



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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*Director of Finance, Marketing,
and Growth Management*

August 19, 2020

Dear East Lyme Parents and Guardians:

We want to thank our parents and families for their patience and support during this most challenging time. We have shared a vast amount of communication and information on the reopening of our schools over the last few weeks. We are excited to bring our students back in our Hybrid Learning or Virtual Viking models. Safety of our students and staff remains our number one priority in our ongoing decision making. As we begin the start of the school year, formulating a structured environment (whether in-person or remote) remains essential, while supporting your children each and every day.

As we finalize preparations for the start of our 2020-2021 school year which begins on August 31, I want to share some important procedures pertaining to traveling and face coverings.

- If you are planning to travel or you are currently on vacation and/or visiting a designated state that has been identified as an 'affected state' by Connecticut, the following must occur. You will be mandated to quarantine for 14 days and your child(ren) will not be able to attend school on-site until this quarantine period ends. Please refer to the [Travel Advisory for Visitors in Connecticut](#) as it pertains to travel to an 'affected state' and the list of impacted locations across the country. For the safety of all, please make sure you notify your child's school office if you are required to quarantine due to your presence in an 'affected state' that lasted for more than 24 hours. If you traveled to an 'affected state' but did not stay there for more than 24 hours, you do not need to quarantine.
- We have received many questions regarding mask requirements for students and staff during the school day. Per CDC guidelines and East Lyme Public School Policy, it is a requirement that all students and staff wear masks inside the school building (outside of a medical exemption and/or designated mask breaks). Further information from the State Department of Education and medical professionals is forthcoming on specific types of masks that are most appropriate for usage during the day. We currently recommend that masks should be soft cloth face coverings that enclose the nose and mouth.

We appreciated your patience while we finalized and distributed the cohorting assignments this week. Please be assured we made a concerted effort to ensure there was a balance of student numbers across cohort classes A and B.

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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Individual building communications will continue to be sent out regarding logistics and daily school operations. Please refer to the district website to access further information pertaining to the reopening of our schools. Our administration and staff are eager to see all children on the first day of school.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools

JN:jc