



TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

100 HINDS STREET
TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150
716-694-7784-Phone 716-695-8738-Fax



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

June 7, 2021

Re: Re-Opening Plan Update

Dear Tonawanda City School District Students, Families, and Staff:

Recently, the NYSDOH and the Buffalo News reported that a change in mask requirements for students and staff in schools would be announced today. Earlier today, the Governor announced that school districts can choose to lift the requirement that their students must wear masks outdoors. **Guidance on mask use indoors remains in place.** This change aligns New York State's guidance on schools with CDC guidance on summer camps, where even unvaccinated students are not currently required to wear masks outdoors.

Effective immediately, all students and school personnel, while outside of the school building will have the option of wearing a mask. Our district will no longer use the previous guidance included in our re-opening plan that required a mask be worn at all times by people while on school grounds. All school events and activities that are held outdoors will now afford the ability for people to remove their mask, if they choose to do so.

Although masking and social distancing is still required for all people while inside a school building, it is clear that more changes to these requirements and protocols will be announced over the summer and as we approach the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

In addition, the Governor recently announced that, based on current COVID trajectory, all New York State schools will reopen for full in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year beginning in September. With expected guidance changes and the lessening of COVID protocols in the future, our district will be planning for a full return of students to a traditional in-person, 5-day instructional program in September. Unless we are required to offer a fully remote program by the Governor or the NYSDOH, our district will discontinue the Remote Warrior program at the conclusion of this school year.

Students that have medically documented conditions or vulnerabilities will be accommodated using the various instructional program options that are typically used when a student is unable to attend school for medical reasons.

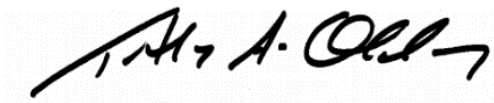
On another note, our capital project continues to move forward. The temporary classrooms have arrived at Mullen and Riverview schools. We anticipate that these facilities will be installed on their foundation and connected to the main buildings in the coming weeks. We expect that our

staff will receive access to these temporary classrooms prior to the end of the school year to begin the preparations necessary to welcome students into these classrooms in September.

I hope that these updates are helpful as we celebrate accomplishment and achievement in the final weeks of this unusual school year. Although we are not entirely sure what next school year will look like, it appears that nearly every data point and scientific factor is indicating that next year will look significantly more traditional for our students, staff, and families.

Please contact your building principal with any questions you may have. Go Warriors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy A. Oldenburg". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

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