



We make a difference in Enfield - every child, every day.

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Dear Parents, Staff, and Students of the Enfield Public Schools,

I am writing to inform you that at the close of school today, the district will be moving to a completely remote learning program beginning Monday, November 23rd through Friday, December 4th, with a hope to return to our hybrid program on Monday, December 7th. I honestly cannot tell you at this moment if that will happen, but if I need to extend our virtual plan beyond the 7th, I will let everyone know as soon as possible. The extreme stress of staffing the buildings, the dramatic increase in cases in Enfield, the potential lack of bus drivers, and the upcoming holiday have made this decision inevitable. Although this message is disappointing to write, I can share that it was not unexpected. I have tried to communicate since the beginning that my main goal was to keep our kids in person as long as I could, and that has not changed. The fact that we made it this long without an extended closure is a testament to our staff, who have worked tirelessly to keep our buildings open; however, the lack of adult supervision has made it impossible to keep our buildings safely open at this moment. I remain hopeful that this is just another temporary setback, but the safety of our students and staff is and always will be my top priority. Your child's principal will be sending remote schedules home to you shortly, and any school specific questions should be directed to your child's principal.

I understand this decision may not be what everyone was hoping for, and believe me, I wish I didn't have to make it. I also recognize that this year has not been perfect, but I have stated from the beginning that it was not intended to be. We are working every day to improve this experience for students and staff, and we are committed to working collaboratively to enhance how we deliver instruction for our students. I still hold out hope that in the near future, school can get back to some semblance of normalcy, and our kids can finish out the year the way they deserve to.

I realize this may not be the message you wanted to hear this close to Thanksgiving, but please take time next week to enjoy your families (even if it's virtually) and take a much needed break from the chaos of the past few months. I want everyone to know that any decision on school reopening is, and will continue to be, based on the health and safety of our students and staff. I, like all of you, hope this public health crisis will be over soon. Until it is, however, we all need to remain flexible in the midst of the circumstances we face, but we will never change our mission—providing the best and safest opportunities for our students.

Thank you - and stay well,

Christopher J. Drezek

Superintendent of Schools