

Dear Parents.

The Covid-19 transmission has increased in the Newtown community. St Rose School continues to keep a high level of planning and compliance with mitigation strategies designed to prevent transmission between students and faculty.

I urge everyone to continue to discuss the following preventive measures with your children and family members:

- Wash your hands frequently, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to wash your fingertips. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze inside the elbow of your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, nose and front of your mask.
- Wear a face covering (mask) whenever there is a likelihood that you or your family members will be in the presence of others.
- Maintain social distancing (at least 6 feet) between yourself and others when outside of your home.
- Avoid activities that bring people in close contact and big crowds.

Remember to notify the school nurse if a family member and or student is ill or tested Covid positive. Additionally, it is important that when a student is going to be absent to notify their teacher, the secretary, and the school nurse. Be specific with the reason for their absence, this helps the nurse to monitor for clustering of infections.

Note: The CDC has put out quite a few updates in the past 2 weeks. The document currently under preparation is general public health guidance and won't address schools. After release, the DPH will work with SDE to make more school-specific guidance available. We will keep you updated on forthcoming information.

The travel advisory changes are also being discussed. We are likely to see something at the end of the week.

The guidance that we follow for positive cases and close contacts can be found in [Addendum 5](#) on the CT State Department of Education website.

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