



TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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TIMOTHY A. OLDENBURG, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

December 22, 2020

Dear Tonawanda City School District Students, Staff and Families:

On behalf of the Board of Education and our entire school system, I wish you and your family a magical holiday season. This year, many traditions and customs are likely modified in many ways. I hope that we can find optimism, hope, and peace in the midst of the stress and frustration that this global health crisis has thrust upon us.

We will continue to operate in a hybrid model when we return to school session on Monday, January 4, 2021. The students in the Remote Warrior program will continue to move forward in the fully remote instructional model.

As we approach the mid-year point of the academic calendar, end of January, we will offer another opportunity for families to commit to the Remote Warrior program or the hybrid program for a further period. These programs are not interchangeable. Our staffing, curriculum scope and sequence, and other sensitive factors are necessary to plan and implement for the successful and optimal delivery of instruction in these different instructional models. The district will share more information on this topic in January.

Each day we continue to learn more about the safety of schools in the COVID-19 pandemic. Medical experts, locally and nationally, continue to use science and data to inform the public that schools are safe for students and staff to learn and work. Despite the concerning community spread that is referred to by news outlets, we continue to experience a miniscule number of positive COVID-19 cases from our students and staff. Our district has proven that our planning, procedures, and practices have been effective to provide a safe and healthy learning and work environment for our students and staff since September.

Yesterday we completed our testing for the month of December per the requirement for random COVID-19 rapid testing for Orange Zone regions. We had an incredibly successful month in administering our plan, procedures, and testing protocols. This process was safe, efficient, and effective.

For the month of December, we randomly tested 328 people with consent and returned two positive cases of COVID-19.

This is an infection rate of only 0.6% (less than 1%).

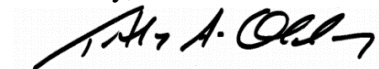
Soon we will be conducting the random selection for January. Each month we are required to randomly select and test 20% of each building's population. People may be selected to be tested more than once in this random selection each month.

If you are selected to be tested in the future, please consider consenting to this simple procedure.

Please contact the building principal if you have any questions or if we can further support our students. Please contact your child(ren)'s teacher if you have any questions or need support regarding the instructional programming of the hybrid model or the fully remote model.

Thank you for your continued support and patience with our district. Please continue to take necessary precautions and continue with recommended healthy protocols to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 in your homes and in our schools. Go Warriors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy A. Oldenburg", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Timothy A. Oldenburg, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools