

November 18, 2021

Dear Washington Central Community,

This week we have had 9 cases of COVID that have impacted our schools: Berlin (2), Calais (2), Rumney (2), and U-32 (3). Thus far this school year we have had 57 cases that have impacted our school community in total.

We had hoped to share guidance about our winter sports and performance protocols with you prior to the November break, but we were not able to meet that aspirational deadline given the other demands on our time. We will meet next week to finalize our protocols and will share them with you shortly thereafter. The health and safety of our school community will be at the forefront of our decision making process.

Last weekend, with joy and awe and great anticipation, I attended the high school New England cross country running championship at Thetford Academy. Both our boys team and our girls team competed. For those of you who have not yet heard, our boys team won the New England championship! They are the first Division II boys team ever to win from Vermont, and they are the first boys team from Vermont to win since 1987. The girls were the sixth team (out of six) to qualify for New Englands from Vermont, and they finished as the fifth. As a runner myself, I fully appreciate the thousands of miles that have led to this incredible feat. These teams' accomplishments are the result of the hard work, discipline, dedication, and teamwork that have been the hallmark of our cross country program for decades.

As I write, we are one day away from a weeklong break from school. I think I speak for most of us when I say we need it. This fall has been hard! I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting our schools and doing your part to keep our students and staff safe.

Please look for the next community letter on December 2. As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. You can reach me at jmillerarsenault@u32.org or 229-0553.

With gratitude,

Jen Miller-Arsenault
Interim Superintendent