



TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

July 31, 2020

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

On behalf of the entire school system, I send you best wishes for an enjoyable summer during the next few weeks. Soon we will learn from the Governor regarding which instructional options will be available for public schools to engage students in learning and academic achievement.

Today, our required planning has been posted on our website: <https://www.tonawandacsd.org/o/tcsdny/page/reopening-plan--10>. Our required models include a face-to-face instructional program, hybrid instructional program, and virtual instructional program. The Governor will provide further guidance during the period of August 1-7, 2020. At this time, the District will be positioned to determine which instructional plan will be implemented for the 2020-2021 school year.

We are committed to meeting your expectations of delivering a high quality educational program that meets the diverse needs of our students in a caring, meaningful, and academically appropriate manner. However, the health, safety, and welfare remains our first priority. Our instructional models for Fall education include all of the required mandates from the NYS Department of Health and the NYS Education Department. Additionally, we have included numerous recommendations, best practices, and other mitigation strategies in our reopening plans to best care for our students, staff, and school community to the furthest extent feasible.

The Governor has encouraged the residents of NYS to follow the science and data regarding this pandemic. Data from the New York Forward website indicates that the current 7-day rolling average in WNY for positive test results for COVID-19 is 1%. Our region has realized this rolling average of 1% positive test results since June 10, 2020. Additionally, as reported in The Buffalo News yesterday, hospitalizations from COVID-19 in WNY have fallen to their lowest level (28) since the State began publicly releasing numbers on March 23, 2020. I am proud that our community and region has successfully realized our significant effort in slowing the spread. This is due to our education regarding the virus and our intentional efforts to be responsible citizens in our community.

We expect, following the Governor's decision, that our district will be positioned to share more detailed information with you. You can expect regular communication, surveys, and other information to be shared from the district in the beginning of August and as we begin implementing our plan. Parents can expect to receive class supply lists in the first weeks of August. It should be noted that disinfecting wipes will NOT be a required or recommended supply item for this year. Student schedules and teacher assignments will be made available in late August. Additionally, your understanding and flexibility with potential modifications that may occur in the future is recognized.

It should be expected that every school district will have differences in their planning, protocols, instructional delivery, and operations. We will continue to provide the best educational program for our students and families within the fiscal and procedural constraints that are unique to our district.

On behalf of our entire school community, thank you for your support and partnership with our district.
Go Warriors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy A. Oldenburg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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