Louann Laurito-Bahgat

Business Official

Brianne Fadale

High School Principal



Kirby Oldham

Elementary Principal

Yulonda Theuret

District Clerk

Clymer Central School District—8672 E. Main St. Clymer, NY 14724

Phone (716) 355-4444—Fax (716) 355-4448

Karen D. Krause, Interim Superintendent

March 15, 2020

Dear Clymer Central School Community:

I am writing regarding the COVID-19 situation which has been rapidly evolving each day in our state and region. We have been in continual contact with local and State health officials and the New York State Department of Education as the situation unfolds, keeping the health and safety of students, staff, and the community as our top priority.

Today, Sunday, March 15, 2020, County Executive, PJ Wendel declared a state of emergency for Chautauqua County regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus effective at 5 p.m. Chautauqua County Health Department has recommended that all school districts — including Clymer Central School — be closed to students effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020 until further notice, with instruction occurring through alternative means. While there are still no confirmed cases in our region at the time of this communication, the action is being taken as a precautionary measure, as cases in neighboring counties continue to rise. The main purpose of the recommendation is to slow the potential spread of disease among students and the community by promoting social distancing and avoiding the gathering of large numbers of people.

This time will be challenging for all communities, but we are dedicated to serving our students and keeping them as safe as possible while still allowing educational growth. Here are some important pieces to consider as we head into our planned closures:

1. Our district and all programs will be closed to students beginning on Monday, March 16. This closure will allow our instructional team and other staff members to train and finalize educational plans for students.

- 2. As a district, we do have a food plan in place to provide meals to those students who require it during the closure. You will be receiving specific communication on that shortly.
- 3. Students with disabilities who receive specialized services will continue to receive the educational support needed to be successful. Service providers will be in contact soon to discuss the specific needs of your student.
- 4. We will update you on our planned date for the end of the closure, after we assess the appropriate/required length by using the feedback provided by local and State health officials as our guide.
- 5. Please continue to keep your households as safe as possible by washing your hands regularly, avoiding contact with those who are sick, cleaning and disinfecting regularly used surfaces, and staying home when you are sick.
- 6. We anticipate that staff will still be available throughout the closure, through multiple channels, to support student work, answer questions, and ensure continuity of education. Information will be forthcoming on this, as well.

We appreciate your support during this challenging time. We continue to be proactive in keeping our students, staff and communities safe. Please continue to take care of yourself and others.

Sincerely,

Karen D. Krause

Interim Superintendent

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