

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**SUSSEX-WANTAGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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December 23, 2020

Dear Sussex-Wantage Community:

As we approach this holiday season, I am writing to update you on how we will proceed moving forward given the guidelines provided by the Sussex County Department of Health (DOH). As previously shared, the COVID activity level in our region is at a “high” activity level. Due to this high activity level, the DOH has expressed a great deal of concern about the spread of the virus because of the upcoming winter holidays. To address that concern, our district will be moving to a remote model of instruction for one week following the winter break.

School will be remote from Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. This provides an additional period after New Year’s Day to reduce the risk of holiday symptom spread exposure. School is anticipated to reopen to in-person instruction on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> using our cohort model. Please remember that if you travel during the holiday season, please monitor the *NJDOH Travel Restrictions* using the link below.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to the regular seasonal influenza and include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. Some have reported additional symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, lethargy, lack of appetite, vomiting, loss of taste, loss of smell, and diarrhea. Individuals who need medical care should call their medical provider to report their illness prior to seeking care at a clinic, physician’s office, or hospital. We will continue to keep you updated in the event these plans need to be modified. We sincerely hope that the new year finds you and your family safe with the ability to rejoice and find peace during these challenging times.

*Below are some resources that you might find helpful:*

*NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public:*

[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019\\_community.shtml](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml)

*NJDOH Travel Restrictions:*

<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/travel-and-transportation/are-there-travel-restrictions-to-or-from-new-jersey>

*Testing:*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>

*Regional Activity Level Report:*

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/>

*Winter Holiday and Celebration Guidance During the COVID-19 Pandemic:*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/winter.html>

*NJDOH Holiday Guidance:*

<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/slowing-the-spread/how-can-i-safely-celebrate-the-holiday-season>

Sincerely

Michael Gall

Superintendent/Principal CE Lawrence School