

March 24, 2022

Dear Washington Central Community,

Although it wasn't particularly evident this morning, it is officially spring! I don't know about you, but the lengthening days bring a lightness to both my head and my heart. To me, spring is a season of hope and promise. I moved to Vermont almost 30 years ago and still find myself appreciating spring in a way that I never did when I lived further south, likely because in Vermont we endure both winter and mud season before truly welcoming spring.

And, speaking of mud season... Thanks to all of you who have needed to be flexible and patient in the past few days regarding bus routes that have been impacted by the muddy roads. The road commissioners reported some of the worst conditions they had seen in 20 years. Many thanks to our road crews and the bus company for their hard work and communication this week!

As expected, going mask optional has meant that we are starting to see a rise in illnesses that we hadn't seen in schools in quite a while. We will continue to emphasize the importance of good hand hygiene and maintaining personal space, and we ask that sick students and staff stay home until their symptoms are resolved.

Spring is always a very busy time of year in schools. We are working hard to stay focused on the work at hand while also starting to plan for the next school year. In the weeks ahead I will share more information with you regarding the next phase of our district's Moving Forward/Recovery Plan and the use of federal recovery funds. I will also share information about Continuous Improvement Planning. We will invite the school community to participate in both of these planning activities. Stay tuned for more information.

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