

Mr. Stefan Czaporowski Superintendent of Schools

November 18, 2020

Dear WPS Parents/Guardians,

Superintendent of Schools 94 North Elm Street, Suite 201 Westfield, MA 01085 Telephone (413) 572-6403 Fax (413) 572-6518

Our Hybrid Learning Model has been fully implemented. It is the district's goal to maintain this model for as long as possible because we know that most of our students benefit academically, socially, and emotionally in an in-person teaching and learning environment. I am writing to make you aware that there may be circumstances moving forward that will require Westfield Public Schools to determine that remote learning days are necessary for the whole district. These scenarios include inclement weather or widespread COVID 19 case increases. Individual schools and programs may also need to pivot to remote learning because of a COVID 19 case concern or due to staffing shortages. When student access to remote learning is not possible, a power outage for example, a "snow" day will be called. On "snow days", students and teachers would not be expected to attend school in person or remotely and the day will be made up in June.

Please note that some decisions to switch to remote learning days may not be known until the effective date of the remote learning day. Factors such as weather, staffing attendance and pending COVID 19 results can contribute to delays in decisions to switch to remote learning days. All decisions regarding remote learning days will be made as soon as possible and will be announced following our normal district procedures (automated calling/texting system messages, posting on the District website, and social media announcements). Whether the remote learning day is program, building or district wide, student attendance will be tracked. Academic work will be aligned to state standards and grades, and teachers will regularly communicate with students throughout the day.

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind everyone about the COVID 19 travel restrictions put in place by Governor Baker. All visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, who do not meet an exemption, are required to complete the Massachusetts Travel Form prior to arrival, unless you are visiting from a lower-risk state designated by the Department of Public Health. Anyone entering Massachusetts must quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to your arrival in Massachusetts. If your COVID-19 test result has not been received prior to arrival, visitors, and residents must quarantine until they receive a negative test result.

Finally, I want to thank all staff, students, and parents for your efforts during these particularly difficult times. Working collaboratively, we will continue to offer as many opportunities for our students as possible. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's school or central office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stefan Czaporowski Superintendent of Schools Westfield Public Schools