

Superintendent Report
Region One Schools
November 2021



Time is flying by this year and it is hard to believe that we are sharing November news. Sadly, there are several BOE members whose terms are expiring this month. We all know that the role of a BOE member is a daunting commitment in the best of times. However, being a BOE member during the last two years has presented challenges beyond anyone’s imagination. On behalf of all administrators, staff, students and their families, we send our thanks to those of you who are departing, for all your time, concern, support and active participation in thinking through the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. We wish you all the best and hope that you will continue to stay involved with the Region 1 school communities. You will be missed!

Summary of Positive COVID-19 Cases in Region One
September 30 - October 31, 2021

School District	Month	Total Number of Cases to Date
Canaan - Lee H. Kellogg	September	1 Case: 0 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 1 - Community Members
	October	1 Case: 1 - Student, 0 - Staff Members, 0 - Community Members
Cornwall - Cornwall Consolidated School	September	0 Cases: 0 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 0 - Community Members
	October	2 Cases: 0 - Students, 1 - Staff Member, 1 - Community Member
Kent - Kent Center School	September	2 Cases: 1 - Students, 1 - Staff Members, 0 - Community Members
	October	0 Cases: 0 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 0 - Community Members
North Canaan - North Canaan Elementary School	September	5 Cases: 1 - Students, 1 - Staff Members, 3 - Community Members
	October	4 Cases: 1 - Student, 0 - Staff Members, 3 - Community Members
Region 1 - Housatonic Valley Regional High School	September	8 Cases: 2 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 6 - Community Members
	October	3 Cases: 1 - Student, 0 - Staff Members, 2 - Community Members
Salisbury - Salisbury Central School	September	4 Cases: 1 - Student, 1 - Staff Member, 2 - Community Members
	October	12 Cases: 3 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 9 - Community Members
Sharon - Sharon Center School	September	6 Cases: 2 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 4 - Community Members
	October	11 Cases: 7 - Students, 0 - Staff Members, 4 - Community Members

Screening for COVID-19 through PCR Testing - The first week of testing yielded no positive results in any of the Region 1 Pre-k-8 schools. Quest Laboratories experienced some logistical problems during that first week due to their attempt to visit and test students in all six schools in one day. Testing was paused in week two to review/revise the schedule so that it covers two days. Testing is resuming this week (11/1).

Vaccination Clinics - We are working with Griffin Health to continue to schedule vaccination clinics throughout November and December. Participation in the 10/29 clinic was much stronger than anticipated, causing people to have to wait in a long line to wait to be vaccinated. We will work with Griffin Health to add staff for future clinics. The next clinic for adults will be held on Friday, November 12 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at HVRHS. We are also working with Griffin Health to schedule pediatric clinics for children aged 5-11.

Travel Advisory and Holiday Activities Guidelines - In October [a letter](#) was sent to all families noting revisions to travel guidelines for the upcoming holiday season. Based on questions that we received from families, we have also prepared a companion document that will be distributed on November 1 and includes answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs). [The FAQ document](#) will be updated to share information with all families as we receive any questions prior to and during the holiday season. All travel requirements and holiday activity guidelines have been jointly developed with Region 1 administrators and nurses and have been reviewed and approved by the Region 1 Medical Advisor.

Staffing Change in the Central Office - Toni Ramcharran, the Central Office Receptionist and Assistant to the Assistant Superintendents resigned in October in order to have more time to spend with her family. We thank Toni for being the energetic, kind and welcoming face for Region 1 during her five years of service and for her unfailing support to the Assistant Superintendent position. While we are sorry to say goodbye to Toni, we are happy to welcome Gale Caruso as the new incumbent for these roles. Gale has worked in Region 1 in several paraprofessional roles and is well qualified to assume the responsibilities of the position. Gale will begin her work in the Central Office on November 1.

Contract Negotiations - The beginning of the school year has been busy with contract negotiations. Please reference the table below for the status of those negotiations as well as the schedule for negotiations for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

Bargaining Unit	Status
North Canaan Faculty Association	3 YR Contract ratified and BOE approved 10/2021
Housatonic Valley Faculty Association	3 YR Contract ratified 10/2021 - Awaiting BOE approval (anticipated 11/1/2021)
Region 1 Federation of School Administrators	3 YR Contract ratified 10/21 - Awaiting BOE approval
Canaan School Employees Local 1303-343 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO (non-certified staff)	Negotiations timeline not started
Cornwall School Employees Local 1303-352 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO (non-certified staff)	Negotiations timeline not started
RSD 1 School Employees Local 1303-266 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO (non-certified staff)	Negotiations timeline not started

Sam Herrick is working with Josh Herbst, the AFSCME representative, to set a schedule whereby all non-certified negotiations would be completed by the end of January.

Thus far all negotiations have been conducted without attorneys or union representatives actively involved in the discussions. However, those resources have been available to the negotiating teams when needed.

Middle School Sports and Activities - Anne MacNeil provided a summary of the fall season and provided information regarding preparation for the winter season. Please find the details in her report. [Report from Anne MacNeil, Athletic Director](#)

Annual Reports - Each year, the Superintendent is responsible for submitting an annual report to summarize the activities and accomplishments of the preceding year. Please click on the links below to review the report for each town.

- [Canaan](#)
- [Cornwall](#)
- [Kent](#)
- [North Canaan](#)
- [Salisbury](#)
- [Sharon](#)

Region-wide Policy Process Update - All BOEs approved that Region 1 administrators and BOE members should entertain a more efficient process for policy review. The details for this process will be presented to all BOE members in November for their approval. The process is scheduled to begin in January.

Superintendent Goals 2021-2022 and Beyond - [Details for the goals](#) noted in last month's report were presented and approved at the October 27, 2021 ABC Committee meeting. These goals will be included on all Region 1 BOE agendas for everyone's review.