



Weston Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent
William S. McKersie, Ph.D.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Weston Families and Staff
FROM: William S. McKersie, Ph.D., Superintendent
DATE: April 7, 2021
RE: Spring Vacation COVID-19 Reminders

We have earned a relaxing and refreshing Spring Vacation. Three reminders are important ahead of next week's break.

Travel Guidelines

We sent a blast on March 24, 2021 on the new Connecticut Travel Guidelines (see below italics). To clarify, the state has made all requirements and guidelines regarding travel optional. The CT Website (at the link below) lists optional steps families may take before and after travel to maximize their health and safety. These are listed as options--not requirements. Similarly, the Weston Public Schools views these as options--they are not requirements.

Nevertheless, families and staff would be wise to be cautious and use good judgement to maximize health and safety before, during and after travel. The nation and region are seeing an increase in COVID-19 rates, especially among younger age groups. We must remain vigilant to ensure that as much in-person schooling as possible continues for the remainder of the school year.

All school year we have required that students, staff and their families adhere to the Connecticut Travel Advisory. As of March 19, 2021, Governor Lamont's Executive Order No.9S, Section 1 regarding travel is no longer in effect. As a result, we no longer will enforce the guidelines as requirements. We concur with the State of Connecticut on the following guidance regarding travel:

Connecticut residents and travelers to Connecticut should follow travel-related guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH). Mandates and requirements are not currently in place in Connecticut. (March 19, 2021)

For further information on the Connecticut Travel Advisory, including an extensive list of frequently asked questions (FAQ), visit ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel.

Contact Tracing Over Spring Vacation

WPS personnel will not be conducting contact tracing over Spring Vacation (April 10-18). (This is standard across nearly all area districts.) School administrators and nurses require a break.

If a WPS student or staff member learns over Spring Vacation that they are confirmed positive for COVID-19, please promptly inform the Westport Weston Health District (WWHD) at 203-227-9571 (ext. 231). WWHD is party to all contact tracing conducted by district personnel and keeps information private. Ahead of our return to school on April 19, WWHD will provide district personnel a list of confirmed positive cases among WPS students and staff. We will determine next steps based on each individual case.

Maintain Physical Distance, Mask-Up and Stay Home if Ill

We repeat the phrase because it bears repeating: Maintain Physical Distance and Mask-Up while you are on vacation.

At the risk of ending on a stern note: After Spring Vacation, please do not come to school if you are not feeling well. Sadly, we have had classrooms and schools forced into temporary remote mode this year due to students and staff coming to school when ill.

Even with many of us on the way to full vaccinations, we must continue these proven measures for limiting the spread of COVID-19.

Have a good Spring Vacation. We look forward to a great last chapter to this fascinating school year.