

Public Notice of Meeting
WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, November 5, 2020
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School-Media Room
7:00 p.m.

Videoconferencing: meet.google.com/ixj-wuoy-ivt

Audio: [+1 224-801-4862](tel:+12248014862) (PIN: 476879716)

Due to current events all videoconferencing options may be subject to modifications. Please check www.sau63.org for the latest information.

- I. CALL TO ORDER-Alexander LoVerme-Chair**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. PRESENTATION-DISTANCE LEARNING EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE**
 - a. Holiday Remote Learning Proposal**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- V. SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT**
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

INFORMATION: Next School Board Meeting-November 10, 6:30 PM at WLC MS/HS

Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District
School Administrative Unit #63

192 Forest Road Lyndeborough, NH 03082
603-732-9227

Bryan K. Lane
Superintendent of Schools

Ned Pratt
Director of Student Support Services

Robert Mullin
Business Administrator

TO: The WLC School Board
FROM: The Remote Learning Committee
DATE: 10/22/2020
RE: Recommendation for Holiday Instruction

The Superintendent has sent out an inquiry to the staff to determine how many instructional staff persons are intending to travel outside of New England for the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday and December Break. Additional information was also received in regard to those staff persons who would be hosting families from outside of New England over the holiday. The information received by the Superintendent is that there would be 6-8 staff persons who would be either be traveling or receiving family.

In discussion on October 20, the committee came to a consensus that whether a staff person was leaving the New England area or hosting family from outside New England, these individuals would need to quarantine for 14 days. While our protocol does not specify having out of area guests, it was discussed at length that the risk would be significant enough to warrant the same quarantine. Guests are traveling from outside the safe travel area that has been identified by our protocol, the State of NH, and DOE and cohabitation increases contact thereby increasing the risk further.

The Superintendent does not feel that the district can provide substitutes for this many staff person and still provide appropriate supervision or instruction. The consensus of the committee is the following recommendation:

- The Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District will go to a remote instruction model from Monday November 30, 2020 and return to the current options for families on Tuesday January 19, 2021.
- The Committee recognizes that a 14-day quarantine after Thanksgiving would allow students to return to school for 8 school days between December 14 and December 23. The Committee recommends not coming back because this would create additional transitions that would be difficult for students right before the December Holiday break.
- Staff will be encouraged to teach from the building but it will not be required. Those staff persons who are traveling or hosting visitors from outside New England must quarantine and may not come to our school buildings.
- The administration will work with the teaching staff to create duties for support staff and a mechanism to verify that activity.
- Tuesday November 24, will be a professional day for staff to meet with grade level and curriculum area teams to ensure that our staff is going to be consistent in their remote practice. The Committee discussed the following activities that are happening in November which will necessitate the transition day on November 24:
 - Teachers want to make sure that the transition to remote learning is as smooth as possible. Time to meet and ensure that expectations for instructional days, flex

days, and teacher planning days are the same for all students. We will need time to complete this task.

- November is a very busy time. Grades close November 6th. That week is spent assessing students. Many assessments in the primary grades require one to one time and then additional time to score. This requires additional time after school to score assessments.
- The following week is the deadline for Learning Profiles. Grades and comments must be entered and then the profiles are due to be printed. Doing this work after school will not allow teachers time to meet to work on transition plans.
- The week of November 16-20 is Parent Teacher Conferences for K-5. Although we were compensated for our time in October, there still isn't time for teachers to meet after school to work on transition plans as they are meeting with parents. Most teachers have meetings every day after school and one evening.
- Special needs students will still have the ability to come to school and work with support staff in order to meet the federal requirements of a free and appropriate education per IDEA regulations.

The Committee recognizes that these 28 school days in remote session puts a burden on families. This decision, if approved, will allow families to travel without worrying about quarantining their children over the holidays as well. By making the decision now, this will give parents time to plan and provide appropriate supervision for their children during this time period.

- My feedback on a month of remote learning so teachers can travel outside of new england is this...the public is asked to keep gatherings minimal, and to not travel outside of new england. If im not supposed to travel, I bet they aren't supposed to, either. Sounds like teachers are wanting to put their wants above the community. That's my feedback....
- In response to the recent letter, I have to say I am really disappointed. Both of my children have been in school full time with zero issues. Not only am I against closing the school for "holiday travel", but, I feel like we are setting the pace for the teachers to NOT follow CDC guidelines in regards to travel. I know our teachers work hard but we ALL have adjusted to this schedule and new way. We are all making sacrifices and the effort to follow guidelines. Our children cannot be taken out of school for 3 months, thrown into remote learning and then expect them to just bounce back into their classroom routine.

We are a blended family with 4 full-time working parents and step-parents. We cannot rely on the Boys and Girls Club for care or remote learning. They are not teachers. We chose full-time in school learning because we cannot take on the financial burden again of staying home from work. We don't have suitable internet available in Lyndeborough for both kids to remote learn. In the spring, my daughter had to sit in the mudroom to attend her google classroom meetings.

This is not a COVID-19 issue, this is a staffing issue. It should not be a burden on tax payers, parents and students because the district did not plan on having back-up staff.

In my opinion, we need to stop trying to control every aspect of this virus and carry on the best we can. Closing the schools down with 0 cases of COVID-19 for the 6-8 teachers to be able to travel is completely absurd.

- My child is a second grader at FRES. As far as I am concerned, we were given 3 options to choose our preferred method of schooling for our children. We chose full in school. We also are being responsible and not travelling at all in order for my child to have this option. I do believe that the teachers should be responsible in this as well. I am a full time essential worker and will not be able to do remote learning with my child. I am also a single mother who does not have anyone to help me get her remote learning done. Any schooling that she would be able to do would be done after 5pm and the school would have to make sure they can provide a proper packet for her for to complete AFTER I get home from work. The thought of all the families who chose the full school option and got jobs again to be able to provide for their families and AGAIN given the option at the end of the quarter only to have that taken away for the staffs leisurely travelling purposes is wrong on many levels. People lost jobs for a long time and are just starting to rebuild because the school as a team gave them that option, and now, due to highly selfish actions, will lose all that. I absolutely will not be leaving my job so teachers can travel. Now is not a time to travel! I stay local with my child and do not spend time with extended family members so my daughter can still go to school. I expect the same from the staff who work at the school. Again, if it is decided to go remote for selfish purposes, I hope that she will be included for remote learning on our time and a packet will be made for her to complete during evening hours. I am not leaving my job. I am the only provider for us.
- I am a parent of a first grader in the district. I already know what the outcome will be, schools will close, there appears to be no other option, but still I would like to share my opinion.

As you can see in the bottom of my email, this is being sent from my cell phone. I do not have internet in my home, my 6 year old son does not own a computer. Will the school district be providing internet and a computer for my child so that he has the ability to participate in virtual learning? Or is this another cost that I must endure as a single parent who works seasonally? I would like to believe that my child has the same right to an education as all the other children in the district and that the taxes I pay towards the school district will be used to provide what he needs to be educated. Can this be guaranteed?

- I am also quite concerned with the idea of traveling out of New England during this time, it's a pity that these teachers who are finding it necessary to travel for the holidays are in the end, diminishing the level of education that my child will receive. I work in agriculture, not education. I am not trained in tech support. I watched my son regress when kindergarten was closed in March. He is now thriving with a wonderful teacher and classroom community. When schools close, he will regress again. He is a single child living with a single parent. I can only do so much. Yes, I can set up a space for learning. But will he use it, or will he want to watch his Curious George dvd? He is too young to have the focus for self discipline in completing schooling, so that will be another hat that I must wear. He loves going to school, he loves being around children. He dutifully wears his mask, washes his hands and keeps his distance from others. Now, he will be punished, not for anything he did, but because a group of teachers are choosing to think of themselves over their community. It truly is a pity.

