



Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

Office of the Superintendent

8989 E. Colony Road | Elsie, MI 48831-9725

Phone: 989-834-2271 | Fax: 989-862-5887

www.ovidelsie.org

December 4, 2020

Dear Marauder Families:

We continue to discuss the appropriateness of our current closure situation as we near our Winter Vacation. We want to be able to openly communicate our plans to the staff and school community as soon as possible so that appropriate planning may take place. As you know, there are many variables that are involved when making decisions regarding our mode of instruction that can **change daily** including our District quarantine numbers, positive cases, government directives, etc.

Thus, ***Ovid-Elsie Area Schools will remain in remote learning until after Winter Vacation.***

The date of return is yet to be determined and will be based on the current COVID-19 numbers in our area. If there are any changes to the current plan, we will communicate these as soon as possible.

I have had meetings with the Local and State Health Departments this week to review [State and County data](#). While community spread has improved, the number of positive cases in our counties remain above an acceptable threshold. The biggest challenge that we face is the reporting delays from the Health Department(s). Due to the fact that they are so far behind, our Administrators are required to complete contact tracing and quarantine students (or staff) based on self-reported information. Thankfully, our stakeholders have been great about keeping us abreast of any potential situations and this has greatly limited the number of cases within our schools. Further, due to reporting delays between the test sites and the Health Department(s), stakeholders are asked to “self-report” by using this “COVID-19 Case Details” [form](#).

As educators, we all feel that it is best to have students in front of us, face-to-face and in the classroom. However, since we have been remote these past few weeks a routine has been established and we are beginning to see more engagement and continuity given the parameters of

Dr. Ryan Cunningham
Superintendent

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our current structure. We feel that moving back to in-person instruction for a short period of time prior to Winter Vacation will only cause further disruptions in the learning process.

The Administration and the Board, along with staff and stakeholder input, will continue to do everything we can to promote a safe and healthy working and learning environment. I continue to praise our staff, students and parents for all of the hard work, diligence and flexibility through these unprecedented times.

Yours in education,

Dr. Ryan L. Cunningham, Superintendent, Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

#Mask Up #Marauder Up

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