



Superintendent Message-October 23, 2020

As the holidays are fast approaching, I wanted to ask that you consider the CDC has issued guidance that “travel does increase your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19” in your decision-making. Our actions as individuals have an effect on our Cougar community. Due to the stated guidance on travel and that NYS is discouraging large gatherings, my hope is that families will honor the state’s advisory restrictions to the extent possible, and follow CDC guidelines to help mitigate the risks associated with gatherings and travel.

Also, as you likely know, Governor Cuomo issued a travel advisory that requires quarantine if visiting any of the restricted states. Traveling to such states requires notifying the Department of Health using the Online Traveler Health Form (can be found on the website listed below) upon return to NYS as well as a 14-day quarantine for all who traveled. This is required by New York State as well as the Department of Health and will prevent your child from coming to school.

The district is hopeful that families will not travel to states or countries that have been identified as those that would require the mandatory quarantine upon return. Besides increasing your individual health risks, traveling to those states or countries will have a significant impact on your child being able to return to in-person learning, as they will need to quarantine upon your return to NY for the 14 days mandated by NYS and be considered an unexcused absence.

I truly understand that many of us have made and will continue to make sacrifices during this pandemic to help protect all in our community in hopes to allow us to remain open for in-person instruction. If any of the travel restrictions are modified or changed we will be sure to post the information for families. I truly thank you for your continued dedication to keep our community and school safe.

For more information please see:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>