

We made it! It is hard to believe it is June and that the public health outlook is one that is extremely positive when compared to how we began the year. It is a time to reflect on all that we have been through this year. We are grateful that our staff and students were able to attend school in person and that our students and staff who were sick with COVID-19 recovered and returned to school. The support of all BOE members was vital to our success this year and we thank all of you for being our steadfast partners as we worked to ensure that we provided the highest quality education possible. I look forward to continuing our work together in the next school year. On behalf of all of the staff, we wish you a relaxing summer!!

**COVID-19 Update - Region One** - We continued to experience relatively low incidents of COVID-19 cases this month. We also understand that many families are ensuring that their children, ages 12+, are receiving the vaccination. Given the continued low rates of infection throughout the State, we are hopeful that our cases remain low in the Region as well.

**Summary of Positive COVID-19 Cases in Region One  
August 25-May 31, 2021**

School District	Month	Total Number of Cases to Date
Canaan - Lee H. Kellogg	August - April	12 cases - 5 students, 2 staff members, 5 community members
	May	No Cases
Cornwall - Cornwall Consolidated School	August - April	7 cases - 2 staff members, 1 student, 4 community members
	May	6 students, 1 community member
Kent - Kent Center School	August - April	24 cases - 5 students, 1 staff member, 18 community members
	May	No Cases
North Canaan - North Canaan Elementary School	August - April	43 cases - 16 students, 2 staff members 25 community members
	May	1 community member
Region 1 - Housatonic Valley Regional High School	August - April	29 cases - 17 students, 1 staff member, 11 community members
	May	1 student
Salisbury - Salisbury Central School	August - April	30 cases - 10 students, 3 staff members, 17 community members
	May	2 community members
Sharon - Sharon Center School	August - April	26 cases - 1 student, 7 staff members, 18 community members
	May	No Cases

**Distance Learners - Region 1 Trends** - The trend continues for students throughout the Region to be returning to school.

Number of Distance Learners	9/30/2020	1/31/2021	3/26/2021	4/30/2021	5/31/2021
Canaan - Lee H. Kellogg School	15	19	17	12	9
Cornwall - Consolidated School	12	8	5	6*	6
Kent - Kent Center School	21	21	17	16	10
North Canaan - North Canaan Elementary School	60	50	31	25	19
Region 1 - Housatonic Valley Regional High School	60	75	72	55	52
Salisbury - Salisbury Central School	23	18	13	9	5
Sharon - Sharon Center School	17	19	6	6	6
Total	<b>208</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>107</b>

\* 1 New Student Started 4/27

**Accolades for the Assistant Superintendents** - Throughout the year, CSDE has worked with the RESCs to capture best practices throughout the State with respect to blended learning. On May 20, the RESC Alliance held an event to celebrate those individuals chosen as Impact Educators, due to their dedication to teacher support during this challenging year. Jill Pace and Dr. Scott Fellows were two of the three Impact Educators chosen from the EdAdvance RESC for their work on the best practices in assessment. Their presentation can be viewed by clicking on this [link](#). Congratulations to Jill and Scott and thank you for all that you have done to support our teachers, staff and students this year!

**Human Resource (HR) Audit Next Steps for The Central Office** - We continue to make progress with the Central Office reorganization. The candidate for the HR Generalist position will be presented for approval at the June Region 1 BOE meeting along with revised position descriptions for the Central Office support staff. These revised descriptions reflect changes made to the workflow as a result of the EdAdvance analysis completed earlier this year and taking into account the addition of the HR Generalist. The next steps in our work will include a review of our digital systems.

**Legislative Update** - During the month of June, CT legislators will be working hard to complete legislation as this session comes to an end. I will be attending the CABE workshop *Legislative Wrap Up: What Happened and What Are the Implications for Your School District* on Monday, June 14, 2021 from 11:00am-12:15pm. I will communicate with all Board of Education members in Region 1 with regard to any legislation that will impact our schools.

**End of Year Administrator Evaluations** - Meetings with all administrators have been scheduled and will be completed by mid-June. The discussions to date have been energizing and forward thinking. Administrators have identified practices in the areas of instruction and community relations that they would like to continue into next year and the future.

**Strategic Planning Update** - The new strategic plan template for Region 1 can be viewed by clicking on this [link](#). The template has been reviewed by Principals and their leadership teams. This new approach is a more targeted and flexible approach to continuous improvement as it allows for school administrators and staff to choose goals that are going to have the greatest impact on student learning and school climate within the context of Region 1 priorities. It also clearly connects school plans to instructional expectations and the Portrait of a Graduate.

**ARP/ESSER Grant III** - We are working on the completion of this new grant. This funding comes with a series of parameters that must be completed throughout the summer as follows:

- Creation of a *Continuity of Service* plan (reopening plan for 2020-2021) to be shared with all stakeholders by June 23
- Sharing of plans for ARP/ESSER expenditures
- Progress monitoring throughout the funding period (2021-2023) to ensure track impact of the funds on school safety and student achievement

Jill, Scott, Sam and I are working with the Administrators and the Region 1 Reopening Committee to complete the tasks necessary to ensure compliance with this plan.

**School Visits** - I was able to complete one more round of school visits this spring. As was true of my visits earlier in the year, I found the teachers and the staff to continue to be engaged in their learning and excited to be completing the year in school together.