



Superintendent's Report

February 10, 2022

COVID-19 Update

- Numbers of cases dropping with each week.
- Contact tracing now happening at the classroom or group level.
- Quarantine required for students or staff who have a known exposure AND are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Staff absences are minimal and not interruptive to daily operations.
- Bus staffing has been consistent.

Schools and Mask Wearing

- Wearing masks in school is required due to an executive order imposed by the governor.
- That EO ends on February 15.
- The EO that allows municipalities to impose mask mandates also expires on February 15.
- The governor is suggesting that after February 28, the decision to wear masks be a local one.
- In order to keep the mandate until Feb. 28, the legislature needs to extend his executive powers.
- Several bills are being offered starting today in the legislature. (Senate on Monday)

What Might Happen Next

The Commissioners of Education and Public Health **may** retain some authority regarding mask wearing. If they do not require masks....

Requiring masks at the local level will require adoption of policy by the Board. (no policy = no masks)

Eastern Highlands Health is expecting guidance from the State Department of Health and will be providing us with guidance to help with next steps as well.

Wearing masks on public transportation is a federal requirement therefore students and drivers will still need to wear masks on the bus.

Recent Recognitions - Eileen Melody and Kristina Lee, MMS School Counselors

- Invited to present to the CT Social Emotional Learning and School Climate Advisory Collaborative of the **Connecticut General Assembly's Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity**
- Focus: Lessons learned regarding SEL, especially from schools.
- Mansfield selected because of efforts to incorporate SEL into our everyday environment.
- Presentation: Utilizing SEL to address and de-escalate situations of peer conflicts, bullying and student mental health concerns.



Congratulations

TO AWARD-WINNING STUDENTS IN THE
SCHOLASTIC ART AND WRITING CONTEST

7TH GRADERS

ELLA GAN:

Honorable Mention

ALICE HAN:

Two Silver Keys

8TH GRADERS

KALYANI TIHAIYA:

Honorable Mention

SOPHIE MARCUS:

A Gold Key; Nominated for
"The American Voices" award

Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Contest

- Of the 975 students in Connecticut who entered this year's Scholastic Art and Writing Awards contest, two seventh and two eighth graders earned awards.
 - In seventh grade,
 - Ella Gan earned an honorable mention.
 - Alice Han earned two Silver Keys.
 - In eighth grade,
 - Kalyani Tihaiya earned an honorable mention for her poem,
 - Sophie Marcus earned a Gold Key and was nominated for the American Voices award for her poem, "Frozen."
- There will be award ceremonies in March for the state awards and then later this year for any who move on to the national level.
- Congratulations to these students!

