



March 12, 2020

Dear Montville Families and Staff,

I regret to inform you that at this time we have made the decision to cancel all out-of-state field trips, and we will not hold after-school events with more than 100 people.

We also received the following communication from the CIAC regarding athletic events: "After much consideration and consultation, the CIAC has made the difficult decision to cancel all remaining CIAC winter tournament games. We must always place our student-athletes' health and safety first. Therefore... we have made the decision to cancel our remaining winter championships so that schools can focus their attention on meeting their students' educational needs."

I understand the disappointment this brings to students and families who were anticipating travel experiences, musical performances, athletic competitions, fund-raising events, etc. However over the past two days, developments in Connecticut have led us to believe these are necessary steps. Yesterday the State of Connecticut published a series of decisions by public officials which caused educational leaders to rethink elective experiences for students. With a freeze on state employee travel outside of the state and states of emergency in New York and Rhode Island, I do not believe we can go forward with planned trips to Washington, D.C. and Annapolis. Students involved in these trips will receive more information about cancellation plans from their schools over the next several days.

We have also been advised by Commissioner of Education Miguel Cardona that we should consider the Governor's directives to state agencies when we plan for large events where there would be 100 or more people in attendance such as athletic events, school plays and spring concerts.

We will continue to monitor all communications from the state Department of Health and the Uncas Health District as we strive to maintain our educational programs and protect the health and safety of our students and their families.

Best regards,

Laurie Pallin, Superintendent of Schools