



BERLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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March 8, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

The Connecticut Travel Advisory has been updated to reflect changes in the CDC recommendations related to quarantine requirements for those who have tested positive for COVID-19. We are updating our Berlin Public Schools Travel Protocol to reflect those edits.

FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL SAFETY, WE STRONGLY ADVISE YOU NOT TO TRAVEL AT THE CURRENT TIME. IF TRAVEL IS UNAVOIDABLE, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ALERT THE SCHOOL NURSE, IN ADVANCE OF YOUR DEPARTURE, TO DOCUMENT YOUR DESTINATION AND TRAVEL DATES.

Definitions:

For purposes of this subsection, an “*Affected State*” means a state or territory, other than New York, New Jersey, or Rhode Island; an “*Affected Country*” means a country other than the United States; and an “*Affected Traveler*” means a person entering into or returning to the state of Connecticut who has spent twenty-four (24) hours or longer in an Affected State or an Affected Country within ten days (10) prior to arriving in Connecticut, but does not include an individual remaining in Connecticut for less than twenty-four hours.

Self-Quarantine for Affected Travelers:

All Affected Travelers shall self-quarantine for a period of ten days (10) from the time of last contact with such Affected State or such Affected Country, for any portion of such ten-day (10) period they spend in Connecticut, or for the duration of such Affected Travelers’ stay in Connecticut, whichever is shorter, and shall comply with any further federal requirements applicable to such traveler.

Testing Alternative:

- A. An Affected Traveler is exempt from the self-quarantine requirement if:
 1. he or she has had a test for COVID-19 in the seventy-two (72) hours prior to arrival in Connecticut or at any time following arrival in Connecticut,
 2. the result of such COVID-19 test *is negative*, and
 3. such Affected Traveler *submits written proof* of such negative test result *to the school nurse*.
- B. All COVID-19 tests, other than COVID-19 antibody tests, shall be acceptable for this purpose.
- C. If a test was obtained in the seventy-two (72) hours prior to arrival in Connecticut, or following arrival in Connecticut, and such *Affected Traveler has not yet received his or her test results*, such Affected Traveler ***shall remain in self-quarantine*** while in Connecticut until a negative test result is submitted to the school nurse.
- D. If the *test result is positive* and the *traveler is asymptomatic*, he or she ***shall self-isolate for ten (10) days*** from the date of the test; if symptomatic, he or she should seek medical assistance.

A person who has tested positive for COVID-19 within ninety (90) days *prior to travel* and who has clinically recovered, or who has not been symptomatic for a period of ten (10) days since symptom onset or positive test date, if not symptomatic, is not required to self-quarantine upon return, *provided such person submits appropriate documentation prior to travel.*

At the present time, travelers who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 are still subject to the quarantine requirements of the state as well as the district protocols set forth above in paragraph one.

Travel increases your chance of contracting and spreading COVID-19. **Staying home and practicing social distancing, wearing appropriate face coverings and diligent hand washing is the best way to protect yourself and others.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Benigni". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Brian Benigni
Superintendent of Schools

BJB/db