

APRIL SCHOOL VACATION ADVISORY

Dear Norwood Public Schools Families, Students and Staff,

While the weather is warming and vaccinations increase I think we are all hopeful that we are approaching the end of COVID. Sadly, I am writing to remind us all that we are still in a pandemic and now is not the time to abandon the mitigation measures we have been following over the past year:

- Wear a mask
- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet whenever possible
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day
- Avoid gatherings with individuals outside your household

I am aware that some families and staff have made plans to travel over the April school vacation and want to stress that everyone follow the [Massachusetts Travel Advisory](#). Not doing so will jeopardize in-person learning, school sports and activities and increase the risk of COVID transmission within our schools.

For domestic or international travel the following are considered higher risk situations:

- Travel by plane, bus or train
- Travel by car with individuals from outside your household
- Travel to amusement parks or other densely populated venues
- Travel that includes unmasked activities with people outside your household

The advisory guidelines include:

- A negative COVID test within 72 hours of returning to Massachusetts
- If the COVID test is done after returning to Massachusetts you should remain in quarantine until you receive the negative test result
- If you choose not to test, quarantine for 10 days returning to activities on day 11.

Some important notes:

- You are fully vaccinated 2 weeks after the last dose of a vaccine series. However, no vaccine is 100% effective so protective measures should be taken seriously even after you are fully vaccinated.
- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days or are fully vaccinated you do not need to test or quarantine after travel.
- If you are fully vaccinated but have symptoms of COVID-19 you should follow the travel guidelines for testing and quarantine.

Hoping everyone will enjoy the vacation week and continue to follow all guidelines so we may continue in-person learning through the end of the year!

Jill Driscoll, Nurse leader NPS