

Windham School District

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School Administrative Unit 95

Friday, January 21, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I can hardly believe there is just one more week left in the month of January! This week, we had a lot of great conversations and support from our community partners that I wanted to acknowledge. During the winter months, road conditions are always a focus, especially for our new student drivers. I wanted to thank Windham's General Services Division for their surveillance and treatment of our roads in order to keep everyone safe this winter. I have also been meeting with Windham's Fire Department weekly to stay abreast of the ongoing rise of COVID-19 cases within the state. Their partnership has been instrumental in keeping our students and schools protected. It truly takes a village to keep our community safe and I am honored to be surrounded by such capable team members. Below are some additional highlights for the week.

District COVID-19 Case Count: As of Friday, January 21, our district had a total of one hundred and nineteen (119) positive COVID-19 cases. There is one (1) positive case at the SAU, thirty-eight (38) positive cases at Golden Brook School, eight (8) positive cases at Windham Center School, thirty-six (36) positive cases at Windham Middle School, and thirty-six (36) positive cases at Windham High School.

Indoor Mask Mandate: We were hoping to return all schools to mask choice effective Sunday, January 23. However, we continue to have active clusters identified within Golden Brook School and Windham Middle School. Based on the Windham School Board's Indoor Mask Matrix and with the consultation of NH DHHS, an extension of the universal indoor mask mandate for all students and staff at Golden Brook School (PK-4) Windham Middle School (grades 7-8) will begin on Sunday, January 23. The indoor mask mandate will be in place for 10 consecutive days. Windham Center School and Windham High School will return to mask choice effective Sunday, January 23. On Wednesday, January 26, the administration will be meeting with the nurses to review the most recently updated guidelines from the state. The administration will also be reviewing the existing indoor mask matrix to verify that the matrix is still meeting the needs of the district. Any recommendations will be presented to the School Board.

SASS Testing: ConvenientMD recently informed us that due to the significant rise in COVID-19 positive case results throughout New Hampshire, their clinical teammates no longer have the ability to personally call those who have tested positive by phone. Individuals who test positive will no longer receive a call and they must



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retrieve their results through the portal. Instructions on how to log into the portal can be found here: https://bit.ly/3nF6hTh.

Mobile Vaccination Clinic: We are currently working with the state to secure **Friday, February 4** as another opportunity to offer the COVID-19 booster to all eligible staff and students. Additional details and registration should be available next week.

Scholastic Art Award Winners: We are proud to announce that twenty-four students were recognized at the Scholastic Art Awards which is considered the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens. Three of the students received a gold key award for their work and will be considered for National Awards. Congratulations to all students and staff for this amazing achievement!

Exchange Concert- On Saturday, January 22 at 4:00 pm the eighth-grade students will be performing with our High School band and strings program. The event is open to the public and masks will be required while indoors due to the mask mandate still in place.

School District Candidacy Filing Period: Residents of Windham who are Registered Voters and interested in running for open School Board positions can now file! There is one available position for a three-year term and one available position for a one-year term to complete the term of Sam Falsetti. The deadline to file is 5:00 pm on Friday, January 28th. The election will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. To make arrangements to file or if you have questions, please contact Mary Ann Horaj, School District Clerk, at (603) 370-0323 (call or text) or mahwindyindy@gmail.com. The two candidates whose terms expire are Dennis Senibaldi and Stephanie Wimmer. If you are interested in running for a Town position, you can contact the Town Clerk's office at (603) 434-5075.

As a reminder, the district has an early release scheduled on Wednesday, January 26. Please reference your school handbook and principal newsletters for your school release time.

Thank you and enjoy your weekend,

Dr. Kori Alice Becht Superintendent of Schools