



Lebanon Public Schools

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March 12, 2021

Good Afternoon Students, Parents/Guardians and Staff:

This week's report from the Uncas Health District (UHD) shows our 2-week average daily rate of new cases of COVID – 19 per 100,000 people for the 2-week period ending March 6th as 16.8%, down from the 21.8% of our last Friday report. There were 17 new cases during that 2-week period (February 21, 2021 through March 6, 2021). While this two-week period shows a decrease in new cases, and despite local communities located geographically on Lebanon's borders such as Colchester, Columbia and Franklin still trending downward, Lebanon's Red Alert status continues on the state's tracking map. The state's COVID – 19 data are available on the following website,

<https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-data/wa3q-tfvc/>

Lebanon's aforementioned data trend notwithstanding, our educational programming decisions continue to be monitored closely. Each learning model decision is carefully monitored and established with an eye toward virus cases and mitigation strategies. On that basis, we are comfortable with schooling on Monday with all schools in In-Person Learning. On a case-by-case basis, individual students and staff who have become positive for COVID or are considered close contacts know their individual quarantine and return-to-school dates.

Once again, I urge everyone to follow state and national mitigation strategies and minimize attendance at gatherings, promote mask wearing and handwashing protocols and exercise a minimum of six-foot distancing between yourself and others at all times. At the request of our nursing staff, the travel advisory information is reprinted below for your convenience.

CT authorities have expressed fear that our familiarity with the safety mitigation strategies will lead to complacency and lack of follow-through. With that in mind, at the request of our tireless school nursing staff, I am asking everyone to be mindful of the mitigation strategies when traveling out – of – state. Please remember that should you travel to most other states (not including NY, NJ, and RI), CT requires a 10-day quarantine, or a negative COVID test result. Families can go to portal.ct.gov/coronavirus/travel for more information.

COVID – 19 Reminders

COVID – 19 is spread mainly via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to discuss the following preventive measures with your children and family members:

- Wash your hands frequently, but especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.

- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze inside the elbow of your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Wear a face covering (mask) whenever there is a likelihood that you or your family members will be in the presence of others.
- Maximize social distancing between yourself and others when outside of your home.

COVID – 19 Testing Information

The state of CT publishes guidance on when people should get tested on this website, <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/COVID-19Testing> You will find a link there to assist you in locating testing online.

Important Notes:

- Please be advised that Lebanon Elementary School will be closed to all on Saturday, March 13th. Due to extensive work on the school building involving the presence of heavy equipment, both building and grounds will be closed to school employees and the public at-large. Out of an abundance of concern for the safety and well-being of everyone, please note that no one will be allowed on the school campus or in the building tomorrow, Saturday, March 13th. Thank you in advance for your adherence to this safety notice.
- Please note that the Board of Education is canvassing for a Board Clerk. The duties and remuneration are listed in the bullets below.
 - The recording secretary is responsible for taking minutes at regular scheduled board meetings, as well as subcommittee meetings and special meetings upon request, pending availability. The remuneration is \$150.00/meeting date.
- Finally, I am so pleased that many of our faculty/staff as well as community partners have enjoyed pictures and camera views of our two lambs. They have entertained and added a fun de-stressor to the day. Here is the newest lamb, born just not hours ago.



Have a safe weekend and enjoy it in good health. As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Ciccone, Interim Superintendent