August 9, 2021

Dear WCSU Board Chairs,

The WCSU Leadership Team (Cabinet and Principals) and our COVID Coordinator met this morning to discuss the [COVID-19 Advisory Memorandum](https://education.vermont.gov/document/COVID-19-Prevention-Measures-for-Fall-2021) that was issued on August 4, 2021.

We are all in agreement that absent the Governor declaring a State of Emergency and requiring adherence to the directions outlined in the [MEMO](https://education.vermont.gov/document/COVID-19-Prevention-Measures-for-Fall-2021), we recommend the WCSU and each individual school board **mandate** that we follow the Memo’s directives.

We recognize that absent further State action, the authority for a mandate to follow the Advisory Memorandum lies with each Board. Further, we recognize that mandates are divisive, with many people on both sides of the issues. We aim to provide clarity to students and families as we begin the school year.

We recommend that the Boards take this action in order to provide the safest environment under the current conditions, so that students can attend and remain in school for in-person learning as long as possible.

We suggest that the Boards take up a motion at their board meeting along the lines of:

**“ The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Board mandates that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School District adheres to the Covid-19 Advisory Memorandums and directs the Superintendent, Principal, and all employees to follow the Memorandum’s directives.”**

Thank you for your consideration and your leadership in serving our schools and communities.

Sincerely,

Bill Anton

Superintendent