I try to keep up with world news as much as possible by reading NPR articles on my phone. France just went into lockdown, closing all non-essential businesses, requiring travel passes, but you know what? They are keeping schools open.

I began my letter with stating that I already know the outcome, schools will close, my child will suffer because of it. I've explained the situation to him, he feels hurt because he loves going to school, he loves playing with children and working with his teacher.

I'm also concerned with the precedent that is being set in regards to travel and the February and April breaks. Will a bunch of teachers have to go skiing in Aspen? I surely hope not.

I would like a guarantee that my child will receive the same level of education at home as he would in the school. Can you provide that?

- To be honest I am not thrilled this is now being sprung on us. We as parents and just being cautious of keeping ourselves and kids safe are following CDC protocol to not travel outside NE unless needed. Travel for the holidays is actually be discouraged. And I know there are some people teachers or families that will still travel but this really puts us working parents in a bad spot.
- From experience with the end of the school year last year, this did not work well for me and my daughter. It's different for the older kids that are not independent and able to do remote learning. But for one, I am no teacher and my daughter knows that and takes advantage of that. She suffers more education wise when she is home. And second, I still have to work from home which is challenging for the type of job I have and my physical health and also very hard for me to give my daughter the attention she needs. Therefore she suffers. Not sure what staff members are planning on taking out of NE vacations but grade schoolers really suffer not being

in school. And we are sacrificing a lot so I am not sure why the staff isn't discouraged from traveling as the CDC has also discouraged it.

I was so happy that being in a smaller district allows for our children to go to school and we have been lucky. And my daughter loves being in school!! So the fact this is now being proposed is very frustrating for me and her. And frankly not fair. While I am lucky enough to work somewhere that works with me and understands not everyone else is that fortunate. And we all have bills. I still have a son in daycare as well. I had neck surgery right before covid hit and because of all this I am still not healed and finally was able to start PT and now with this I'll be set back again.

This is how I honestly feel and I really hope we are not all punished because staffers want to travel.

- I was taking back by the "sneak" of this into the School Board meeting the other day. I believe they did that without the public knowledge because they knew how much push back they would receive.

I **do not** want my child doing remote per my survey that was given to the parents prior to school starting. I opted for in school full days for my daughter because both of us, myself and her father are essential workers who work full time. We do not have jobs that allow us to work remotely. In March when COVID first happened and the school went full remote, I was home part time because of the virus per my company needing to go "half staff", I do not for see that happening again just because its "Holiday time".

I'm actually very annoyed that we even have to have this conversation. Because 6-8 staff members "HAVE" to travel and "HAVE" to see their out of state families, we have to suffer. I find this very selfish for the staff who always say "the children come first" yadda yadda. Excuse my langue, but that is complete bull shit. By taking them out of school to do remote (which I obviously opted out of for my daughter) which is not the proper way of teaching young students, then putting them back in to in person. It messes up their learning. My family and I will not all be together due to the virus, and my family lives in the state. We are taking all pre-cautions to stay safe and have our daughter stay in school....which is what we signed up for at the beginning of the year...because we are not able to do remote learning with two full time working parents....and..**I'm not a teacher.**

How are the staff members allowed to make such a huge change on hundreds of families? Are they able to be told "no"? Or, only 2 teachers are able to be out because that's all the coverage you can get?

I work in the Healthcare at a Family Doctors office, if 6-8 staff members are out at the same time (due to selfishness and wanting to possibly infect themselves or others) we would have NO admin and NO medical assistance to care for our patients. Our patients (and office alone) would suffer **TREMENDOUSLY.** Which is what will happen to our daughter and the entire student body when these staff members are out.

We cannot have more than one staff member out in each department at a time due to coverage. Why can't they be told the same thing?

My company sent out an email **recommending** us not to travel outside of our "safe zone" but if we do, we need to self-monitor for 14 days, taking the temp 2x a day and then monitor symptoms. Would this be an option for them if they HAVE to?

Something has got to give, and you (or whomever) needs to put their foot down and say "because 6-8 staff members want to potentially infect themselves & others, they are up roaring

HUNDREDS of families and effecting **HUNDREDS** of students' education, this just cannot be done".

For the families and students that want to travel, to all their own. They can make accommodations to go remote and quarantine themselves. No offense, but that's not mine, nor my daughters problem. Parents should be thinking a little smarter instead of selfishness. My daughter will not be spending her Birthday, nor Thanksgiving, and probably Christmas this year with her Grandparents, because we are staying as safe as possible and want her to get the best education she can in the most difficult time.

I'm sorry for rambling, but my overall point is, we are all making sacrifices this year, we need to all do what we can to stay safe, keep our children **in school**.

I get it, people want to see their families, I do too. We are holding off on our family vacation bc it's not safe to travel right now and our daughter would miss school.

I just hope the board and you make the best decision for the children. In all honesty, I want my child safe as possible and if the staff that are teaching her to "stay safe, wear a mask, social distance, don't go anywhere you don't need to" do the complete opposite of that, what is that teaching them??!? That they have to but their educators don't? That's not okay.

Please please please...keep the kids in school.

- Thank you for giving the public the opportunity to weigh in on the holidays remote learning issue.

I am against going remote during the holidays for the following reasons.

1. We knew at the start of the school year the we couldn't leave New England unless we wanted to self-quarantine for 2 weeks after. We always go to PA or VA for Christmas to visit family. My kids are aware of the school policy and they know that we can't go this year. It's probably only going to be for this year, so not a huge deal. It would be irresponsible for anyone to travel or host travelers knowing the risk and continue to allow this virus to spread out of control.

2. I have a child who does terrible with remote. It was a constant struggle when we went remote in the spring, he needs to be in school.

3. My husband and I both work F/T, although I was able to work from home for a couple of months when they first came home, it is no longer an option for me and I have to work or lose my job so I am unable to be home to help/supervise. I have many local friends in this same situation.

4. I cannot leave New England either or I have to self-quarantine when I come back, again, not an option for me, so therefore I know, like my kids, that we have to stay home. I'm not a big fan of visiting out of state family at this time due to the unknown and I know that there will be family gatherings while we visit so just not a good situation. Thanks goodness for technology and the ability to face time.

5. As far as the teachers, they were aware at the start of the school year what the school policy was. I am grateful that they were willing to come back to teach my children and I'm sure they are aware that many children just cannot do remote, due to not having the right internet (some teachers had this issue too) or that the child just doesn't do well with remote. I know they care deeply for the kid's mental well being so why would they want to jeopardize that? I get that they want to visit family or host out of state visitors, but they have to realize what could happen if someone brought it into their home or if they catch it while visiting? If we can go 1 year staying at home during the holidays, they can too.

6. What if a teacher caught COVID while traveling or hosting and they are unable to teach remotely because they can't get out of bed or function as needed to do their job because they

are too ill? We'd have this very same problem of not enough subs. If classes got cancelled, the kids will start to fall behind.

7. My child that didn't do well with remote has had his behavior improve a lot since going back. I'd rather not deal with that again.

8. I asked my 11th grader what they did when they had to go to the gym for a class when a teacher is not there, she said that they do work on google classroom, so not really a study hall as the Holiday Remote Learning Letter stated, as they are doing work for that class.

9. Maybe have those families who choose to risk their health to travel or host travelers to keep their kids home for 2 weeks and allow them to go remote instead of making everyone go remote for a select few.

