



North Stonington Public Schools

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SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DEBORAH MARTIN
BUSINESS MANAGER

October 9, 2020

Dear North Stonington Public Schools families,

We are completing our fifth full week in the hybrid plan with full day in-school sessions four days per week and Wednesday as a virtual teaching and learning day.

The Board of Education (BOE) met again on Wednesday night to discuss the next steps of a full-in plan. The administrators met the days prior to that meeting, as they have regularly and as instructed, presented a possible plan that the principals felt would be best in a transition to a full-in. You should know that given the right metrics, relative to the number of cases in our district and surrounding towns, nothing would make everyone happier, especially the administrators, than to go back to what we used to do which is having our students with us in school all day and every day. The last couple of weeks COVID data has caused a pause but we continue to investigate every alternative which will provide better instruction.

As I stated, the most recent Ledge Light Heath District (LLHD) data shows a trend of increases in cases in New London County. That shouldn't be surprising as the state has increases in the number of cases as the Governor has lifted restrictions. Our town numbers are still extremely low as they have been since March. I will be receiving my weekly update from LLHD later today. I continue to stress the importance of our students practicing social distancing when they are not at school. I completely understand how difficult it has been to restrict your children from the things that they are used to and make them happy, if not just to be with their friends and playing or just hanging out with them. By all means I don't want you to deny that. Peer socialization is very important. I just ask that you do your best to be sure that, when possible, they are wearing masks and washing their hands frequently. The latest press conference held with LLHD addressing the COVID uptick stated that most of the cases recorded are the result of private gatherings where masks are not worn and social distancing is not taking place.

There will be another BOE meeting on Wednesday, October 14th. The reopening plan will be on the agenda. However, it is a regularly scheduled meeting which means that the BOE will be conducting regular board business including an executive session. The agenda and ZOOM invitation will be forthcoming.

Have a great holiday weekend and please be safe!

Peter L. Nero
Superintendent of Schools