

***Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District***  
***School Administrative Unit #63***

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Superintendent of Schools

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October 28, 2020

Greetings,

The Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board is looking for feedback in regard to the possible need to quarantine around the holiday due to staff, as well as families, traveling during the holiday season. No decision has been made at this time.

The issue at hand is that a number of our staff members have indicated that they will be traveling outside of New England for either or both the Thanksgiving and December holidays. The number of staff traveling for the December holiday is greater than Thanksgiving. In accordance with our protocol and NH Department of Health recommendations, a person traveling outside of New England must quarantine for 14 days upon return to our state. The School District only has two substitute teachers available at this time. The reality is that the School District will not be able to provide supervision for students in their classrooms or Special Education support if we have too many teachers and staff who cannot be present due to required quarantining. Some staff have also identified that they will be hosting friends and family from outside New England over the holidays. This is not a concern recognized by the School Board and is not part of our protocol.

There have already been several days when students, in particular at WLC, who have had to be housed in the gym for classes we cannot find coverage for in what is essentially a large study hall. Additional staff being quarantined will make this situation occur on a more regular basis. At this time, school Principals do a daily analysis of staff who are absent to determine whether or not we have enough coverage for classes.

A committee made up of School Board members and staff has met to look into the effectiveness of our current models for delivering instruction. The committee gave a proposal to the Board to consider having all students go to a remote learning scenario from Monday November 30 through Monday January 18, 28 school days, while staff are required to quarantine. The fourteen-day quarantine period after Thanksgiving would allow students to return on December 15, allowing 8 days before the December break. The Committee was concerned that transitioning in and out of in school would be difficult and included these 8 days in the remote learning period. The Committee also recommended that Tuesday November 24, would be a non-school day for teachers to work together to implement the remote learning to begin the Monday after Thanksgiving.

During this time period, Special Needs students will be given the opportunity to come into school 4 days per week and be supervised by their Case Manager and Support Staff while they attend classes remotely along with their peers. Because this is a daytime supervision issue, co-curricular athletics could still be run if the NHIAA moves forward with the season.

The School Board would like to have your feedback. I would like to repeat; no decisions have been made on this issue. Please send email responses to me at [b.lane@sau63.org](mailto:b.lane@sau63.org). This information will go to the School Board and become public record unedited so please do not include your child's name in the email. Email responses should be returned by Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are interested in being a substitute teacher, you can apply on our website at [www.sau63.org](http://www.sau63.org).

Thank you,

Bryan K. Lane