- I love living in a small community where parents have the option of how we would like to continue our children's education during a global pandemic. I am not in support of going fully remote from Thanksgiving to January or I would have opted to do so via the system the district already has set in place.

It is irresponsible for teachers to travel outside New England during this holiday season. I hope they reconsider.

- I am a parent whose children attend Lyndeborough Central School and Florence Rideout Elementary School. I'm concerned about the school board's proposal to transition the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District to a remote instruction model from 11/30/2020 to 01/15/2021 because 6-8 staff members are either traveling or hosting family from outside of New England.

The school board and staff are tasked with making difficult decisions on how best to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission without the detriment of students social and emotional development while also recognizing that each family's situation is different. I believe the school board showed great care and consideration by offering parents three options for returning to school when many surrounding school districts made blanket decisions. Unfortunately, I do not feel the same way about the proposal for remote learning through the holidays.

The NH Department of Health recommends employers discourage employees from personal international and domestic travel outside of the New England states. To learn that staff members are knowingly going against the NH Department of Health's recommendation and traveling outside of New England with little to no regard to the impact on students and their families is truly disheartening.

Like many other parents/guardians, my husband and I lack the time and support needed to successfully assist our children in their online educations while also working full time. Additionally, the CDC has stated that distance learning has "potential adverse impacts on students' social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health, as well as the critical services provided to students to help mitigate health disparities and serve children in need". The school board and staff have an obligation to provide students with high quality instruction which is not provided through remote learning.

The proposal also extends Thanksgiving recess to include 11/24/2020 in order for teachers to work together to implement the remote learning. It states that "there still isn't time for teachers to meet after school to work on transition plans as they are meeting with parents". It's unclear

to me why teachers need an additional non-school day to prepare. Transitions plans should have been created before the start of the school year in preparation for the unexpected need to move to remote learning. Also there's no mention in the proposal of whether the additional non-school day would be made up at the end of the school year.

Rather than implementing 5 ½ weeks of remote learning for all 500+ students in the district please consider implementing 2 weeks of remote learning only for the 6 or less classes in the district that would be directly impacted by their teachers' quarantine. Doing so would lessen the probability of students falling even further behind in their educations and eliminate the need for an additional non-school day.

I understand that many variables must be considered and know that the school board is committed to the safety of all the students and faculty. I'm hoping the school board decides to implement a better and more accommodating solution that continues in-person learning through the holiday season.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

- I'm not in favor for remote learning . I'm not sure how a kid can do a hands-on class remotely.
- Teachers need to teach in school. Any other company would not shut down because of employees traveling, if you travel where you would have to quarantine for 14 days just don't travel. Our kids education is more important than a vacation. We are not traveling out of NH for the holidays because we are responsible adults. I would hope our kids teachers are responsible adults as well.
- Mr. Lane, this makes me angry on so many levels. My kids and I have been following all protocol so they can be IN SCHOOL – the World is in a Pandemic and the consensus from renowned scientists and doctors are telling us that we should postpone having gatherings, etc. this year. So it's ok for me to forfeit my family but not the teachers? Yes, I do find this a bit selfish.

I have to complete a survey every morning before work and one of the questions is "In the past 14 days, have you returned from a state that is currently on a travel restriction or advisory list for your state?" This remote learning situation puts most of us parents in a very bad situation, financially and physically. I'm a single mom and I have to work. Since this request is NOT actually because of someone having COVID, employers don't have to care.

Currently Rockingham, Hillsborough and Merrimack counties are in the red zone for the virus.

My daughter had a full blown anxiety attack and mental health issues when we had to go remote last spring – I really wish people would care more about this and what an un-provoked remote learning session will do to some of these kids. My daughter wasn't the only child...

People are going to do whatever they want to do no matter what is approved because no one cares. All of this is crap.

- I hope the school year is treating you well. These are odd times and the school has thus far done a great job with the children and families.

That said, health officials recommend that we do not travel out of the area to prevent the spread of COVID. As such, families have made difficult decisions to not visit loved ones, skip weddings, miss birthdays, and not be present when friends and loved ones are laid to rest. To learn that the school district desires to disrupt the education of its young students because a few teachers want to ignore the suggestions of health officials is very disheartening.

At the beginning of the school year the school required us to choose an education method for our families. We were told we had to adhere to this choice on a quarter by quarter basis. This would give the school consistency and allow for planning. It also provided consistency to families, children, employers, and child care. It makes no sense to throw that all away because teachers and staff choose to ignore health guidelines.

I urge the school board to vote no, continue stability for our children, and adhere to the agreed upon plan.

- We completely understand the unusual situation this year presents, but this is concerning that the children/families are being asked to take so much time off from school.

Maybe you can consider the following:

- Asking families now if they would be willing to do remote learning over that time period and maybe in session classes could combine for that time period
- Although not popular, taking away the winter break in February to make up some of the time and extend the holiday break to be longer than planned
- Make a decision regarding this SOON - this is a long period of time for working families to try to get time off for

As we both work full-time (this is why we have our son in school full-time instead of remote learning) I can tell you for sure that probably not much remote learning will happen over that extended time frame, as we will need to work and our 7 year old cannot complete work on his own. I am sure our family is not alone in this.

I know there is really no great solution and we applaud all the efforts the school has made to make learning as safe as possible.

In response to your request for feedback regarding the holidays, I have a Master's degree in Public Health and currently work at a high school in a different district so I am seeing this from both perspectives.

From a public health perspective, it would be a very smart move to go remote from Thanksgiving until January 19th as you are proposing. Teachers won't be the only people in the community that will travel or host gatherings. There are many more students in the schools than there are staff and it is a guarantee that some of those students' families will be traveling or having get togethers. Unfortunately not all of those people will quarantine as they should, and will come into the school buildings without doing so. The number one reason for the rise in cases across the nation currently is due to small gatherings. Pandemic fatigue is real and the gatherings are only going to continue with the holiday season. The fact that it is cold and most of these gatherings will occur indoors

makes the spread of infection increase as well. This is why some school districts have had this plan in place from the beginning. Many schools and colleges are doing this exact thing and I believe that we should follow suit.

Unfortunately the way the letter was worded it focused on teachers having to quarantine and not having enough substitutes - this has caused the community to lash out at the teachers. I hope that you will stand up for these teachers and explain that the families that attend our schools also have a part to play in this. Even if zero staff members were going to travel or host gatherings, you would still have students/families doing so and bringing illness into the building if they don't quarantine properly. Learning remotely during this time will help mitigate this problem. With that being said, the remote learning needs to be the same standard of learning that they would have received in-person. By making this decision now you will give the staff time to plan for this.

Safety of the students and our community at large should be the number one goal. Cases are going up with the winter months as we know always happens, but we can try to do our best to reduce the risk of an even larger spike by trying to ensure that people will quarantine after their holiday gatherings.

