

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Simsbury Public Schools Staff:

We continue to be encouraged by the state and local data trends regarding the virus, and we appreciate everyone's efforts to keep each other safe. As such, we will be sending out a survey to our Simsbury High School families in an effort to determine how many students would return to in-person learning if we were to offer a 4-day per week model. This is the same model that has been successfully in place at Henry James Middle School since October. The survey will be sent to SHS families from building administration on Monday, and the data will be reviewed and discussed with the Farmington Valley Health District to determine next steps. Over the past month or so, the high school has seen an increase in the number of hybrid learners logging in remotely to class rather than coming to school in person. Based on that factor, and the continuing positive trends, we feel this survey is an important next step in making decisions on how we can increase in-person attendance at Simsbury High School. Several other districts in the Hartford area are conducting similar surveys of their high school families in the hopes of bringing a higher percentage of students back to classrooms safely.

I want to reiterate our plan moving forward relative to inclement weather and the use of remote learning days. Barring extenuating circumstances, we are planning that future weather days for this school year will be remote learning days. At this time, our last day for students is Thursday, June 10, 2021, and the last day for staff is Friday, June 11, 2021. We would like to avoid the need to move these last days of the school year into the following week in the event that we have additional need for school cancellations.

We have updated our [COVID Dashboard](#) for the period of January 29 through February 4. The current dashboard includes 3 students at Latimer Lane School. The total of 3 cases this week is a decrease from last week when 6 positive cases were reported.

We have updated the CT Learning Model Indicator chart on our website for the two week period ending January 30, 2021. The FVHD data for this reporting period is 26 cases per 100,000 in population, with 26.6 cases per 100,000 in Simsbury. Please take a moment to scroll down to the second tab [FVHD School Learning Model Indicators](#) on our Coronavirus Update webpage.

If there is a household member being tested for COVID and they are experiencing any symptom(s), all household members should remain home until the test results have been received. If there is a household member being tested for COVID and they are not experiencing any symptoms (i.e., quarantined for travel, deemed a close contact, medical procedure preparation) other household members may continue to come to school. Additionally, please contact your school nurse as soon as possible if your child receives a positive COVID test result. Thank you for your continued support of our protocols.

Regards,

Matt Curtis  
Superintendent of Schools