



Sturgis Charter Public School
An International Baccalaureate World School



December 14, 2020

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Dear Sturgis Families,

With the holidays upon us and with Sturgis transitioning to fully remote this week, we wanted to reach out and remind you of a few things.

Please continue to use the absence reporting form if your child will be absent, tardy, or dismissed from remote learning. If your child, or someone in their household, is having symptoms of COVID-19, or has been designated a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case, please notify the school by reporting this on the absence reporting form. If your student is well enough to attend class, please select the “student will attend remotely...” option. Here is the link to the attendance form:

West: <https://forms.gle/7RhDWr6NPKt5VQud6>

East: <https://forms.gle/6Csz6X3mbGvhJn839>

As you may be aware, Massachusetts has made it a requirement for all K-12th grade students to get a flu (or influenza) vaccine for the 2020-2021 flu season prior to December 31, 2020. This mandate applies to all students, even those that are fully remote. All students will need to provide the school nurse with proof that they have had the flu vaccine prior to December, 31, 2020 or risk being excluded from school as a result of not complying with Massachusetts vaccine requirements. If the vaccine goes against your families sincere religious beliefs, or there is a medical reason why your child can not receive the vaccine, please submit documentation of this to the school nurse.

Lastly, some of you may be considering holiday travel to spend time with loved ones both inside, and outside of the state of Massachusetts. With that thought in mind, we would like to remind you about the strict rules the state has set forth regarding travel for Massachusetts residents, as well as the rules we have in place at Sturgis.

1. When traveling to a high-risk state for greater than 72 hours, you must:
 - fill out the “Massachusetts Travel Form”, **AND** receive a negative Covid test that was taken no longer than 72 hours prior to your return to MA, **OR** quarantine for 14 days.
2. When traveling to a high-risk state for 72 hours or less, you must:



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- fill out the “Massachusetts Travel Form”, **AND** receive a negative Covid test AFTER your return to MA, **OR** quarantine for 14 days.

The most common tests offered are the PCR and antigen (“rapid”) test. The PCR is considered the gold standard of diagnostic tests for Covid-19. The antigen test is not a diagnostic test and MUST be followed by a PCR test within 72 hours.

Sturgis is only accepting PCR tests at this time; your student will not be permitted to return to in person school, school activities, or sports with a “rapid” or antigen test. PCR test results must be submitted to the school nurse prior to your student returning to in person schooling, school activities, or sports. Please do not send your student back to in-person school or sports without confirmation from the nurse that the required testing has been received. The travel guidelines are updated often so please check them before you travel. The guidelines can be found here: [MA Travel Guidelines](#).

During remote learning, the best way to communicate with the school nurses will be via email. Keep in mind it may take longer for the nurses to respond to voicemail and fax during remote learning.

Kind regards,

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