

Amity Regional School District Reopening – April 16, 2021 Update

The decision of the district's instruction model is developed in consultation with local health departments and with consideration of the leading and secondary indicators and metrics identified in [Addendum 4](#) of the CT Department of Education's reopening plan. These are identified by [town](#) and by [county](#). Superintendents in BOWA meet weekly with health officials from the Orange Department of Health and the Quinnipiack Valley Health District to review weekly data. The purpose of those meetings is 1) to discuss the instructional model that provides maximum educational learning opportunities while mitigating health risks to students and staff and 2) to make decisions that are both responsive to the current health crisis, but that also provide continuity of educational programming based on local data and information.

Leading Indicator

Leading Indicator	MORE In-Person Learning	Re-assess strategies to determine appropriate balance of in-person and remote learning (hybrid learning)	LESS In-Person Learning
Number of new cases of COVID-19 (14-day average of new cases per 100,000 population per day)	< 10 new cases per 100,000 per day	10 to < 25 cases per 100,000 per day	25+ cases per 100,000 per day

The CSDE and CT DPH use the 14-day average of new cases per 100,000 population per day as the leading indicator for determining the instructional model. The data in the Amity communities since the start of the school year is:

Reporting Period	Bethany	Orange	Woodbridge	Amity
8/30/2020 - 9/5/2020	7.8	3.1	1.6	4.2
09/06/2020 - 09/12/2020	5.2	1.0	1.6	2.6
09/13/2020 - 09/19/2020	5.2	2.0	1.6	2.9
09/20/2020 - 09/26/2020	2.6	3.1	4.9	3.5
09/27/2020 - 10/10/2020*	13.0	4.1	3.2	6.8
10/04/2020 - 10/17/2020	10.4	6.7	4.9	7.3
10/11/2020 - 10/24/2020	10.4	9.7	10.5	10.2
10/18/2020 - 10/31/2020	9.1	12.8	15.4	12.4
10/25/2020 - 11/7/2020	13.0	15.9	12.2	13.7
11/1/2020 - 11/14/2020	24.8	24.1	17.0	22.0
11/8/2020 - 11/21/2020	27.4	27.7	21.1	25.4
11/15/2020 - 11/28/2020	27.4	36.4	24.3	29.4
11/22/2020 - 12/5/2020	31.3	33.3	26.0	30.2
11/29/2020 – 12/12/2020	54.8	42.0	18.7	38.5
12/6/2020 – 12/19/2020	43.0	35.5	10.5	29.6
12/13/2020 – 12/26/2020	30.0	41.0	16.2	29.1
12/20/2020 – 1/2/2021	53.5	59.9	38.1	50.5
12/27/20 – 1/9/2021	74.3	66.6	46.2	62.4
1/3/2021 – 1/16/2021	65.2	45.6	34.9	48.6
1/10/2021 – 1/23/2021	45.6	40.5	22.7	36.3
1/17/2021 – 1/30/2021	41.7	41.5	22.7	35.3
1/24/2021 – 2/6/2021	23.5	30.7	21.9	25.4
1/31/2021 – 2/13/2021	13.0	23.6	21.1	19.2
2/7/2021 – 2/20/2021	26.1	19.5	26.8	24.1
2/14/2021 – 2/27/2021	16.9	21.0	25.1	21.0
2/21/2021 – 3/6/2021	3.9	22.0	19.5	15.1
2/28/2021 – 3/13/2021	19.6	20.5	23.5	21.2
3/7/2021 – 3/20/2021	40.4	25.6	28.4	31.5
3/14/2021 – 3/27/2021	35.2	29.7	21.9	28.9
3/21/2021 – 4/3/2021	24.8	25.6	19.5	23.3
3/28/2021 – 4/10/2021	30.0	26.1	25.1	27.1

* The DPH changed from a 7-day average to a 14-day average on October 15, 2020.

