Dear Westbury School District Families and School Community,

It is with great hope that you are safely enjoying the holiday season with loved ones. While many in our school community are preparing to usher in the New Year with hopes and inspiration for a prosperous 2022, quite a few of our families have been negatively impacted by COVID19 during the 2021 Winter Recess.

During the recess, we have learned of more confirmed positive COVID19 cases within our school family than anticipated. In fact, as of writing this memo, the majority of our active Westbury School District Family positive cases are within our staff and faculty. With the increased positive cases among our staff, faculty and scholars, we will transition to remote instruction/remote work for the week of January 3-7, 2022. Each principal will be in touch with his/her school community with the expected remote schedule for the week. Should we need to extend the remote instruction/remote work timeframe, you will hear from me as soon as possible.

Making the decision to transition to remote instruction/remote work is not an easy one. However, we are a district fully committed to the health and safety of all members of our school community, and we operate with everyone’s wellbeing our top priority.

While remote during the week of January 3-7, the Westbury School District will distribute meals to students. So that our scholars are focused on their work, we will designate specific days and times for meal distribution. The meals will include storing and heating instructions. Such instructions will be posted on our website. Our meal distribution schedule will be released by Sunday, January 2.

Families and School Community, please help us to keep our community safe by exercising preventive practices such as wearing a tightly-fitted mask, maintaining physical distancing, washing your hands frequently with soap and water and getting vaccinated or boosted as soon as possible. These simple measures will help to keep you safe and our schools open.

All students and staff are strongly encouraged to get tested before returning to school. This additional measure will help decrease the spread of COVID19. If you feel sick, please seek a COVID19 test and isolate immediately.

DR. TAHIRA DUPREE CHASE
Superintendent of Schools

Westbury Union Free School District
Two Hitchcock Lane, Old Westbury, New York 11568-1615
516-876-5016 Fax: 516-874-2352
Email: tchase@westburyschools.org
In the coming days, I will provide information on a New York State sponsored at home COVID19 testing kit for scholars. Such kits will be issued to our school district from Nassau County BOCES by Monday, January 3. Once available, parents are encouraged to pick up the kit (one per child) from a designated distribution site within our school district. More information is forthcoming.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank you for following our school district health and safety protocols. Moreover, thank you for staying in touch with us during the Winter Recess to provide important information about the health status of yourself and/or your family. This information informs our decisions about school opening and the enforcement of additional health and safety protocol. Our school-based administrators and central office administrators have worked diligently during the Winter Recess and have been responsive without hesitation. I thank each of them for their time and commitment. I thank our school board for their support and responsiveness as well. We are truly in this together.

To this end, please look for additional information on meal distribution, at home testing kits and the opening of our schools/offices during the week of January 10. Again, I kindly ask that you please exercise extreme caution this holiday weekend. Thank you for your trust and continued support of the Westbury School District. Have a happy and safe New Year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Tahira A. DuPree Chase

Superintendent of Schools