



Superintendent Announcements- 11/2/2020

Welcome Back!

The district is pleased to report that today, 11/2/2020, all students, faculty and staff that were directly impacted by the positive COVID case of the Grade 1 student at Rouses Point Elementary have returned to school. The impacted parties have all successfully completed quarantine and the student and their family are doing well. Thank you to all of our affected families for your flexibility, patience, understanding, and support during this challenging time. We are very pleased that all of our Rouses Point Elementary classrooms are in full operation.

Dining Service Employee Tests Positive

The district contracts with Chartwell's Dining Services to provide meals for our students and staff. We learned over the weekend that a Chartwell's employee was diagnosed with the coronavirus (COVID-19). Following contact tracing from the Clinton County Health Department, four additional employees have been ordered to quarantine because of their close contact with the COVID-positive employee. All spaces the employees occupied have been disinfected. The reduction in staff has resulted in the relocation of some Chartwell's employees to assist in other buildings, as well as in a reduced menu. **ONLY** sandwiches and pizza will be served until at least Tuesday, November 10, 2020. We send our best wishes for a safe and healthy return to the staff.

NEW Requirement from the Health Department Regarding Masks

Mr. John Kanoza, Director of the Clinton County Health Department, recently released an announcement that students and staff in ALL schools in Clinton County must wear face masks/coverings at all times. Governor Cuomo has granted authority for local health departments in New York State to impose this mandate on local districts. Per the mandate, mask breaks will no longer occur during instructional times in the classrooms. Adult-led and organized mask breaks will be provided in the classroom during mealtimes and for brief periods outdoors. Masks will still be worn during recess and physical education classes. We understand the challenges relating to this mandate and we will assist our young people with adhering to the requirement. Please reach out to your building teams or health department should you have further questions. We appreciate your patience and support as we adapt to the ever-changing requirements/mandates being implemented for the safety of our community.

Reach Out

Please do not hesitate to contact the school your child(ren) attend(s) if there may be additional support we can provide for your family. I have visited all of our district buildings and am proud of the connections our faculty and staff are making to support the emotional needs of our young people during these challenging times. We are here if you need us!

Thank You

Thank you to our students and families for your continuing cooperation in following the health and safety protocols outlined in our reopening plan. Over the past several days, we have seen an uptick in community members being diagnosed with the coronavirus (COVID-19). With the weather getting colder and holiday season/family gatherings approaching, we must continue to have quality conversations at school and at home regarding mask wearing, maintaining appropriate physical distancing, sanitizing, and reporting to the Health Office when you aren't feeling well. Together, we can make a difference, help to reduce the risk of transmission and keep each other safe!

Plan Ahead!

It's been a great start to the school year and the success of our reopening plan has allowed us to keep our campus schools open for in-person instruction. However, because we cannot predict the spread of the virus and the impact it will have, we are asking families to begin planning for alternatives should we be forced to close our schools and return to full remote learning for days, months or even the remainder of the year. We understand how worrisome this is for many families, so please prepare now in case school closures are announced.

We remain Cougar Strong!!!