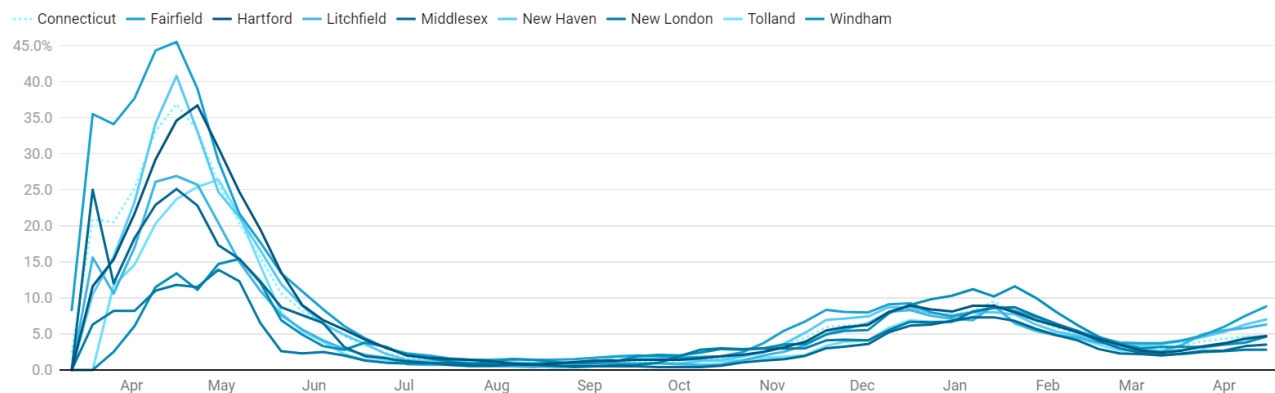
As noted in Addendum 4, “analyzing any of the suggested leading or secondary indicators at the individual town or school district level in our state may result in rates that are too unstable to be of any use in continuous decision-making.” Amity is fortunate that we can consider all three towns that we serve, as well as the New Haven county indicators when decision-making.

Secondary Indicators

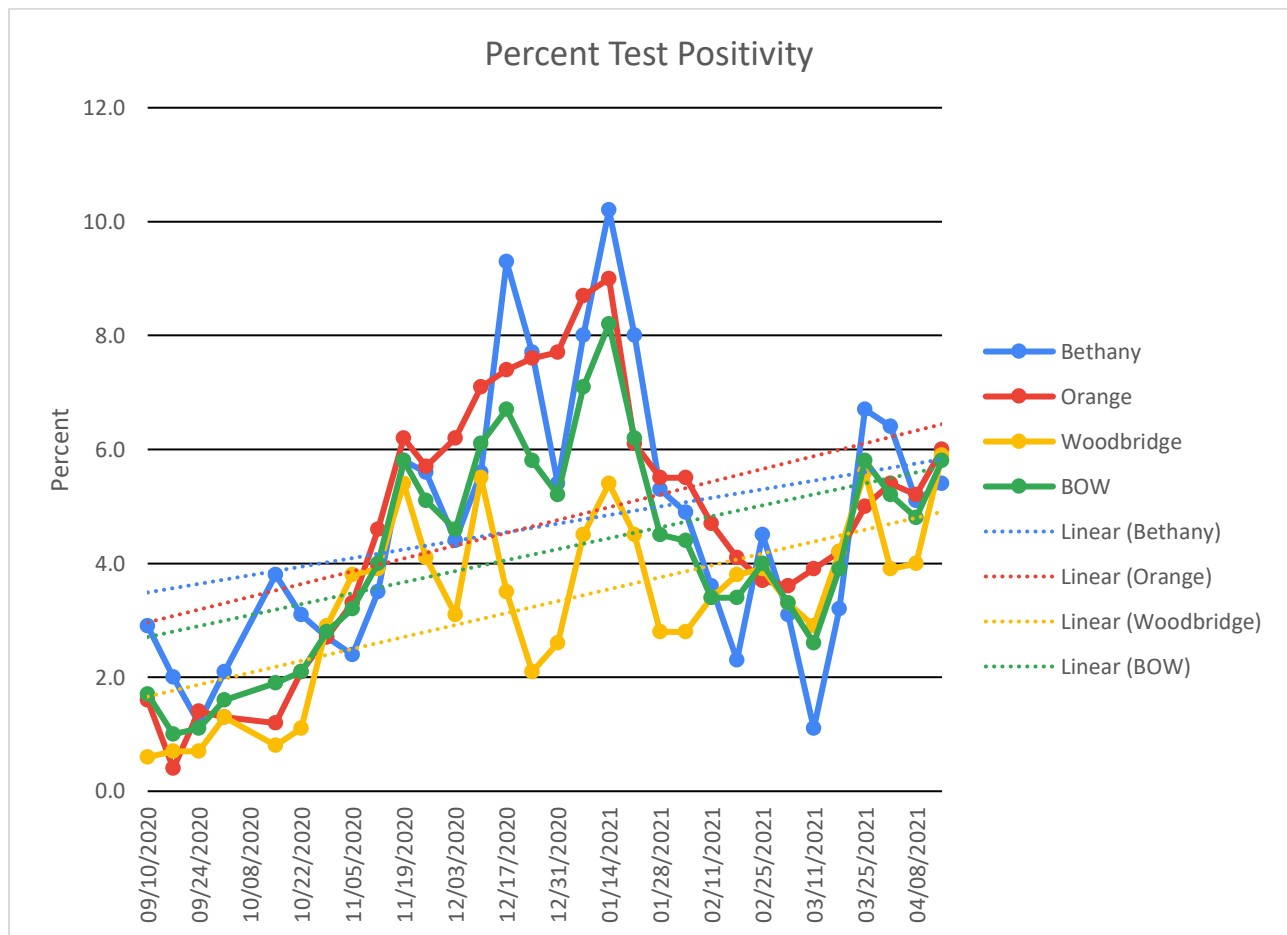
Secondary Indicators	MORE In-Person Learning	Re-assess strategies to determine appropriate balance of in-person and remote learning (hybrid learning)	LESS In-Person Learning
Percent positivity rate <i>(# of positive tests/ # of total tests, 14-day average)</i>	Secondary Indicators trending down to flat	Direction of Change: Secondary Indicators trending flat to upward	Secondary Indicators trending upward
Number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population <i>(14-day average)</i>	No statistically significant changes to Secondary Indicators	Speed of Change: Any statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators	Consistent, statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators
COVID-like and Influenza-like Illness (CLI and ILI) Syndromic Surveillance			

