**Retur Western Foothills**

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January 29, 2021

Dear Students, Staff, Parents and Guardians,

As of today, Oxford county continues to be designated as “Yellow”. Yellow no longer prohibits extracurricular activities therefore in RSU 10 this week we have been able to begin team practices following DOE health and safety guidelines. This will be monitored and competitions may begin the end of next week. There will be no spectators allowed in our facilities.

For next week, beginning February 1, Rumford Elementary School will continue to be fully remote through at least February 5, due to the number of confirmed Covid cases and staff members quarantining. All other Schools in RSU 10 are open and MVMS will finally be able to begin having 5th graders attend 4 days per week. We will monitor this and consider 6th graders the following week. We are able to consider this as these two class sizes are smaller.

Please remember we are taking every precaution in our schools to follow the guidelines and it is not a matter of Covid spreading in our schools. It is a matter of having enough staffing to maintain in-person learning as people are required to quarantine or they test positive from outside exposure. Additionally, we are limited by space in our schools to follow the distance requirements in the guidelines. We do know how everyone wants to get back to more in-person learning.

As always please consult with your school nurse if you have questions about exposure, quarantining or travel beyond ME, NH, VT.

Please stay safe!

Thank you!

Deb Alden