



Lebanon Public Schools

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November 20, 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

The new 2-week average daily rate of new cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 people has been released. As expected, our numbers and those in surrounding communities are on the rise. For the 2-week period ending November 14, Lebanon had 24 new cases for an average daily rate of 23.8 cases/100,000 people. The data is updated every Thursday by 5:00 p.m., <https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-data/wa3g-tfvc/>. The new rate puts Lebanon into Red Alert. Most of Connecticut is in the Red Alert category. We already know that there have been 13 new cases this week through Wednesday, November 18. This will keep us in Red Alert and we will exceed the 25 cases/100,000 people average daily rate.

The rising numbers in our communities are having impacts in our schools. Today, we learned that a student at LES has tested positive for COVID-19. The student was last in school on Friday, November 13. The date of the student's COVID-19 test was more than 48 hours after the student was last in school. Therefore there is no need to ask other students or staff members to quarantine.

The other impact for the schools has been when we have had to ask students and staff to quarantine when they are considered close contacts of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The decision yesterday to place LMS in Distance Learning was made due to a lack of substitutes to cover for teachers and IAs who have been asked to quarantine. We have no spread of COVID-19 in our schools. Use the following link for more information on when people are being asked to quarantine, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>.

In making decisions about whether or not our schools should stay with In School instruction, I am using the data referenced above and I consult with Uncas Health District officials. I also join several weekly meetings with the State Department of Education, State Department of Public Health, the Lebanon Emergency Management committee, and area superintendents. **At this time, we will continue with In School instruction for Lyman and LES. LMS will remain in Distance Learning with a target date to return to In School Instruction being Monday, November, 30.**

School Schedule for Next Week

Monday, November 23, Full Day

Tuesday, November 24, Full Day

Wednesday, November 25, Early Release
Thursday, November 26, No School, HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Friday, November 27, No School

Reminder: State of CT Travel Advisory

Thanksgiving is next week and families may have travel plans to spend time with family and friends. Or, you may be hosting celebrations at your homes. Please refer to the Connecticut Travel Advisory, <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel>, to get the latest guidance and requirements for your travel or the travel of your guests. Keep in mind that CT requires travelers from a "Red" State or country, including residents returning home, to fill out a travel form. The online form can be accessed here, <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/ct/DPH/Connecticut-Travel-Health-Form>.

Our students that travel to a "Red" destination and are there for 24 or more hours will need to quarantine for 14 days or provide a negative PCR COVID-19 test result before returning for in person instruction. Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions on the Connecticut Travel Advisory website (link above).

Have a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Angell
Superintendent of Schools

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