

Kittery

School District

Truth & Knowledge

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March 26, 2021

Happy Friday to all!

This is my last Friday update in March...another week closer to sustained warmer weather and, as I see it, a week closer to being back to normal (whenever that will be). **Please remember, however, that we're not there yet.** The Maine Dept. of Education announced its H.A.S. reclassification today. All Maine counties will maintain their **GREEN classification** (suggesting that the county has a relatively low risk of COVID-19 spread) in spite of the fact that positive case rates in Maine rose from 1.4% to 1.9% over the last two weeks. The new case rate in Maine schools in the last 30 days is 30 per 10,000 while the overall statewide new case rate is 41 per 10,000. We'll see what the data looks like on April 9th.

Allow me to hit some highlights from the past week:

- We continue to adapt our protocols with Maine CDC and DOE guidance. This week, revised our **Close Contact protocols** to account for anyone who may already be fully vaccinated. If you are a close contact and you are fully vaccinated, you are not required to quarantine. However, you still must monitor your health for 14 days after exposure. If symptoms develop, you will be required to quarantine and test.
- For those families considering a **Phase IV status change** for their student, you have until the end of the day today to reach out via email to your student's principal to let them know.
- For families of **7th and 8th graders**, you have another deadline to consider. The deadline to opt your student into the impressive remote day opportunity with KCC and Kittery Land Trust/Nooney Farm is Friday, April 2nd. Those families received an email correspondence from Principal Ellis this week detailing the program. If you have any questions about it, please reach out to her or to Mrs. Perry, Assistant Principal.
- I am excited to share the news that the **SRO Task Force** (part of the School Committee's SRO Three Year Plan) has been assembled. Thank you to all those who expressed interest in being part of the group. Once all those selected have confirmed their appointment, I will announce the names of the Task Force members. They have important work ahead of them. Others will have opportunities to be involved as well through community events and focus groups, so stay tuned.
- I wanted to share an invitation with you all from the **Traip Academy Project Graduation** parent group. They have planned a **Virtual Trivia Night** for April 1st, 7:00 - 9:00 PM. It looks like fun, and it is a safe way for the group to raise funds for the annual Project Graduation Chem-Free

Party following the 2021 Traip Academy graduation. Want to join a team or make one of your own? [Click here](#) to register and to read more about it.

- Another group hard at work with fundraising is the **Traip Academy Athletic Booster Club**. They are preparing to launch a **Calendar Raffle** for the month of April, and they could really use your support. The Boosters' big fundraiser, the annual auction, will not be held this year. That is two consecutive years of losing a successful fundraiser due to the pandemic. However, the athletes and coaches still need our support. The cost of the calendar is \$10 for 30 chances [to win great prizes from local businesses](#). Purchase your calendar today via Venmo with this handle: @KendraDowns4 (5807)
- **'Gather~Meals 4 Kids'** has announced updated dates and times for April. The flyer is attached. This is an outside market for our families to help ensure food security. The Kittery location is Post Office Square on Shapleigh Road across from Walgreens. April 7 and 21 are the dates, and the market will run from 1:30 - 3:00 PM.

I continue to be buoyed by the support and encouragement of our families. School staff, support staff, administrators, parents, students—we are all doing our very best under challenging and stressful conditions. Your feedback is important to us. We are improving!

Enjoy the weekend...



Eric Waddell
Superintendent of Schools