119 Gorman Road Brooklyn, CT 06234 Phone: (860) 774-9732 Fax: (860) 774-6938 Patricia L. Buell Superintendent buell@brooklynschools.org

## **COVID Updated 12/4/2020**

Connecticut COVID-19 Response
Northeast District Department of Health
Free Priority Testing Sites

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

I hope that this message finds you well. This communication is to inform you that the **Brooklyn Public Schools** will remain in the distance learning model of instruction for one more week and then pivot to a **DIFFERENT hybrid model on 12/14/2020**. I appreciate all that you are doing as parents, guardians and for all that the staff are doing to offer high quality instruction through different models.

Confirmed COVID-19 cases in Brooklyn have decreased in the schools, increased last week in the community and have not decreased slightly. The Brooklyn Public Schools have been made aware of one staff member who has been infected while outside of the school. This case did not require any additional contact tracing or quarantining by staff or students and there were zero contacts related to this case. We are watching several contacts in our school community and hope that they do not become cases. I am working with NDDH to monitor the contacts and cases and with the State Department of Education and Department of Health to try to offer in-person learning while decreasing the density of people in each classroom. This is the reason for moving to the hybrid model. I am attaching information about the hybrid to explain the model.

Food service: We will continue to offer meal distribution to families. We bundle food and put multiple servings in one serving container and try to make the meals easy to reheat. Please note during the distance learning, we will extend the pick up times to 8:00-9:00AM for pick up at either the Brooklyn Community Center or Brooklyn Middle School loading dock area. You do not need to sign up, please feel free to pick up 3 meals on Tuesdays and 4 meals on Fridays. Please stay in your cars and open the trunk for safe distribution. \*If you need special arrangements to receive meals, feel free to contact Heather Plourde at hplourde@eastconn.org or call 860-455-1552.

**School Nurses:** During distance learning, the school nurses will be in the buildings every day. Please continue to call to inform the nurses if you or your child are not feeling well. We have been assisting NDDH by communicating with families of school aged children. <u>BES nurse's email</u> or 860-774-4618. <u>BMS nurse's email</u> or 860-774-1498.

**Parks and Recreation:** is looking to see what childcare parents need. They are able to offer childcare 8-4PM **or** before and after school care but NOT both. Please reach out to them and if you are interested in childcare so they can plan to support families. I am grateful for their support. They can be reached at (860) 779-3411 X7.

Please find the attached notice with details about the hybrid model of instruction that is different than we used at the beginning of the school year.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Buell, Superintendent

**Mission**: The Brooklyn Schools will foster a drive for learning within each student to reach his/her greatest potential. To achieve this mission, the school will continually improve its educational programs and services to meet this community's expectations for a quality education for all.