



Weston Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent
William S. McKersie, Ph.D.

MEMORANDUM

To: WPS Families & Staff
Date: March 11, 2020
Subject: COVID-19 Update-**WPS Spectrum**

I wrote yesterday advising that Connecticut authorities are recommending that events, programs or meetings be limited to a maximum of 100 people, and that such events allow for "social distancing," providing physical space amongst and between the audience or attendees. I stated that we would adhere to these guidelines fully and that we had begun working on plans for any WPS-sponsored events (athletic, music, theater, arts, parent gatherings, etc.) that would trip the 100-person limit guidelines.

We decided late Tuesday, and with deep regret, that we have to cancel Spectrum, the district's annual celebration of instrumental music from elementary through high school. Staged in the WHS New Gym, the gym floor packed with musicians, surrounded in the bleachers by family and staff, it is an event far exceeding the 100-person limit and one that makes "social distancing" impossible.

Principals, Liz Morris and music department staff consulted thoroughly on this decision. They moved fast in part because Spectrum was to have been held next Wednesday, March 18. In this time of uncertainty, we currently have no plans reschedule but are eager to present our musicians' good work at our concerts in the spring. We will continue to review all other upcoming events and hope to be efficient in our decisions.

We hope to have other decisions made and announced as of Friday. Once again, I would ask that you wait for us to announce our final decisions and plans before making inquiries of staff or administrators.

Thank you for your support and patience.