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COVID Updated 12/22/2020

Connecticut COVID-19 Response

Northeast District Department of Health

Free Priority Testing Sites

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

I hope this letter finds you well and ready to begin the school winter break! This is just a reminder that we will be on winter break from December 23, 2020 until January 3, 2021. We will begin the hybrid model of instruction on January 4, 2021.

This hybrid model will be as follows: **Monday remote learning, like it is now; Tuesday and Thursday: Cohort A in person all day; Wednesday and Friday Cohort B in person all day.** We will follow this schedule as long as we need to. Instruction during the in person days we will focus on core academics and when students are home they will have follow up work, independent work and related arts. Related arts teachers will take attendance on days when students are home. We will continue to monitor cases in our community and school. Preschool and high needs classes will follow the regular five day/week schedule beginning 1/4/2021.

<u>Travel advisory</u> remains in effect and anyone who travels out of state for 24 hours to an affected state. You must quarantine or follow testing guidelines and provide test results for reentry to school. See the link for guidelines.

More than rules and guidelines, we hope that everyone stays healthy and that the hybrid model of instruction provides for a transition to in person learning, and that we can return to full in person learning soon. We had a spike in community cases, like other communities and we want to return to our full in person teaching and learning as soon as our numbers drop down and that we have enough staff to be able to run the schools safely.

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: 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.

Happy holidays and enjoy the winter break! The school and superintendent offices will be closed most days during the break. There will be some staff working on different days, but if there is something you need or if you have a question, feel free to email or call and I will return your message as soon as possible. It is a pleasure to serve the Brooklyn Schools and community and I look forward to seeing the students soon!

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.

The Brooklyn Public Schools Sincerely, Patricia L. Buell, Superintendent

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