



West Seneca Central School District

Mr. Matthew J. Bystrak
Superintendent of Schools

November 17, 2020

Dear Members of the West Seneca School Community,

This message is a follow up to my communication from last week. As you are likely aware through communications from officials at both the state and county levels, the COVID-19 Infection rate has risen sharply within the Western New York community over the past couple of weeks. **In response to this increase and out of concern for safety, we will resume a fully remote model of instruction for ALL students effective Monday, November 23, 2020.** In the event that Governor Cuomo changes the designation of our area to Orange or Red before November 23, 2020, the transition to fully remote instruction will take place at that time.

Given the concerns expressed by state and local officials regarding the potential for increased viral spread due to the upcoming holiday season, we will maintain fully remote instruction through at least the winter break, which runs through January 3, 2021. We will communicate additional information pertaining to our schedule for returning to in-person instruction in the coming weeks.

As you may know, the NYS Department of Health has issued guidelines for student and staff COVID-19 testing that corresponds to the micro-cluster zone color (i.e. Yellow, Orange, Red). We are in the process of planning for on-site testing in accordance with NYS guidance and will communicate more information as it becomes available. We will not begin testing until we have notified families and staff of the testing protocols and process. Additionally, we will NOT test any students without parental consent.

As a district, we remain committed to the safety and well-being of our students and staff. Your continued support is greatly appreciated during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Matthew Bystrak
Superintendent