

Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District
School Administrative Unit #63

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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.