



Sturgis Charter Public School  
*An International Baccalaureate World School*



January 8, 2021

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Dear Sturgis Families,

This morning, I met with our COVID-related steering committee, and their unanimous recommendation was that we remain fully remote for next week. After reflecting on the reasoning presented in that discussion, I am sharing with you that we will be fully remote for the week beginning January 11th. This includes both normal school programming and co-curricular programming (effective tomorrow).

The predicted post-break spike is here. Eighty-six percent of our students live in a town currently designated high-risk for COVID infection, and our schools are in Barnstable, which has been “in the red” for many weeks. Local and statewide case counts and positivity rates are at their highest yet, and hospital bed capacity is near record levels. Our nurses report that there are current student and staff cases of COVID, including student-student transmission that occurred during co-curriculars held within the past few weeks. Reporting of student symptoms, travel, and quarantining have lessened dramatically, when reason suggests that cannot be the case. Perhaps the drop in reporting was reflective of the whirl of the holiday season. Please do report these matters as noted in yesterday’s letter from our nurses.

I appreciate how challenging the pandemic, fully remote learning, and this week-to-week uncertainty are for all of us, and I know that the individual and collective fatigue, if not exhaustion, is real. There will be better times ahead. We need to take care of ourselves and each other now.

I will share next Friday our plan for the following week. As a reminder, Monday, January 18th is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a federal holiday.

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Paul Marble  
Executive Director