From a historical perspective, the percent test positivity at the start of the pandemic in Connecticut in March 2020 is very different from now – even as cases increase in the state.

Percent Test Positivity (14-Day Average)



The first of the secondary indicators, percent test positivity, is shown below for all three towns since the start of the school year. While there are fluctuations from data point to data point, the plot of the trend line demonstrates the overall pattern.



The Indicators on COVID-19 hospitalizations and COVID-like and Influenza-like Illness cannot be monitored at the town level, since numbers on the town level are so low. However, it can be monitored at a county level and the data per 100,000 per population per day from New Haven County since the beginning of the school year is as follows:

Reporting Period	COVID-19 Hospitalizations	COVID-like illness
8/30/2020 - 9/5/2020	0.4	1.7
09/06/2020 - 09/12/2020	0.6	1.9
09/13/2020 - 09/19/2020	0.5	2.0
09/20/2020 - 09/26/2020	0.4	2.1
09/27/2020 - 10/10/2020	0.5	2.5
10/04/2020 - 10/17/2020	0.6	2.7
10/11/2020 - 10/24/2020	0.8	2.9
10/18/2020 - 10/31/2020	1.3	3.5
10/25/2020 - 11/7/2020	2.1	4.5
11/1/2020 - 11/14/2020	3.6	5.8
11/8/2020 - 11/21/2020	4.6	6.9
11/15/2020 - 11/28/2020	4.7	7.5
11/22/2020 - 12/5/2020	5.0	7.3
11/29/2020 – 12/12/2020	5.2	7.6
12/6/2020 – 12/19/2020	5.1	7.5
12/13/2020 – 12/26/2020	5.4	6.9
12/20/2020 – 1/2/2021	4.8	6.7
12/27/2020 – 1/9/2021	4.9	6.4
1/3/2021 – 1/16/2021	6.0	6.8
1/10/2021 – 1/23/2021	6.0	6.5
1/17/2021 – 1/30/2021	5.3	5.7
1/24/2021 – 2/6/2021	4.6	5.0
1/31/2021 – 2/13/2021	4.4	4.3
2/7/2021 – 2/20/2021	4.2	3.7
2/14/2021 – 2/27/2021	3.8	3.8
2/21/2021 – 3/6/2021	3.9	3.9
2/28/2021 – 3/13/2021	4.3	3.8
3/7/2021 – 3/20/2021	4.5	3.7
3/14/2021 – 3/27/2021	3.3	4.4
3/21/2021 – 4/3/2021	3.3	4.9
3/28/2021 – 4/10/2021	4.7	5.1

As noted in Addendum 4, “analyzing any of the suggested leading or secondary indicators at the individual town or school district level in our state may result in rates that are too unstable to be of any use in continuous decision-making.” Therefore, the state also summarizes data by county to assist school districts in decision-making. The April 15, 2021 released data is summarized on the next page. New Haven County is identified in the high category for both leading and secondary indicators.

