

March 21, 2021

Dear Arlington Families and Staff,

With spring recess rapidly approaching I am sure we are looking forward to sometime in warm weather, being outside, and taking a break from our computer monitors. Our spring recess is from March 29 through April 5. Having a bit of a break at this time is welcomed and it is our wish that you all enjoy it safely and with consideration of others. With that in mind, I thought it would be helpful to share with you the most recent Travel Guidelines from New York State and updates from the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC).

Upon review by our District legal counsel and NYSDOH, New York State travel guidelines have not officially changed even though Governor Cuomo mentioned in his press conference on March 11, 2021 that starting on April 1, 2021, domestic travelers will no longer be required to quarantine after entering New York from another U.S. state or territory.

The current travel guidelines are outlined on the [NYS COVID-19 Travel Advisory](#). As part of our school district plan for mitigating COVID 19, the essential components of the Travel Guidelines are as follows:

Domestic Travel:

- Anyone coming into NY, including NY residents, from a contiguous state (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont) does not need to quarantine.
- Anyone coming into NY, including NY residents, after less than 24 hours in a non-contiguous state (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont) must fill out the Traveler Health Form and obtain a COVID-19 diagnostic test 4 days after their arrival in NY.
- Anyone coming into NY, including NY residents, after 24 hours or more in a non-contiguous state (states other than Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont) must fill out the Traveler Health Form and quarantine for 10 days or complete the test-out process (test 3 days prior to leaving NY, quarantine for 4 days after arrival in NY, test on day 4 or after - both tests must be negative).
- Domestic travelers may be exempt from the two rules above if:
 - They are fully vaccinated and remain asymptomatic. Fully vaccinated means 14 days post the last shot in the vaccination series and 90 days since the last shot in the vaccination series; or
 - They have had a positive lab confirmed case of COVID-19 within the last three months and remain asymptomatic.

International Travel:

- [Please see NYS COVID-19 Travel Advisory site for additional information on international travel requirements.](#)

Starting on April 4, our school screener will be available on our website and will include prompts to remind you what the traveling protocols are ensuring a safe return for all students and staff. If anything changes with the travel guidelines over the course of spring break, we will be sure to notify you.

As of March 19, our district-wide [7-day average of positive cases is .21%](#), is far below the [county rate of 4.54%](#). Experience has demonstrated that the more we remain vigilant in response to the mitigation protocols, our schools will continue to provide a safe and healthy learning environment. With that said, on March 19 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated their operational strategy for K-12 schools including modified layouts for physical distancing specific to elementary and secondary schools that under certain conditions, when possible, physical distancing requirements less than 6 feet does not impact rates of transmission in schools. As indicated by the CDC, school districts should be working with their State and County Health Departments for clear guidance on this matter and we will be doing so next week.

We very much look forward to welcoming all of our elementary hybrid students to school on Monday, March 22 as we remain on course with our plans that meet NYSDOH guidelines. Please see our [Operation Kidz In guide on our website](#) that outlines our most up to date health and safety guidelines.

Remember the three Ws including wear a mask, wash your hands and watch your distance. These mitigation steps prove to be effective in our fight against COVID-19. We wish everyone a relaxed, restful and safe spring break ensuring a smooth transition back to school on April 6, 2021.

Sincerely,

Larry Licopoli, Ph.D.