

Winfried Feneberg, CAGS
Superintendent of Schools

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Lawrence LeBoeuf, BS
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Summary:

- **District is adjusting February 1 Independent Student Work Day to February 9.**
- **COVID-19 Transmission Mitigation Strategies Necessary to Remain Open and Operating**

January 19, 2022

Dear Kearsarge Community,

The District will be adjusting the Independent Student Work Day **from February 1, 2022 to February 9, 2022** to accommodate previously scheduled Winter Activities occurring in schools. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but wanted to make every effort to avoid cancelling activities for students.

Additionally, we need to inform you our District is facing **critical levels of student and staff isolation absences**, due to the recent surge in COVID-19. In recent communications, we have noted the substantial impact of COVID-19 absences on bus drivers, students, faculty, and staff. Should these numbers continue to escalate, we will likely need to limit, restrict, or stop activities we hoped to continue to offer students without interruption or restriction. Currently, teachers, administration, and office staff are covering classrooms as substitutes. We have reassigned faculty outside of their curricular areas during planning periods, and have found ways to consolidate classes, so that we might continue to keep students in school and avoid interruptions to in-person learning. All the while, we have maintained programming in the arts and co-curricular activities such as athletics by working diligently to support effective COVID-19 transmission reduction strategies. Please continue to help us to avoid any interruptions by taking actions to do **what we know has a substantial positive impact on reducing the spread of COVID-19**. These actions include:

1. Getting vaccinated and boosted, if eligible;
2. Temporarily avoiding scheduling, or engaging in un-masked student or group gatherings, especially where participant vaccination status is unknown;
3. Upgrading masks worn (KN95 is recommended, Surgical masks at minimum) when in areas of high potential for transmission;
4. Being diligent in wearing the masks in the community when in indoor, public spaces.

Respectfully,

Winfried Feneberg

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