

# *Martha's Vineyard Public Schools*

*Excellence and Equity For All Children*

**MATTHEW T. D'ANDREA, LP.D.**  
SUPERINTENDENT

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE  
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December 21, 2020

Dear MVPS Staff and Families,

As our Island community continues to manage a sustained increase in the number of COVID-19 cases we are experiencing, we are urging all of our school staff, students, and their families to stay local over our holiday break. Please remember that Governor Baker's most recent guidance associated with the COVID-19 State of Emergency limits indoor gatherings to 10 people or less, and the MA Department of Public Health and the CDC are urging all individuals to only socialize with those included in their immediate household.

**Holiday gatherings have been found to increase the risk of Covid-19 spread. Please help to protect your family and community by:**

- Host a virtual celebration
- Make it a special holiday at home with the people you live with.
- Limit your in-person gatherings to people you live with or a very small group of people who you are in regular contact.
- Keep visits short
- Inside gatherings at private residences are limited to 10 people by the Governor of MA
- Outside gatherings at private residences are limited to 25 people by the Governor of MA

If you must travel outside of Massachusetts, you **MUST** complete a MA Travel Form which can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>. Please also keep in mind that traveling within the state of Massachusetts also has risk.

**Any time you are near people you don't live with:**

- Wear a mask when not eating or drinking
- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from others
- If gathering indoors, improve ventilation by opening windows and doors
- Consider if those around you may be at higher risk of severe illness from Covid-19, such as older adults or those with certain medical conditions, and take extra precautions

**Please also remember that students and staff members cannot come to school if anyone in their household is awaiting COVID-19 test results (unless it is a routine test).**

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Nicole Barlett, Edgartown School; Janice Brown, MVPCS; Kristine Cammorata, West Tisbury School; Catherine Coogan, Tisbury School; Linda Leonard, MVRHS; Pam Rendek, Chilmark School; Lana Schaefer, Oak Bluffs School