



# WEST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*"Schools Committed to Excellence"*

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NEIL C. CAVALLARO

*Superintendent of Schools*

December 21, 2020

Dear West Haven Public School Community,

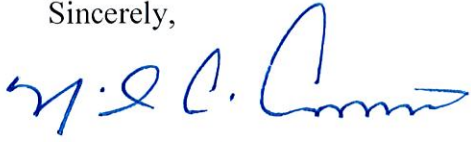
This week, I met with the director of our city's Public Health Department, Maureen Lillis, MPH and Dr. Amir Mohammad MBBS, MPH, FACPM to discuss our instructional model for the week following our holiday recess. **The decision was made to transition to a Distance Learning model for the week of January 4-January 8, 2021.** This determination was made with the expectation that, like the week following Thanksgiving break, we expect that positive cases may increase after the holiday celebrations.

We encourage all members of our community to continue to follow all social distancing recommendations, wear face coverings and avoid large gatherings while our city continues to experience elevated rates of transmission. While we are making the decision to move to a remote model the week following the holiday recess, we are doing so with the expectation that our students will benefit from a reduced need to quarantine and increased opportunity for in-person instruction in the long-run. Our commitment continues to have all students return to their school buildings and, as soon as it is possible, resume their normal school day schedules. Our students benefit from being in the classroom, and we are determined to achieve the goal of a full-time school day in the present school year.

I want to thank the administrators, educators and staff of West Haven Public Schools for the commitment to our students they have demonstrated during a most unprecedented time. I am proud of the work we have done, collectively, to afford our students the opportunity to be in school, where they belong. I want to thank our families for the support they have given and the encouragement they have expressed toward our efforts. Our partnership is essential in providing students with the education they so rightfully deserve.

Finally, I extend my most sincere wishes for a safe and happy holiday to you and your families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neil C. Cavallaro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Neil C. Cavallaro  
Superintendent of Schools