash and dry their child's/children's cloth masks daily.**

2. Social Distancing may be the most challenging aspect for our students to adjust to upon their return. Schools are social places and it will be hard for many of our students who have not seen their friends during this pandemic not to want to run up to them and hug them!

3. Frequent hand washing.

4. **Staying home when feeling ill is key to keeping everyone safe. Students can always log on remotely on these days.**



# TEAMWORK

## Home & School Partnership

### Communication

We expect that all our students are very excited to return to school! We also anticipate that some students may experience some feelings of being “let down” because school is “different” than what they remember it to be. We are prepared to support all our students with the transition back to school, and remind families that our school counselors, and school psychologists are here to assist your child/children.



### Emergency Staffing Shortage Plan

Webster, like many districts, is finding it challenging to find substitute teachers during this pandemic. We are also aware that we could be faced with more staff and students absences this year. If we have less than 85% of staff and we are unable to secure substitute teachers, Principals will be notifying either Cohort A or Cohort B that they will need to stay home for a remote learning day. Principals will use the One Call system. If and when this happens, Cohort C would still report to school for in-person learning.

### EMERGENCY PICK-UP PLANS

It is crucial that all families fill out the emergency contact information recently sent home by the Principals and School Nurses. We need accurate contact information for all students. Families need to have a plan on who could come to pick up their students within an hour in the case of an emergency.





## Other News & Updates

### Buses

Students are required to wear a mask on the bus. **Only students with a bus pass are allowed to ride a bus.** It is advised that students dress warmly because the windows are cracked open for increased air circulation per the guidance we are required to follow.



### Food Distribution Centers

#### **To-Go Meals Schedule**

Every Monday - 6 Meals (3 Days)

Every Thursday-4 Meals (2 Days)

Park Ave OR Webster Middle

Pick Up 10:30 - 12:30

FREE for 18 and under

For menus go to <https://www.webster-schools.org/>



### 1:1 Devices

Students need to bring their **FULLY CHARGED** Chrome books and Tablets to and from school on the days they attend for **in-person learning**. Our teachers are teaching in-person and remote students at the same time, in a synchronous fashion, so students will need their computers when they come to school.



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## WMS National Junior Honor Society Inductees




### 7th Grade:

Nicholas Albright  
David Betancur  
Leah Bouthillier  
Nathan Chenevert  
Jayla Fowler  
Rylee Fulmine  
Jocelyn Gordon  
Angelica Padilla  
Eryk Piwowarczyk  
Mason Sebestyanski  
Gabriel Turcotte  
Arianna Watson  
Kenny Arpin

### 8th Grade:

Faith Binney  
Savannah Bjork  
Gracien Boucher  
Hope Cooper  
Emma DeRoche  
Colin Farraher  
Kira Gillette  
Abigail Haynes  
Ayden Heenan  
Lexani Lewis  
Maya Ortiz  
Willis Perrault  
Adam Phillips  
Corey Scovil  
Annika Stockhaus  
Gabriella Troy  
Adam Urato  
Isabella Vasconcelos  
Dakota Vaudreuil  
Amelia White  
Cayden Young





## Class of 2021

### John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients



Noah Azzaoui  
Kayla Berthiaume  
Talya Binienda  
Jurnee Bonnick  
Abena Bonsu  
Jayden Cuellar  
Adriel Febrier  
Madden Finamore  
Abigail Giguere  
Emily Gjergo  
Christopher Hansen  
Emma Hinchey  
Andrew Hinkle

Jaycob Holbrook  
Kathryn James  
Norman Maciver  
Katherine McMaster  
Kody Osborne  
Danielle Patricks  
Gabriela Piwowarczyk  
Vivian Poplawski  
Ryan Spitz  
Autumn Stewart  
Ryan Truscott  
Aaron Zalewski





As we prepare for the shift to Hybrid on Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, I feel a few things need to be communicated.

First, I want to continue to assure the community that I take the seriousness of trying to keep our entire student and staff population safe during this global health pandemic to heart. We, collectively (teachers, staff, custodians, food service workers, and administrators) have been working non-stop on developing new safety procedures and protocols for in-school learning since we closed down last spring and we have all worked diligently to keep families updated and informed. For clarification, we have always had a plan to shift to hybrid when it was safe to do so. We originally planned to shift to hybrid on October 19<sup>th</sup>, but because we were in the red metric and seeing a spike, we did not change models at that time. Our original plan was to return to hybrid after being out of the red metrics for three weeks and after consulting with the Public Board of Health Director.

Since that time, the Governor and DESE have come out stating school are not super spreader places. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Webster Public School Committee voted to move to hybrid on November 16<sup>th</sup> and shortly after this the State changed the color metric systems. While I respect and will follow the School Committee's decision, this decision was not based upon my recommendation or the recommendation of the Public Board of Health Director, as there are increasing COVID numbers across the state and increased cases in Webster for both students and community members.

In an effort to continue to be transparent and assist families with making their own decisions related to their own children, we will be producing a Webster Public School Covid Dashboard that will capture data from Tuesday to Tuesday. Below you will see the data from 9/22/2020 to 11/10/2020.

District Results 9/22/2020- 11/10//2020 11:00 am

	students	staff
Sent home with Covid Symptoms or called in sick	49	28
Tested negative (of known) in person or other cohorts	33	31
Presumed positives (10 day quarantine if they don't get tested and if they are not a known confirmed contact)	39	1
Quarantined due to close contact (non school related close contact)(quarantine is minimum of 14 days)	37	8
Sent home as identified close contact in school setting(14 day quarantine)	0	6
Positive COVID test (minimum of 10 day quarantine)	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to remote setting, these students have not been in school</li> <li>• <b>Note: 6 of these positives have been reported in the past 2 days.</b></li> </ul>	1
Travel quarantine	7	0
Pending results	6	5

I want to continue to assure our families that we are truly are looking forward to seeing our students return to school. This data is not meant to distract from the hybrid model, rather provide everyone some detailed insight on how COVID will be impacted attendance. For sure, our teachers, staff, administrators, and students have all been ROCK STARS during this unprecedented time. WE CARE about our students and certainly this has not been an easy time for anyone.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Ruthann Petrino-Goguen