Summary Table

County	Leading		Secondary			Reporting Period
	New COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population per day	Leading Indicator Risk Category	Percent test positivity	New COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population per day	Percent COVID-19-like illness hospital ED visits	Secondary Indicators Risk Category
Fairfield	35.5	High	8.8%	3.4	6.5%	High
Hartford	23.4	Moderate	4.7%	2.0	3.4%	Moderate
Litchfield	34.0	High	6.3%	1.2	4.3%	High
Middlesex	23.9	Moderate	3.5%	1.7	3.4%	Moderate
New Haven	39.2	High	7.0%	4.7	5.1%	High
New London	16.3	Moderate	2.8%	1.6	2.6%	Moderate
Tolland	19.5	Moderate	4.7%	0.1	2.7%	Moderate
Windham	23.3	Moderate	4.6%	0.7	2.9%	Moderate
Connecticut	30.4	High	4.6%	2.8	4.4%	High

Current School COVID Data

Please note that due to the April Vacation, current school COVID data will not be updated until the April 23, 2021 report.

Next Steps

Learning Model -

On Monday, April 19, 2021, all Amity Schools will resume the instructional model they were following prior to the April vacation.

Middle Schools -

Beginning April 20, 2021, the middle schools will return to rotating classes for cohorts of students.

Travel Guidelines –

As of March 19, 2021, **Governor Lamont's Executive Order No.9S, Section 1 regarding travel is no longer in effect.** Connecticut residents and travelers to Connecticut should **follow [travel-related guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health \(CT DPH\).](#)** Mandates and requirements are not currently in place in Connecticut. Travel increases your chance of spreading and getting COVID-19. CDC recommends that you do not travel at this time. Delay travel and stay home to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

The Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, and Amity School Districts, along with the Orange Health Department and the Quinnipiac Valley Health District strongly recommend that students/employees self-quarantine for a period of 10 days after travel or present a negative COVID test prior to returning to school/work. Any type of negative COVID-19 test (rapid or PCR) is acceptable in lieu of a 10-day quarantine. The test must be performed in the seventy-two (72) hours prior to returning to Connecticut or at any time following return to Connecticut.

Domestic Travel Guidance Update for Fully Vaccinated Persons

On April 2, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated the guidance for **domestic** travel for fully vaccinated persons: [Domestic Travel During COVID-19 | CDC](#). While the CDC still recommends delaying travel for unvaccinated persons (including children), this update allows for additional flexibility as follows:

- Fully vaccinated persons (persons at least 14 days or more after the last dose of their vaccine series) **do not need to quarantine or get tested** after **domestic** travel.
- Fully vaccinated persons should still wear a mask, practice other precautions during travel, and monitor symptoms after travel.

CDC guidance for **international** travel has ***not*** changed: [Testing and International Air Travel | CDC](#).

Quarantine of Vaccinated Persons

Individuals who have been fully vaccinated (2 weeks after the single dose J&J vaccine or 2 weeks after the 2nd dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine) are **not required to quarantine** if they are identified as a close contact. If your student is notified as a close contact, but has been fully vaccinated, please contact the school nurse and be prepared to show proof of your student's vaccination.

Update on Student Vaccination Clinic –

In order to have better success at securing a clinic for students, the Amity School District will be partnering with the North Haven School District under the umbrella of QVHD. We are continuing to reach out to Griffin Health to provide a Pfizer vaccination clinic at the earliest possible date. However, because of our partnership with North Haven and since North Haven is the location of the QVHD offices, it is now more likely the clinic would be held at the North Haven Recreational Center. We will communicate as soon as we have any information about this. The earliest possible date non-Alliance school districts can host student vaccination clinics is in May.

We are also exploring the possibility of hosting an 18+ clinic at ARHS in collaboration with QVHD. Our hope is that our older students would avail themselves of this clinic, thereby reserving more Pfizer appointments for our students who are 16-17 years old.