



EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 220 • East Lyme, Connecticut 06333 • (860) 739-3966 • Fax (860) 739-1215

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools

Amy Drowne
*Assistant Superintendent of
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Kimberly Davis
*Director of
Student Services*

Maryanna Stevens, CPA
*Director of Finance, Marketing,
and Growth Management*

December 16, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful upcoming holiday break. Enjoy your time together and the peace and happiness that this time of year brings.

I also wanted to share a few reminders and updates with our East Lyme Schools community:

- If we are impacted by inclement weather (snow tomorrow), we will follow the normal course of action and close schools, as necessary. We do not plan to utilize the State Department of Education granted option of having students work remotely unless we have multiple inclement weather days throughout the winter. We have three inclement weather days built into our district calendar, which we will utilize first. After using the three days, we will then reassess the option of turning to remote days if an inclement weather closure is warranted. Inclement weather days (snow days) bring a sense of normalcy and standard practice for children and staff. One less disruption to this school year supports the social and emotional well-being for all. If a closure does occur tomorrow, I encourage you to send your child(ren) outside to play and spend some time away from their computer or device. Let them safely enjoy the fun, excitement, and happiness that a first official 'snow day' brings. In fact, go join them for some sledding or snowman building. You will not regret some quality time with your kids!
- If you plan to travel out-of-state, please make sure you refer to the [Official Guidance from CT on Traveling out of State](#). We request that students isolate for 14-days and/or get tested according to the state guidelines and requirements. We look forward to having everyone back in our buildings on January 4th.
- We continue to cohort students as necessary and make changes and adjustments as requested to Virtual Viking. We appreciate your patience during this process.

We are looking forward to 2021 and the second half of our school year. The months are going by fast and we remain hopeful that at some point this year we will return students to full in-person learning based on collaboration and advisement from the medical professionals. We remain focused on this goal to safely return our schools to full in-person learning, as we know it is in the best interest of all children.

East Lyme Public Schools will inspire, engage and educate each student to become a contributing citizen and a responsible, independent, and critical thinker.



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I wish you all a safe and restful holiday break and we will see everyone in the New Year!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools

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