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## DCRSD Update 12.23.2020

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**Dudley-Charlton Regional School District** <notifications@dcrsd.org>  
To: Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>

Wed, Dec 23, 2020 at 1:56 PM

All,

I am writing to share a few important items for your review as we head into the extended holiday vacation. What will remain a constant for us and we hope for you is to maintain a small orbit or family bubble to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our homes and communities during this break. We must continue to wear masks, washing of hands, use of sanitizers and physical distancing. We must closely monitor the symptoms of COVID-19 and communicate with our health care providers. This has never been more important to Dudley and Charlton than this extended vacation.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health extended the deadline for [flu vaccinations](#) for all in-person and remote public-school students to February 28, 2021. For those who provided your school nurse with a flu vaccination record, you are all set. For all others, please do everything you can to meet this new deadline. As a reminder, there are religious and medical exemptions. Please write to your school nurse if you chose to exercise a religious or medical exemption for your child or children.

You may have read or heard about new Massachusetts Board of Education regulations specific to [Student Learning Time \(SLT\)](#) in schools during the pandemic. While these new regulations were not the impetus for our proposal in late November, they do support our goal to move from the reentry plan to a more substantive learning plan. In fact, the regulations mandate such a progression for the Dudley-Charlton RSD. The [SLT regulations](#) will be integral to any movement from our current plan and a deadline to meet the regulations is January 19, 2021. We continue to evolve all ideas and will present more at the January 6, 2021 School Committee meeting.

Attached you will find a two-page document that is a letter from the Dudley and Charlton Boards of Health recommending that the Dudley-Charlton RSD move to full remote learning from January 4 through January 19, 2021 and a Special School Committee meeting agenda for Wednesday, December 30, 2020 at 7:00 PM. The Special School Committee meeting is specific to the letter of recommendation by the Boards of Health.

We were also informed of two new cases in our educational community. Contact tracing is complete. As previously shared, all cases have come through outside activities or within families. We continue to lack evidence that the cases are linked to transmission in schools. Low transmission in schools is common across the Commonwealth. We also know that these are difficult times as our local health officials work to stay ahead of community transmission and contact tracing in the towns of Dudley and Charlton.

I wish everyone the best of the holidays during these unique times. A break from everyday life is warranted by all so enjoy a good book, movie or actually moments of nothingness if you can.

Respectfully,

Steven M. Lamarche

Superintendent of Schools

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