



Sheepscoot Valley RSU 12
January 2022
Superintendent's Report
Information, Recognitions, and Celebrations

Superintendent Report

On January 5th, 2022, RSU 12 began implementing the newly-updated [Standard Operating Procedures for Investigating and Responding to COVID19 in PreK-12 Schools \(Updated 12/29/2021\)](#). Below is a summary of the changes.

- Isolation and quarantine periods from school for asymptomatic students and staff are shortened to **five days** (plus 5 additional days of community masking) which is consistent with recently updated guidance from the U.S. CDC.
- Students who are vaccinated, participate in pooled testing, or attend a school that enforces mandatory masking will no longer be required to quarantine from school if they are a close contact, but symptom free.
- The Maine CDC will open an outbreak investigation if a school reports more than 15% of a school population absent, which is the standard currently utilized to define an outbreak from all other infectious diseases.
- Exposure to COVID-19 in an outdoor setting or on a school bus is no longer considered a “close contact.”
- Regardless of where exposure occurs, if an asymptomatic student or staff member is participating in pooled testing, then they will not be required to quarantine from school.
- RSU 12 will accept the results of home COVID tests, but may also request follow-up testing at school depending on testing capacity.
- The RSU 12 community will continue to be notified of positive cases resulting in school exposures via a weekly summary as necessary.
- Schools will continue to identify close contacts and communicate with families even though school quarantine may not be necessary.
- RSU 12 will continue to require masks on school buses.

Curriculum and Technology Report

Several RSU 12 administrators are engaged in an online Skilled Leadership learning experience in partnership with the Collaborative for Customized Learning and the Mass Customized Learning National Alliance. This learning path explores models for leadership and strategic design and alignment, emphasizing the importance of aligning organizational practices with our instructional vision and beliefs. This is a welcome opportunity to refocus on RSU 12's vision for learning even as the COVID pandemic continues.

RSU 12 has been able to upgrade its core network switches in order to take full advantage of increased Internet speeds offered to our schools by the Maine School and Library Network (MSLN). These switches were installed over the winter break. This work will support the integration of technology in learning experiences.

Westport Island Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD										1		2		3
9-12 Lincoln Academy										3	4	2	2	11
9-12 RSU 01										1		2		3
9-12 Waynflete School										1		1		2
9-12 Wiscasset School Department										3	1	1	1	6
K-8 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD						1	1	2	1					5
K-8 Center for Teaching and Learning			2		1	1	2							6
K-8 Chewonki Semester School				3	1	1		1						6
K-8 Edgecomb School Department	3	2	1											6
K-8 Great Salt Bay CSD					1				1					2
K-8 RSU 01					1			1						2
K-8 Sheepscot Valley Children's House		1												1
K-8 Wiscasset School Department		2	1		2	1		1	1					8
Grand Total	3	5	4	3	6	4	3	5	3	9	5	8	3	61

Alna Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD											2	2			4
9-12 Brunswick School Department													1		1
9-12 Gould Academy											1				1
9-12 Lincoln Academy											6	2	1	6	15
9-12 Maine Coast Waldorf School												1			1
9-12 North Yarmouth Academy												1			1
9-12 RSU 40/MSAD 40												1			1
9-12 Waynflete School													1		1
9-12 Wiscasset School Department											1	4	4	1	10
K-8 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD								1		1					2
K-8 Brunswick School Department												1			1
K-8 Center for Teaching and Learning		2	1	4	3	2	3	2	3	1					21
K-8 Chewonki Semester School			1		1		1	1		1					5
K-8 Damariscotta Montessori School		2		1	1	1	2	1							8
K-8 Edgecomb School Department	4	1	3	2	4	1	1	3							19
K-8 Great Salt Bay CSD		1		2	1	2	1	2	2	2					13

K-8 Wiscasset School Department			1			1	1	1	3	1		1			9
Grand Total	4	6	6	9	10	7	9	11	8	6	10	13	7	7	113

