



Brentwood Union Free School District
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Dear Brentwood Community,

The district chose remote instruction for three days after the vacation in order to reduce the chance of spreading the virus contracted by people over the holiday. We did have a spike in cases over the weekend and on Monday of this week. We currently have about 40 students and staff members who have the virus and are isolated and another 45 who are quarantined because they encountered someone who had the virus. Between students and staff members we have a population of over 23,000 people in 24 buildings.

As we move closer to the second half of the year it is important now more than ever, we continue to work together. As we shift from hybrid to remote and back to hybrid, students, parents, teachers and administrators must communicate to ensure smooth transitions between the learning methodologies. In a chaotic world, it is easy to lose focus on important task and keeping kids actively engaged in their learning will help them grow intellectually and emotionally. Schools and specifically classrooms provide students with the structure, routines and immediate feedback essential to their growth. For many students, and all students when we are fully remote, their physical classroom may be the kitchen or living room and their desk may be a kitchen table, or their lap as they sit atop their bed. Regardless, of their location students must be engaged in all their classes every day. Besides the location of where students are learning they are also listening, watching and interacting with their teacher and peers through a screen smaller than a typical TV. This educational model is new to everyone and requires constant adjustments, tweaks and monitoring which is why I am imploring everyone from staff to students to parents to continue to work together to ensure that every student is actively engaged in their learning.

We will continue to carefully monitor the impact the virus may have on the district or individual buildings and make decisions accordingly. Our priority has always been and will continue to be, to keep students and staff safe while moving each child forward academically and socially.

Stay safe.

Richard Loeschner
Superintendent of Schools