- As an employee of a hospital I have had to make the decision to not travel to known orange and red zones which includes most states outside of NH, VT, and ME. It should be a responsible person also making these decisions and not traveling. This is sadly the environment we are living in, and if we make the sacrifices to not travel hopefully next holiday season we can do our "normal" traveling. I know my child will not succeed in remote learning and will just walk away from the computer that is why we chose to have them in the school. If the 28 days is approved I can almost guarantee those will be 28 days were my child will go without school. My child truly feeds off human connections with others outside of the home. I hope as adults that represent these children we can make the most appropriate decision but also remember we all have to make sacrifices.
- As a parent that works in the medical field I feel like that with covid going no one should be traveling out of New England and I think it is selfish for teachers to do this to their students, don't get me wrong I understand the need to see family but they have to think about the covid more than anything and with doing remote for the younger students is taking away from learning specially Kindergarteners. Me as a parent of a Kindergartener it will be harder for me to find child care during that time as I work full time and so does my husband and we wouldn't have anyone to watch our son and it will impact his learning due to he needs structure and a routine so he can get his work done, if he did remote it would be very difficult for him as he gets distracted very easily and he doesn't like change in his routine. If you have any other questions please feel free to reach out to me.
- I am emailing you today in regards to the proposal of switching to remote learning on November 30th. First and foremost, I cannot see how this would be beneficial for anybody. There have been zero positive cases in our district and we have had no need to shut down any of our schools so far. Wilton/Lyndeborough has done a fantastic job at keeping our students safe and schedules consistent which is what all of our students need. While I understand the desire to travel outside of New England for the upcoming holidays, I think it is extremely selfish to knowingly put that kind of strain on our school district. I had intentions to travel to Nevada next

month (requiring a 14 day quarantine upon arrival back to NH) but had to opt out simply because I was not going to put any additional burdens on my co-workers because I wanted to travel for leisure. There is a travel ban for New England right now and it is in place for a reason. I understand the want and the need to see friends and family during this time but it just seems irresponsible to modify an entire district of students because a handful of staff members want to travel.

Thank you for taking the time to take my concerns into consideration.

- In a word, this proposal is preposterous. Amidst a pandemic I think it is irresponsible to consider leaving the state, thereby sacrificing student's education and well being. Although they are free to go where they wish, I would've hoped that their sense of community was greater than their own desires. Just when there seemed to be some return of normalcy, we find ourselves feeling anxious once again, not because of a positive Covid case, but to honor teachers' vacations.

The students are the ones losing here. Having two months of a sub-par education will translate into remediation upon return to school in January. And what of the parents? There are many who cannot afford (quite literally I'm afraid) the time off from work, especially since they have exhausted sick time due to the initial lockdown.

I could write the preceding paragraphs in some way, shape, or form *ad infinitum*, but I also don't want to browbeat anyone over this decision. I am just bewildered at how we even got this far in the discussion-how we even entertained such a notion.

We pray that similar feedback is weighed appropriately by the board. We can't imagine we're the only parents who feel this way.

- I am writing in response to the proposed Holiday schedule.
- I have a high school student, Robbie, who is already in remote learning and he is doing okay with that. I also have a second grader, Evan, who was not successful with remote learning last spring. He has already missed so much and going remote again in the same fashion as last year is going to be detrimental to his education. If the teachers will still be paid the same as if they were still teaching in person I would expect them to spend as much time teaching as they do in the actual classroom. Last year Evan had a morning meeting with the class then, if I remember correctly, two to three more meetings throughout the whole week in smaller groups or one on one. That was not sufficient. If the children will have to go back to remote learning there needs to be a similar platform as in school learning. I work full time at home so I can be here but I can not spend the day teaching my son and sitting doing pages of work with him as was expected last spring.
- I believe the kids will do better if they are allowed to stay in school. Some children have to have the structure of going to school in order to be successful at learning. This is already making my daughter say she is going to fail. That is not an option and I can't stay home from my job to make sure this doesn't happen.

Education should be the teacher's and staff's priorities. No one should be leaving the New England area for the holidays including students. My husband's company is not allowing travel to risky areas and we are choosing to do the right thing and not leave this area.

Everyone should be doing the right thing and staying home and keeping each other safe as well as allowing children the proper education they deserve.

- I think there need to be clear guidelines for repercussions for administration and staff not following the quarantine protocols and then take the vote again on who will still be choosing to travel.

I am not at all interested in remote instruction for my children.

- This is absolutely crazy to even think about having the Kids go remote for the holiday season. It is not beneficial for them or the working parents.

If the teachers are knowingly breaking the travel restrictions and traveling outside of New England, then I am assuming they won't be paid for the duration that our Kids are at home learning since it is because of them that this will be happening.

The Kids are finally just getting back in the groove of being at school, wearing masks all day and having little recess time. They are catching up on what they missed during the months of March to June, from last school year, so why remove them from this environment and create another obstacle for them. If parents don't feel comfortable with sending their kids to school during these times, then they should select to have them home schooled, but why should all kids and parents have to be punished for it.

- NO
Keep the kids in school.
- In regards to the recent holiday remote learning letter I would like to give you our situation and my opinion. I work a full time job a minimum of forty hours a week 6am-3:30pm. My wife works a full time job typically 57 hours a week starting at 7am and varying end times including weekends. I feel we have all been forced to make changes in our lives to accommodate this pandemic situation that most of us still are unsure of many contradicting pieces of. Our family has at least two but usually three family gatherings for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday. Although we don't all have the same opinion about this pandemic situation we have all agreed to stay home with our personal families and not visit with extended family. I feel with the job of a teacher that is a sacrifice that needs to be made as well. If we are forced to do this why should we have to suffer for others not being able to do their part for our children? I do not believe the children being out of school (unless there are positive cases that need to be dealt with at that time) is good for them or any of us. I can tell you as far as our jobs and livelihood go in my family we have already suffered with the shut down at the beginning of the year and we do not have the means or resources to turn to support this proposal. This will very much affect our family and jobs if this is approved! Thank you,
To present this idea now, less than month from when you would like to start the full remote learning, is less than adequate to allow time for adjustments. We are all working together as a

community to get through this pandemic, to have 6-8 staff members dictate all the households schedules of every family in the district is quite frankly NOT acceptable. We are in this together, we don't get to put someone else's WANTS ahead of everything else.

Should there be a necessary action due to COVID hitting our schools, that is another matter. I'm sure you've heard from many people about their situations on why they are against this. I don't feel I have to validate my situation on why remote learning VOLUNTARILY doesn't work for our family.

This communication, the reasoning behind it, does not have justifiable reasoning to go full remote.

- My vote is no to remote learning through the holidays. We are both essential workers trying to support our family. To do remote through the holidays would require hiring someone to come in to our home to teach. I understand teachers want to visit families but so do we and we don't strictly because of the travel outside of new england and the need to quarantine ourselves after. Maybe they could do half of the teachers travel at thanksgiving and half at christmas so maybe it wouldn't have to be so long of remote learning time. I really hope the school board doesnt keep the kids home so that people can travel.
Thank you for your update and wanting to hear what the parents think.
- This is absolutely absurd. Some people want to travel during the holidays, the rest of us have to adjust to their schedule due to their choices. What a very liberal way of thinking. NO I DO NOT AGREE WITH THIS.
- In response to the question about remote learning I feel we should not make that decision based on employees wanting to travel. It should be based on positive COVID cases and exposure within our school and communities. Here is my reasoning.
- I work in healthcare. If I travel and need to quarantine afterwards 2 things will happen...I don't get paid and I leave my co workers in a tough situation. That makes my decision pretty easy, I won't be traveling over the holidays. This is the case in many businesses and industries. Is it the plan and has it been explained that district employees will not get paid if they need to quarantine based on travel? I think it's selfish for teachers to think they are any different than so many of the rest of 'essential' personnel. Which brings me to my second point. Are they 'essential'?
- To be clear I think remote learning is not ideal and I think good dedicated teachers are incredibly essential. I think in person learning is absolutely necessary for proper development of kids. However, if teachers feel remote learning is effective than I think they are working themselves out of a job all on their own. It's just a matter of time before someone starts that movement. We will see a transition in education that will do away with teaching as we know it. We could see a drastic shift nation wide arguing that we could save a lot of money and every community will have access to the same level of education.

So do teachers think remote learning is effective or is it good enough so they can travel over the holidays?

I understand that the State will be making the rapid tests available to schools in the state. And that may be in place around December 1st?? Do you have a ETA on that? That should eliminate some of the issues requiring staff and students staying home with a runny nose.

