

GRAND ISLE SUPERVISORY UNION

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802-372-6921 • P.O. BOX 54, GRAND ISLE, VT 05458 • WWW.GISU.ORG

28 October 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians & Community members,

On Friday, October 23, 2020 the Vermont Agency of Education released a major revision to the current [Strong and Healthy Start Guidance to Schools](#). We are in the process of reviewing the guidance and revising our school plans accordingly. In most ways the recently released guidance adds more restrictions to what schools can do. I am hopeful that we will be able to meet these requirements without it having a major impact on our ability to offer more in-person opportunities for students. There are schools in Vermont that this new guidance will spark a pull back from the plans they had. The administrative team and I will keep you posted.

GISU continues to not have any confirmed cases of COVID 19 in any member district schools. According to the [Vermont Department of Health's School Based COVID 19 website](#) there were 11 new cases of COVID 19 in Vermont schools last week. Overall there have been a total of 25 cases. At GISU we continue to work hard to have effective routines, processes, and procedures to keep the virus out of the school; as well as to prevent transmission in case an asymptomatic case does make it into the schools. All students, faculty, staff, community, and administrators continue to stay focused and not let their guards down. I really appreciate everyone's hard work.

For information about how and when we would notify the community if a GISU member school were to have a student, faculty, or staff member test positive for COVID-19, I encourage you to visit [last week's community letter](#), which includes a copy of the sample letter we would use.

If you missed [information about our plan](#) for creating opportunities for students to be able to access more in-person learning the link above will take you to a review of that plan. I am happy to share that so far the implementation of those plans are going smoothly.

Travel Reminder: WHEN TO QUARANTINE

As families start to plan for the holidays and any weekend travels, please remember: **Anyone who travels outside of Vermont must follow the Department of Health's guidance around quarantine before returning to school.** Please review the [cross state travel map](#) to determine quarantine requirements based on the area you visited. This map is updated weekly on Tuesdays (formally Fridays) and is populated with raw data from Johns Hopkins University. The Department of Health also has a [FAQ page](#) with answers to many popular questions about traveling or hosting out-of-state visitors in your home. More information is available on the [Vermont Department of Health's COVID-19 travel site](#).

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Community Meeting

Tonight's Community Meeting will be a general discussion, I will talk about some of the changes in guidance, cases of COVID-19 throughout schools in the state of Vermont, and will talk about travel. As usual, there will be a time for community members to ask questions and share their experiences. The access to the Superintendent's weekly Community Meeting is available below.
Wednesday, October 28, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/yzd-szwo-tqi

[Join by phone](#)

(US) +1 573-349-3062 PIN: 810 989 343#

**Please note tonight's Community meeting will be recorded and posted to the COVID 19 communications section of the GISU website

Thank you for working with us to support the GISU mission to ensure all members of the Grand Isle Supervisory Union Learning Community are curious, creative, courageous, and capable of pursuing their aspirations in a diverse and ever-changing world.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Clark

Michael J. Clark
Grand Isle Supervisory Union
Superintendent