



# OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
476 North Avenue, Rochester, Massachusetts 02770-1899  
Telephone: 508-763-8011 • Fax: 508-763-9821



Gary Linehan  
Assistant Principal

Aaron L. Polansky  
Superintendent-Director

J. Michael Parker  
Principal

Sarah Griffith  
Business Manager

Krystla Fay  
Special Services Coordinator

Carmen Amaral  
Academic Coordinator

Bethany Botelho  
CVTE Coordinator

December 9, 2021

Dear Old Colony Families,

We hope this correspondence finds you in good health and strong spirit as we make our way through the holiday season and into the New Year. We have much to be grateful for and simultaneously acknowledge, with eyes wide open, the impact that COVID has had on our entire school community. The impacts of this pandemic have been far reaching and broad in scope. There are some families who have had little exposure, while others have experienced severe illness, hospitalization, or even loss of a loved one.

We acknowledge these differences in an effort to maintain perspective and to ensure you that our intervention efforts are not limited to preventing spread, but also include a social-emotional component, and will never be a one-size fits all approach. We continue to be vigilant in our attempts to maintain a safe school environment, and request your continued assistance as we see the rate of positive cases increase following the Thanksgiving holiday. Since the beginning of the school year, Old Colony has reported a total of 40 positive COVID cases. Of these 40 positive cases, 19 were reported following Thanksgiving. We continue to look for patterns and ask for your cooperation in monitoring your student prior to sending him or her to school.

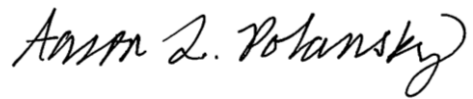
Old Colony has implemented our Test and Stay Program. We are currently conducting the following testing (only with parental/ guardian consent) in an effort to minimize the need for quarantine and identify potential positive cases:

- Testing of symptomatic individuals: for when individuals present isolated mild symptoms while at school
- Individual testing of close contacts (Test and Stay); for asymptomatic close contacts not vaccinated only to be tested daily for at least five (5) school days from first day of exposure, with individuals testing negative allowed to remain at school.

\* An overview of the state issued flowchart for testing is available [at this link](#).

We do not anticipate any changes to the current mask mandate that is in place from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. We thank you for your continued support and continue to work diligently in our efforts to maintain a safe in-person learning environment for our Old Colony School Community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron L. Polansky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'A'.

Aaron L. Polansky  
Superintendent-Director