Thank you for all you are doing. This is incredibly challenging and I know you are doing your best and working very hard for us. I really appreciate all your efforts. Don't forget to take care of yourself too!

- I am a parent of a seventh grade student at wlc. She loves school and has had to sacrifice as we all have had to do. Asking students to go remote so teachers can go on vacation is unacceptable. Remote learning is not education. It's home work for weeks on end. I do not support taking these kids out of school. We have not had a case yet this year. Parents who work need the school so they can bring in enough income to keep roofs over the heads of our kids. We are not traveling for the holidays because of corona virus they should not either. Thank you for your time.
- Hello. I am writing in response to your email about the school district going fully remote from end of November until mid January. We do not support this. I feel that this is irresponsible of the staff to create this situation. If covid numbers stay low in our area then the kids should be in school. I work in healthcare and we are told we should not travel outside of New England. If we choose to then we have to quarantine. Teachers should be abiding by this as well. We have all made sacrifices during this time including not being able to see our own parents much at all.
Also, wondering why we have only 2 substitute teachers. A few years ago I considered leaving my job to become a substitute so I could be home with my kids more often. I noticed we pay far less for substitutes than other towns do. This is definitely a cause for low number of substitutes in our district. Maybe this should be addressed instead of closing our schools for 6-7 weeks so a handful of teachers can travel while the CDC recommends NOT traveling.
- Everyone in NH is living under the Universal Guidelines issued by the State. We all have to assess what those guidelines mean to us in respect to our work. We have to look at what a 14 day quarantine as a result of travel outside of New England means and what sort of impact that has on the workplace and the ability of that workplace to continue to operate and function. Not everyone has a job that is able to accommodate a 14 day quarantine on top of a vacation. I fully understand there are limitations around dictating what people do on their vacation time, but I do not think shutting down a school so staff can travel is a valid reason. Some will have a better or more critical reason than others to travel and I hope those individuals are thinking critically about the choice they are making and the trickle down effect of this.

If school is to go remote for this time period this could put a burden on families and their ability to make a living. Not everyone has a job that is conducive to remote work and not everyone's employer is willing or able to be flexible to have their employees switch to remote work. In this situation you will have families needing to be making a decision between work and being home with their children, or they will leave their children home alone which may or may not be a safe choice, or they will incur a financial burden to pay for them to attend one of the remote learning programs that have popped-up at different karate, dance, and other facilities (if there are even openings to enroll at this point). It is also important to keep in mind that not all home environments are healthy or safe and in some circumstances the safest healthiest part of a

child's day is when they are at school. This is not the majority, but these children need to be considered as well. In addition to the above direct impact on families, this will also have a direct impact on every workplace of the parents in this district. Every single workplace will feel the impact one way or another of the decision to switch to remote learning. In addition to these burdens, it is also important to note that schools are designed to be a learning environment. They are set-up in an ideal way for learning and much of what is offered in a physical building is lost in remote learning.

There are plenty of valid reasons to make plans to be able to switch to remote. At any point the school could hit the threshold of too many staff out at one time related to things such as quarantine due to exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual, being sick themselves, or having sick family members. I fully understand that every day brings a continuous scheduling puzzle to solve when the slightest of symptoms result in staff needing to be out. I think the effort and time needs to be put into planning for when/if this scenario happens versus wasting whatever flexibility families may be able to get from their employers for an invalid reason like vacation travel when a switch to remote could happen on top of that due to more valid reasons. Switching to remote for any reason could result in the burdens and impact I listed above, but would be better accepted and more understandable when it is due to an unavoidable reason.

- I am writing in response to the letter sent out earlier this week in regards to a possible remote schedule from November to January.
I am absolutely AGAINST this possible choice. I work in the school system in another district, and I cannot stress enough how important it is for these children to maintain a structured learning environment IN PERSON, IN SCHOOL. These children have had enough disruption this year with all that Covid has brought to our country and world for that matter. Maintaining some sort of normalcy for such an impressionable age is of the upmost importance, and we as educators can offer this to them. It is our responsibility to educate them in the proper learning environment when the opportunity is available and safe. Flip flopping back and forth between 2 different learning models when not necessary is detrimental to their learning and only puts them further and further behind with their education.
In my eyes, we are supposed to be practicing social distancing until Covid has passed.

Therefore, it is irresponsible for folks to host thanksgiving with out of staters and traveling outside of New England is no different. The solution to resolving covid is to stop the spread- encouraging teachers to "spread" on their own doesn't seem responsible. We have cancelled our "normal" plans like most we know as that is what was advised to us by the CDC and government- to stop the spread.

My children are having an impossible time remote learning, and we have been counting down the days until they are allowed to transition back into schools. My son is suffering severely, even with me Attempting to reach him from home he is severely behind. Now I'm being informed there is a risk that instead of him finally going to school after asking multiple times to switch early prior (because I am failing as a parent to teach my child on my own) they it's likely that he's going to have to wait an entire half year before he will see the school for the first time.

I want to know what will happen to the students who are being left behind? I work full time, I am Putting As much time Forward as I have towards my sons education. I look at the lesson

plans and am so heartbroken, as the lessons being presented to him are WAY above his level already, and it's only been weeks.

- I wanted to make sure I emailed you my request for the schools to remain open. I do not think it would be fair to close the school. My kids struggle remotely already and they do come in for after school activities and extra help., Also I'm afraid that this would affect winter sports. All my boys play basketball. My oldest son does attend hybrid. Hopefully School can get figured out and remains open. I'm wondering instead of shutting down the whole school maybe just make those classes where the teachers were away or hosting Family outside of New England they would strictly go remote but leave the schools open.

Hopefully It gets figured out for the best where the school doesn't close and The kids have access to their extra help as well as their sports. I'm just worried about how that would work.

- My kids are doing really well right now and it's so nice to see something semi-normal, I would hate for them to go remote and disrupt what has been a great start to a school year. They are learning and engaged and it won't be the same if they are remote. They are in grades K and 4 and being in person for learning is so vital at this age.

I know there is an issue with substitutes and I don't know how you can fix that and I don't know what grades the teachers are teaching that are choosing to travel, but I am hopeful that there will be a solution to covering their classes so that the kids can stay in school.

I can agree with the proposal that the staff has come up with. I also see it from a parents perspective. We all have jobs that we need to go to to put food on the table as well as Christmas coming up. Some parents would be risking losing jobs and not being able to provide for the families. As some could prob work from home like teachers and still get paid others cannot.

Its a tough choice that will need to be made. I have students from another close town that are at my home on weekends and they have had a proposal like this set up before students went back to school this fall. I do feel as we are definitely being more reactive to this situation and not proactive. We knew that the holidays were going to happen so the question of traveling and holiday visitors should have taken place much sooner so that parents would have more time to plan.

I thanks all the staff of our school community for everything you have done to keep kids safe and hope you all have Happy Holidays.

- I am writing this letter in regards to the possibility of a school shut down and going fully remote from November 30 through January 19.
Both of my children have been attending school in person, this year, since school has started. My kids learn much better at school, in person vs the remote learning. I work 50 plus hours a week and I wouldn't have the appropriate time to dedicate to doing the remote learning to the full extent they would need. Nor do I have the means to find a sitter for them, especially around the holidays.
My son participates is the W.I.N program and he needs this to help him to continue to excel in reading. Not to mention the other reasons/benefits he needs to attend school in person. School is very important for our children and their learning.

