

February 10, 2022

Dear Washington Central Community,

This week we've had 13 cases of COVID-19 that have impacted our schools: 0 at Berlin, 1 at Calais, 0 at Doty, 1 at East Montpelier, 1 at Rumney, and 10 at U-32. Here are two bright spots to report. On Tuesday we had no new cases across the district! This was the first day we had no new cases since December 26! And yesterday we lifted our restrictions regarding the number of spectators attending athletic and other events at U-32. Spectators are required to wear masks at all times and we are not permitting food or beverages at events, as has been our practice this winter season.

Yesterday was the second of three early release days for students. Educators spent time looking at student assessment data and/or student work in teams. They analyzed the results and planned next steps in instruction and intervention in order to engage all learners across our school system. Some of the other professional learning activities we offered yesterday included planning for our district's implementation of Act 173 (Vermont's act related to the provision of more effective and equitable services for students who need additional support), training regarding trauma-informed schools, a webinar about educator self-care, and an orientation to our educator association for employees who had not yet had an opportunity to participate in the union's orientation.

This week both the school board's Policy Committee and our district's Humanity and Justice Coalition met. Both entities are devoting some time and attention to policies and procedures related to equity and grounding their work in the district's [Humanity and Justice Coalition Vision Statement](#). Stay tuned for more information about this vital work and how the work of both groups will complement each other in service to our students and school community at large.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at jmillerarsenault@u32.org or (802) 229-0553.

Warmly,
Jen Miller-Arsenault
Interim Superintendent