Somerville Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Augusta Public Schools													1		1
9-12 Erskine Academy											7	4	3	6	20
9-12 Lincoln Academy												1			1
9-12 RSU 40/MSAD 40												1	2	1	4
Chelsea Elementary School		1													1
K-8 RSU 40/MSAD 40		1													1
Palermo Consolidated School			1												1
Somerville Elementary School	1														1
Whitefield Elementary School								1							1
Windsor Elementary School	1	6	8	4	5	2	3	6	5	4					44
Grand Total	2	8	9	4	5	2	3	7	5	4	7	6	6	7	75

Chelsea Elementary School Report

We are back from a much needed winter break. It was wonderful to see all the excited faces on that Monday morning when we came back and to hear about all the fun times the kids (and staff!) had over break! As teachers eased students back into learning and expectations, we also took the time to review our COVID safety protocols. Teachers reviewed the importance of mask wearing, took another look at their classroom setups to ensure safe distancing is in place while still allowing students to work together and collaborate as much as possible, and the importance of handwashing and sanitizing was reviewed with other classroom expectations. We are very thankful to be considered a universal masking school so we will be able to take advantage of the new quarantining protocols that minimize/eliminate the need for most students and staff to quarantine from school when considered close contacts if they remain symptom free.

Palermo Consolidated School Report

The students had an amazing few weeks leading up to Christmas. The students and staff had a fun time engaged in a door decorating contest. The 8th graders built an amazing door that was so heavy it needed reinforcements to keep from falling apart! They get rewarded for their efforts with a lunch dessert and a dodgeball competition. Our second graders won a snow-sledding and hot cocoa party for bringing in the most food for the food drive. Our Palermo Food Pantry was amazed and so happy to have the items to help the community. All the grades loved the Spirit week and dressed in amazing outfits to show their Christmas spirit.

To start the new year, Palermo staff and students are getting busy with new activities and events! Through our student council meetings and restorative circles, the students have been giving some great ideas to make school more interesting and engaging. We are planning to have a writing publication to show off some amazing writers, we have a bullying prevention poster

contest, and we are exploring ideas for an activity day to teach kids about things they are interested in (playing chess and cribbage, exploring small engines, volunteering in the community, knitting, sewing, ect.). Let's hope the kids enjoy some new activities to keep our minds off Covid and the stress we all feel from it.

Whitefield Elementary School Report

After a wonderful Holiday vacation the students and staff at WHES came back to school on the 3rd ready to embrace the 2022 year, hopefully energized after the break. Given the developments with both a new, highly transmissible COVID variant and a new slate of CDC school guidelines, we are retooling our approaches to a variety of circumstances. What we are steadfast in is our standard safety protocols around minimizing the potential for COVID spread within the school. First thing Monday morning, all students reviewed all our expectations related to mask wearing, social distancing and lunchroom procedures. Many classrooms have been reconfigured to maximize the distance between students in class and it amounts to simply recommitting ourselves, as a full school population, to the practices that have well-proven to keep us safe. On the positive side, a multitude of studies around the country have proven, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that schools continue to be one of the COVID-safest places in our society. With that said, our vigilance and unrelenting commitment must be maintained. As long as this COVID journey has already been for everyone, it is not time to let down our guard.

Windsor Elementary School Report

Windsor School enjoyed a wonderful December leading up to the winter break. Our staff engaged in "A December to Remember." This meant all of the adults who wanted to participated in challenges such as dressing like a candy cane, wearing red and green, and bringing in their baby pictures to decorate a tree with. The Windsor staff loves competition and games, and we had a lot of fun throughout the month. We also came together with the Whitefield Lions club and several Windsor families to sponsor 22 children for Christmas. This is a tradition that we hold near and dear.



Our staff works hard to mirror this spirit of engagement in their classrooms as well. We believe that students who feel welcomed and motivated will have better attendance and behavior. Our newest PBIS recognition efforts include students earning paws for positive behavior. These paws are then turned in to Mrs. Wilson for a random drawing. The winner gets Lynx, our wildcat for his class for the week and a treat for the whole class at lunch. The class also adds a detail to Lynx's biography, which has been building all year. Students can also earn lunch with the wildcat. This is very exciting to the students, who love to ask the wildcat questions. Our eighth graders volunteer their time to bring the wildcat to life.