We should be putting the children first and what's best for them. Not what's most convenient for a few select teachers/staff so they can travel and still get paid. Traveling is still NOT recommended due to the pandemic. Why should the families that aren't traveling and trying to stay safe/healthy, being punished because a few select teachers/staff want to be selfish and travel? We should be discouraging travel instead of promoting it right now. If these teachers want to host families from outside of New England aren't these individuals coming in suppose to quarantine for 14 days? That is what the CDC & NH Dept of Health states.

What would happen if most of our nurses decide they want to go have thanksgiving at a family members house, outside of New England, instead of going to work? They would have to quarantine for 14 days without pay. Sometimes we have to make certain choices, as hard as they may be, because it's the right thing to do.

So why are we going to allow the teachers to travel and make our kids stay home to accommodate them while they get paid to do so? I just don't feel we should put our whole town on hold for a couple of teachers/staff that want to travel when it isn't recommended to do so. My children are in their prime learning years. There are several important fundamentals they are learning and utilizing to shape their lives and we can't take that away from them for the wrong reasons. I'm all about keeping my kids safe and healthy. I understand if COVID numbers would go up, schooling could go remote. But that is not what we are talking about here. I want them to have a great education and not have the school year interrupted due to unnecessary traveling that is not recommended. I would personally love to travel to Ohio and see my family but we are not doing so this year.

How many teachers or staff members have already traveled outside of New England or had guests from outside of New England?

This move is not justifiable to me nor is it justifiable to many other members of our community. Our children are flourishing doing in person learning at school. Don't take this away from them for selfish and unsafe (traveling) reasons.

The option of staff going to the school to teach or staying home to do so, is not ok! If you are going to give them a month and a half off, to travel when it isn't recommended, and make our kids do remote learning, then the teachers should spend the entire school day at the school teaching remotely.

Don't force our kids to accommodate and make all these transitions/changes for 6-8 staff members. With all that is happening in the world right now our kids have been through enough, trying to navigate it all and understand it. I don't want to have to try and explain this to my children too.

Vote NO to remote learning from November 30 to January 19!

- As far as the holidays go, I don't think it's fair to the kids and families to have to keep yo-yo'ing back and forth between remote learning and in person. I know it would cause a lot of unnecessary stress with my daughter as she struggled greatly with learning from March to June and the constant changes will make it very difficult for her and us as her parents. My family, as I'm sure many others, cannot afford to have one parent stay home nor afford all day childcare to focus on remote learning. As difficult as it is, traveling is still highly unrecommended last I knew. Wilton has done a great job of keeping covid cases low, we shouldn't be risking it.
- I would like to say that I find it appalling that the school board and other committees deem it necessary to put the education on hold for the ENTIRE Wilton-Lyndeborough district so that 6-8

staff members can travel for the holidays while the state, the country and the world are in a PANDEMIC. I find this quite hypocritical of the teachers keeping our children safe, reminding them to wear their masks and wash their hands, telling them to stay 6' away from their friends... then they go AGAINST the advice that we are all given to visit during families for the Holidays. I find that so incredibly SELFISH. Like many families around the world, I will NOT be seeing my loved ones...like others, my family members have not visited us in NH from other states because they are following guidelines and keeping everyone safe. I know of many who have to quarantine, without pay, if they travel so they decide to sit-tight, follow guidelines and stay home and safe. I find it so frustrating that a plan was set for the academic year, without any mention of a possible shut down and now it's being thrown at us and was tried to pass in such a sneaky way. I have lost trust in the committees that tried to do this and am very upset. Had this been discussed in the summer when families filled out surveys and sent emails, maybe you all would receive a different reaction from us... this is NOT ok... it is NOT ok to uproot the students that are in school, being as "normal" as possible. Students are in school because remote learning is not best for them, it was not an easy decision for some of us to send our kids to school. If you decide to pass this remote learning period, know that some people will possibly lose their job, will lose income, could lose their home... all because some incredibly selfish teachers/staff want to go against guidelines set for safety for everyone. This is a world wide pandemic... for ONE Thanksgiving or ONE Christmas, they should stay home and suck it up like everyone else.

- It sounds like we need to get some attorneys and figure out what we need to do to keep our kids in school. This is absolutely ridiculous and selfish of teachers and staff. Our kids are going to lose out because of the actions of few. Those teachers should be fired for not doing their jobs. I'm serious.
My mother is a teacher and does WHATEVER she can for her students. It's her career, her life and she cares deeply about her kids. It is obvious some do not care about the kids. Sort of sad to be honest. Perhaps we can sue. As contracts of selfish teachers come to an end administration needs to relieve those staff from their jobs they frankly don't care about. Perhaps they should be fired now and go remote the rest of the year until positions can be filled. This is insane. I'll say the word again. Selfish. I am out of state by my sons mother is in the district. She has him most school days and she can't get internet at her home. You are leaving my son in the dust and I'm pissed. Here's the word again. SELFISH. FIRE THEM.
- It has come to my attention you, the school board, are considering going to remote learning after Thanksgiving until Mid January. I urge you to vote against this. I believe the students should be in school, remote learning is not constructive for most of the student body. If staff wants to travel then, as with most employers now, the employee can quarantine without pay. I strongly urge you to reconsider this decision. I work in the evenings so I am unable to attend the regular meetings. I hope you take everyone's input to heart, regardless if they can attend the meeting or not.
- I am absolutely not going to vote yes on your most recent proposal. It is based on staff/administration wanting to travel to see family. Encouraging us to do the same. This is not a justifiable reason to go complete remote.
My children need to be in school. There have been many times in my career that I have not been approved leave for one reason or another. We as a community need to do our best to be responsible and keep our kids in school. This is based on a what if. Keep up the great work in keeping our children in school!

- I have three children in the foster care system in my home. They would not be able to do remote learning and would suffer because of it. All have IEP's and struggle with in home learning. It would disrupt their lives and possibly their placement due to behaviors when not stimulated. Please vote no to remote learning.
- UNLESS WE HAVE ACTIVE COVID IN OUR SCHOOLS HMM HAVENT HEARD THIS!!! THEN THEY NEED TO STAY IN SCHOOL UNTIL THAT TIME COMES!!! INSANE WITH ALL HAD CHOICES TOO CHOOSE N THE NURSE N TEACHERS NEED TO WORK REMITE US NOT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS!!!! IT DOES NOT WORK.. I HAVE ONE IN 9 HOURS A WEEK IN SOECIAL HELP CLASSES.. WHATS THE ISSUE PLAN N SIMPKE UNLESS N UNTIL WE GET ACTIVE CASES SCHOOL SHOULD REMAIN THE SAME!!!!!!
- I would like to share my opinion in the matter of schools closing mid November through January 2021. I would like to vote against this action. I have three children starting in the school district on Monday. We just moved to Wilton and we are very much looking forward to attending school in person. That was the number one reason why we chose to move here initially. I have 2 children who struggle academically and they have been going down hill with remote learning. Hey desperately need in person learning. We have been quarantining for two weeks prior to starting just to be on the safe side. It would be very disappointing to start school and have to switch to remote just three weeks later.
- I could see an option for those who wish to travel through the holidays to do remote schooling for two weeks before returning. Just a thought.
- First, thank you so much for postponing this presentation to allow concerned families who were given NO notice to attend. It's comforting to know the school board is looking out for the interests of the community and not letting things that would severely impact parents be slipped through unnoticed.

I STRONGLY request that you reject this proposal to put children out of school for 2 months to accommodate a handful of staff that would like to travel. During this pandemic all families have struggled to cope, have missed birthdays and holidays with family, skipped weddings and even funerals in the name of safety. At the beginning of school year parents chose a learning method, made arrangements with employers an childcare providers, and hoped to give our children (and jobs) some level of consistency. We're not even 2 months into the school year and we are trying to change things already.

