

Kittery

School District

Truth & Knowledge

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May 14, 2021

Good Friday afternoon to all...

I don't know about you, but I am counting the minutes until I can close my laptop, push in my chair, turn off my lights, and get outside for a walk or just to let the sun shine on my face. What a glorious afternoon!

Four weeks from today (I hope the weather is just as nice!), the **Class of 2021 at Traip Academy** will turn the tassels and become proud Traip Academy alumni. I know there is a lot of work to do before then, but I'm sure the graduands (that's what they're called until they actually graduate!) are itching to break out of school (as we all were when our high school days came to a close). These friendships and experiences will remain with them long after June 11th. I hope they will remember their time at Traip Academy and in Kittery with fondness.

I know Principal Drisko and Mr. Roberge are working feverishly with the Senior Class Leadership Cabinet and their faculty advisors to solidify **plans for senior week**. That's not the easiest task, as you can imagine, with rapidly changing public health updates and protocols from Governor Mills and from the US CDC. Nevertheless, we will land this plane (cliché, I know!) and move on to the next challenge (as we always do). Families of seniors should watch for a **Senior Week Plan** today.

Similarly, Principals Ellis and Gamache along with Mrs. Perry and the rest of the District Leadership Team are also focused on a successful and memorable final month of school. With weather like today's, how can we not have a great year's end?

As I mentioned, Governor Mills updated her "**Moving Maine Forward Plan**" yesterday with changes to capacity limits and physical distancing requirements. These will go into effect on May 24th. However, it is important to note that the Governor's updated public health protocols **DO NOT APPLY TO MAINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**. The Maine Dept. of Health & Human Services and the Maine Dept. of Education have promised to provide schools with details about how the general population protocol changes will be applied to Maine schools. When I receive that information, I will be sure to share it with you.

I am also pleased to announce that the **Kittery School Committee** will return to hosting its twice-monthly business meetings in **Council Chambers at the Town Hall starting June 1st**. The last time we did that was March 3, 2020. I may have to give the School Committee a little re-orientation! It will be nice to have the School Committee back 'home.'

As I write this weekly communication, our school nursing team and the staff from Northern Light Health are wrapping up the District's **COVID-19 vaccine clinics**. If you would like your age-eligible student to be vaccinated (age 12+) but missed our vaccine clinic, I recommend you check out the following links in order to secure a vaccine:

- **Southern Maine Healthcare (Sanford site)**

- <https://www.walgreens.com/topic/promotion/covid-vaccine.jsp#eligible> (Kittery Walgreens is vaccinating the 12+ population)

Will you take a look at the attached flyer from **Ledgemere Transportation**? They are our school bus transportation partner, and they are hoping to cast a wide net and recruit several prospective bus drivers for the York terminal (they serve Kittery and York). I LOVE our bus drivers, and I know they love transporting our students every day. If you have an interest, please reach out by calling the telephone number on the flyer. I hope you will!

Next Friday, the **Health Advisory System** will be re-classified by county. York is currently classified as **GREEN**. Let's keep it that way!
Enjoy the weekend.

Sincerely,



Eric Waddell
Superintendent of Schools