

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent
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Ms. Alisha DiCorpo
Interim Superintendent of Schools

November 5, 2020

Dear NMPS Families:

Last evening, the Board of Education held a special meeting to discuss publicly, for community transparency, four learning model proposals around holiday travel. After discussion, it was decided that the Board of Education would support the joint recommendation of the New Milford Health Director, the District Medical Advisor and the Interim Superintendent to move to full remote learning for the week of November 30, 2020 through December 4, 2020. This will give families and staff who may be travelling during the holiday break time to obtain a PCR test and to receive the results prior to students returning to school. We are hopeful that by providing parents and staff with this information now, we will ease the transition to remote learning for all and will provide families time to prepare.

To ensure a safe, healthy, return to in-person school on December 7th, the following process must be followed by *any families that have traveled to a state/country during the break that is on the Advisory List which is updated every Tuesday. You must also submit a travel form to the State of Connecticut, which can be found at this website: <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel>.*

1. Please let your school principal know *no later than November 18, 2020*, if you have plans to travel out of the state/country over the November break by using the link to this form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4pz6i_ifLOEU3wddoB0JUQecQOvZRDnncwvD0PWIfMFFq6A/viewform.
2. Please be advised that if you are planning on traveling with your son or daughter to either an "Affected State" or an "Affected Country" for more than 24 hours during the November break, we will require a negative COVID-19 test before your son or daughter may return to in-person learning. Pursuant to Governor Lamont's Executive Order 9I, an "Affected State" is defined as a state, *other than New York, New Jersey, or Rhode Island*, with a positive case rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents, or higher than a 10% test positivity rate over a seven-day rolling average, and an "Affected Country" is defined as a country for which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has issued a Level 3 Travel Health Notice.

It is important that you check with the list of Affected States and Affected Countries prior to travel as this list changes based on changing COVID-19 conditions. The most up to date list of Affected States can be found here <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel>. The most up to date list of Affected Countries can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019->

[ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html#travel-1](https://www.cdc.gov/ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html#travel-1). Note: the test must have been taken within 72 hours of your return to Connecticut, or upon your arrival in Connecticut. Only results for nucleic acid COVID-19 tests, such as reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests, shall be accepted.

You are required to send in your child's results to the nurse's office *prior to returning* your child to in-person learning for either cohort. Test results and all other medical information relating to your child will be maintained in confidence by the District as mandated by law. Once your child has been cleared to return to school by the nurse, he/she may return if he/she is/are symptom free. While awaiting your child's results, please keep them home.

3. Below, you will find new guidance from the CDC on Holiday Celebrations. If you are going to travel, please visit the CDC website where you can find guidance related to travel prior to, during, and after your trip.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#thanksgiving>

See below for the link to information referencing the executive order:

<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel#:~:text=Executive%20Order%20Regarding%20Travel%20Pursuant,for%20which%20the%20Centers%20for>

4. If you are hosting an Affected Traveler who is required to self-quarantine upon entering Connecticut, you and your family are not required to self-quarantine. However, all usual COVID-19 precautions should be undertaken.

Stay safe and when in doubt, if feeling ill at all, please stay home and consult your doctor.

Sincerely,



Ms. Alisha DiCorpo
Interim Superintendent