The current model is successful by all indication. Changing that model will be an undue hardship on parents, students, and employers and there isn't a good reason to do so. We are willing, and planning, to stay local for the holiday season to provide our children with a level of normalcy.

I request ALL school board members vote NO on this proposal and stick to the current, and agreed upon, plan of in-school/remote/hybrid learning and take the planned vacation days around the holidays.

- Thank you for your service and support. Stay healthy and safe.
- I have a child in WLC and I vote NO for full remote.
- We are against the remote learning plan proposed by the district for the holiday season. Even though we are at moderate risk for Covid, it is more important for our son's educational experience for it not to be disruptive and unstructured. Being that there is no official mandate by the state for distance learning, we find that the whole premise that accommodating the few at the expense of the many is unacceptable.

- I think it is a wise choice. Between the holidays, so many people traveling and people coming home it seems like a perfect storm for an outbreak.
My kids are currently remote and will stay remote through the holiday for that reason exactly.

Thank you for being concerned about our kids no matter what push back you get.

- This is in response to the Holiday Remote Learning Letter that was sent out to parents. We would leave the decision up to the faculty and the school board if they feel this is necessary. We have cancelled our Thanksgiving plans with family, but will be traveling for Christmas break and understand we must quarantine upon return. So we are okay with the remote learning break, but also are okay if it is decided that we stay in school. We trust the faculty and school board to make the best decision for this strange year. We will make it work however we must make it work.
- I believe it's the smart thing to do to keep staff and students safe.
- We concur with the proposed dates for remote learning.
- I fully support online learning throughout the holiday period.
- I believe that staff have a right to see their family, but I have been keeping strict protocol for the duration of this pandemic and believe that if we all did, we would see it end sooner. I understand, sympathize and wish I could also travel-but I'm a nurse with obligations to my patients. If the staff choose to travel outside of New England it is absolutely necessary to quarantine for 14 days. I believe that it will be likely that if teachers are planning to travel, it follows logic that some families also plan to travel. In these circumstances, it is unfortunate but necessary to switch to the 100 percent distance learning model for the two week quarantine period. I think it is the smart decision.
- Hi, I have 4 children in the school district and 100% support being remote for the holidays. It will give me an opportunity to quarantine everyone so we can see my parents. Too many people will be traveling around that time for me to feel safe sending them. A lot of other districts are doing the same thing and I feel it is the safest especially given the increasing cases in the country.
- I think the best thing to do to keep the community safe is to go full remote and reevaluate once the holidays are over. If we don't I am concerned for all the teachers and children in school. What is the plan for when multiple teachers do get sick, hire multiple substitute teachers. What kind of education are the children going to get from a large number of subs. From the start of the year I thought full remote was the best plan for everyone and now we are getting into flu season.
- Yes! Yes! Yes! Please!

I realize that many parents are against the idea of keeping children home for an extended period of time. I've seen ugly criticism of this idea, with many parents referring to administration, teachers and staff as "selfish" for this proposal. I couldn't disagree more. "Selfish" individuals don't become teachers - or school system employees at all. Nobody gets rich working for a rural public school system. Selfish people don't put themselves at risk day in and day out for the education and well-being of other people's children.

That said, the fact is that there is a risk factor which goes beyond what any school system employees might wish to do for the holidays. What about all of the families whose children attend our schools? What do they have planned for the holidays? We have no way of knowing what chances will they be taking and what risks will those children be bringing back into the classroom. I'd far prefer to see the district choose to go remote out of an abundance of caution than be forced to close suddenly because of an outbreak that could affect not only those inside the schools, but our entire community. An ounce of prevention...

I'm backing the proposal 1000%. I want my children to be as safe as possible while they're in school. We all have a month to prepare. This idea is anything but unreasonable. My only question would be with respect to one-on-one IEP therapy services - would they also be put on hold, or would they continue as normally scheduled due to the lower risk level?

If the decision is made to continue with the current school schedule, despite the rising cases in our county and the risks inherent in holiday travel/gatherings, could there be an option created for parents to move their children to all-remote learning for the time frame that is being suggested? I understand that this would be yet another logistical burden, but the threat to everyone in the community is very real - and is becoming more so by the day.

I appreciate the opportunity to be heard. Thank you for your consideration.

- Good morning and thank you for the email and communication regarding remote learning during the holiday breaks. I just wanted to drop a quick email to say we will support you, your staff and the board in the decision to stay with the current plan or go to remote for the 28 day time period. Whatever is best for staff, teachers and their families during this difficult time with Covid.

We are just so pleased with all of the efforts, hard work and communication you have been doing to keep our kids safe, happy and healthy. We cannot thank you enough!

So whatever you decide is best to continue the safety and health of all, we support it.

- I think the teachers and staff should have it off and the kids can be remote
- I am not opposed to the school shutting down for a period of time. The staff as well as others deserves to travel during the holiday season.
- I am in favor of the proposed remote learning schedule.

During the holidays not all families have the luxury of all being in the same state together. This will allow those families to visit, and be visited and not jeopardizing and already fragile system. I understand that this is inconvenient for most, but I believe for the safety of our students, teachers and families, this is the best option.

- The students may not like it and some parents may disagree but I agree with this plan.
Best to be safe then sorry,
For both staff and students.
- I am responding to your letter for input to be shared with the school board. I believe the school board should approve the remote instruction for the holiday month. This will allow students and staff of the District to make the free choice on whether or not they would like to travel or host people without the pressure of possibly putting our community in danger.

Furthermore, with flu and cold season coming up on us it will be hard to determine who will just have a basic cold/flu or those who may have Covid without going through the proper testing. Regardless, of whatever the condition that a staff member might contract this will result in them not being able to come to school. At this point it was noted in your letter that we do not have a sufficient amount of substitutes to even cover classrooms and paraprofessionals. This seems a huge safety issue especially for the students that are requiring the one on one care.

I believe for the safety of the students to have proper adult supervision, the right for all staff and students to be able to be with family during the holiday season, and the safety in the community, this remote option is the most viable solution. At this point Conval and Nashua high school is doing the same thing.

- I want to make sure my opinion is heard.
The school/teachers have done a phenomenal job supporting the students both remote and in person.
I feel they deserve to be able to visit their loved ones during the holidays and if it means remote learning for all than I am sure they will be able to continue to serve their students have as well as they are now!!
- Good morning, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this plan. I respect and understand teachers' desire to travel during the holidays and so I believe this is an ideal way to ensure there is no community spread through the schools as a result.

My only concern would be planning a virtual curriculum that is balanced enough to take into consideration both the students academic needs but also the fact that working parents will need to be able to support this learning while likely still working full time. I hope that a virtual curriculum can be planned that is robust enough for students to not experience any degradation of their knowledge but also -- especially for students in lower grades who may not be able to work independently -- is not overly cumbersome to parents who need to support at home learning. We will need to have the ability to adapt any virtual curriculum to be able to accomodate various schedules. Many employers have transitioned back to "business as usual"

and so parents may not have the flexibility they did back in March with regards to work schedules. Its likely parents will have less than 30 days to plan for this change if decisions are not made for another few weeks. Versatility and customization will be key.

Also please give parents as many resources as possible to assist our students and ensure they are successful during this time. Especially for those of us who have students with learning challenges. Suggestions might be to include virtual office hours with classroom teacher to discuss any issues that are coming up, as well as potentially weekly 1-1s with parents and the classroom teacher so we have the opportunity to get support for any content that may be challenging for our students.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and thank you for doing what you can to keep our students healthy and safe.

- I think remote would be best, it doesn't seem wise to openly know about all these travel plans and then expect the individuals come back into contact with our students and fellow staff. Some families work hard to keep their circles small and this opens up a new can of worms especially where numbers are not decreasing at the moment.
- I feel thats the best choice . That way the teachers and the students And staff are safe. I have no problem with it . November 30, 2020 through January 18,2021 . Have a good night.
- I have two children who attend Wilton/Lyndeborough schools. I would appreciate it very much if the district would choose to switch to all remote learning for the dates you put in your letter. My family includes high risk, health compromised people who I've been doing my best to protect. I think it's important that public schools consistently make the safest decisions for the students, teachers and for the community as a whole.

If it makes a difference, I vote yes - keep the kids out of the classroom during a period of high travel and family gatherings. It's easier to plan for something like this in advance than it would be to suddenly need to make changes because of an outbreak in the school community.

- Although I am not a parent or a taxpayer, I am a student at WLC and I feel as though my opinion, as well as the opinions of my classmates, could be valuable information when deciding what to do in terms of remote learning during the holidays. I am fully in support of transitioning to remote learning during the holiday months. With cases going up nationwide, and the inability of the school system to control out of state travel, I think remote learning is the most logical and safe option. If not for the health and safety of students and staff, then for the health of the community as a whole.
- I think the plan to go remote is the best answer. Teachers/Staff should travel or be with family for the holiday.
They are working through a very trying time.
- I support and would very much like to implement the remote learning from the Tuesday before Thanksgiving through January 18th.

- I am in favor of moving to a remote learning scenario for the proposed time period of Monday, November 30, 2020 through Monday, January 18, 2021. I believe this would be proactive and ensure the safety of both our district's student body and our staff members. It would also enable students to continue to receive instruction rather than sit idle in a study hall.
- I am in agreement with doing whatever it takes to keep all the kids and staff safe in the district. If people are knowingly going to have to quarantine after the holidays then they need to go remote. I am sure some of the kids families will also fall into that bracket - not just the teachers. Whatever decision is made here for the Nov and Dec holidays, let's also discuss Feb and April vacations and what is expected after those week long breaks - are people traveling?
- I am writing in reference to the proposal to go to the remote learning model for the holidays. I would like to begin by saying that the proposal should consider students who may be traveling during the holidays, not just teachers. I feel like the virus is spreading more rapidly now than it has been for a while. Numbers are increasing all over the country. We cannot guarantee that everyone in the community will follow social distancing guidelines or quarantine recommendations. We cannot guarantee that all of our students will be practicing COVID safe behaviors during the holidays. They may easily add to the spread of the virus in our schools during this time. For that reason, I believe it is a good idea to go to the remote model during this holiday period.

I would also like to mention that however well intentioned your letter was, the way the letter presents the travel issue as pertaining primarily to staff and does not include students and families is problematic. As you may know this is creating an issue on social media. I have seen several comments on Facebook pertaining to the teachers that I don't think are presenting our staff in a very positive light. I don't think that is healthy feedback for the school or the community. As a teacher myself, I know that these social media platforms can become powerful ways to spread information about schools quickly. We want to continue to present our teachers and staff in a positive light, and not a negative one.

We are very happy with how the school year is going so far. Our kids are learning, having fun and interacting in healthy and safe ways at school. No one wants to see them back to a remote learning. We know that remote learning is very challenging for working families, but with the current situation, I think it is a good option and a way to help keep our community safe.

- I would concur with the committee proposal to go to full remote learning during the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

With the Covid 7-day average case counts currently increasing once again exponentially, the probability of multiple cases occurring at WLC following unrestricted travel by some students and staff would warrant a more prudent and preventative public health strategy approach at attempts to contain the spread of this virus. There is simply no reliable way to know how many students and staff travel, what parts of the country they travel to and what the future case rates are in these travel areas.

With mask wearing, social distancing and other infection control measures inconsistently followed around the country, there is a very real possibility of a significant outbreak at WLC following both upcoming holidays, from a purely statistical epidemiologic standpoint. Going to full remote for this relatively short period of time, while creating significant hardship for some, is the socially responsible thing to do in order to prevent community spread.

- In regards to the email you sent requesting thoughts on remote learning through the holiday season. Given the current increase in COVID cases not only across the country but right here in NH I believe it is in the best interest of our entire community to go remote.
- This is in response to going to remote learning for the holiday season. We fully support the decision to do so if there is not going to be adequate staffing to supervise and teach children. By going remote they have access to their teachers and the support that they need while keeping everyone safe and healthy. We are also in favor of children with special needs getting to go in person if there is adequate staff as they will continue to need that support throughout that time.
- My daughter is already remote full time due to her disability but I wanted to say that I think the decision to close and go remote for that time frame is excellent decision for all! Thank you for all you do
- As a parent of a kindergarten student and taxpayer of Lyndeborough, I would like to express my opinion on the option to go remote after Thanksgiving. I feel the proposal to go remote is to ensure the safety of all. Staff members were asked if they were traveling, but parents of students have not been asked. If parents do travel or welcome out of state guests, shouldn't their children quarantine? How will the school be able to keep track of this? If teachers choose to travel for the holidays and have to quarantine, are there enough subs to cover these teachers? Are students really getting a good education if the buildings are filled with substitutes while teachers quarantine? If we were remote, then teachers could still teach. I understand the hardship going remote will have on parents, but how will these parents feel if their children get sick? Or their teacher gets sick? I believe the proposal for remote learning after Thanksgiving was made to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. I know my child will continue to be a remote learner. Thank you for your time.
- First, thank you for the great job WLC has been doing in the first few months of in school an remote learning. Your recent letter to parents is very specific; many of the school's staff are choosing to ignore protocols, science and medicine by choosing to travel (or host) outside New England for the holidays. However, many others are strictly following protocols, listening to the doctors and scientists and will not be traveling, hosting or even attending family gatherings just 10 miles away. Due to the the facts you clearly stated, it my response that the School Board has no other choice and responsibility but to switch to remote learning during this time. Your letter was concise and to the point; it left no room for interpretation.

In response to the email about going fully remote over the holidays, I have a few comments. They are not complaints because I can not help with a solution such as becoming a substitute teacher. While I understand the way things are going right now, there are children who would not do well with full remote teaching. One of mine included. I have a few children at WLC. Some would do totally fine with remote as last school year proved and one who would fall very far behind. She is still struggling this year, as a result from last year even though she is fully in person. That being said I understand this is a very tricky position you are in and there are no correct answers. Since I can not be part of the solution to keep the kiddos in school during this time, I respect whatever decision is made. I just hope that there would be extra help for those kiddos who struggle greatly with remote learning.

- I am a parent that is fully supportive of whatever decision is made for the district. If the board feels this time of remote learning is ideal, I stand behind you all.

This pandemic has caused a lot of heartache, a lot of loneliness. I feel that allowing staff members and families the freedom to visit family members during the holidays is fair and almost a necessity. We need some normalcy in our lives. Neither of the situations is going to be ideal for everyone, and I understand why some parents are upset. I understand parents fearing the lack of income, but we need to figure out how to work around the new situations that are arising, because I don't see it going away anytime soon.

That's my two cents. Thanks for your time.
Good luck with making this decision,

- The four day in school learning would work my kids.
- Hello. I am the parent of 2 kids at WLC. Just read that the SAU wants to go remote after Thanksgiving until mid January. Then I heard it's because some staff want to travel for the holidays. Wondering what I can do to help prevent this ridiculousness. Also, we are in the middle of Varsity soccer playoffs which could go into next week. Having a meeting for us to attend and make some kind of vote will be horrible timing next week if either of our teams (boys or girls) have to play.