



TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

August 10, 2020

Dear Tonawanda City School District Families:

Thank you for your support and flexibility during this unusual time regarding the preparation for student instruction and programming to start the 2020-2021 school year.

We received notice from the Governor this past Friday afternoon authorizing school to reopen under the guidance and mandates established. This decision allowed the District to immediately move forward with our hybrid planning and preparing for meaningful communication with our school community. The District has been committed to making decisions with thought and purpose based on the needs of all members of our school community and within the financial and human resource parameters of the district.

Our plan and path forward is outlined in our hybrid plan. This document and other important information can be found on our website and will be referenced in this and future correspondence. Upcoming information will include our approved reopening plan for the hybrid model. Additionally, you can find our virtual model that could go into effect for all students in the future. We have improved and addressed equity issues in this model as compared to the previous virtual instruction that ended in the 2019-2020 school year. Protocols and information regarding COVID-19 testing and contact tracing will be released later this week.

Parents/Guardians should be prepared to receive and complete a form to share information with the District. **Later today, the District will release an enrollment form that will solicit interest from families that have underlying medical issues or families that are not comfortable with a return to school.** By selecting this option, your child(ren) will be enrolled in a full-time virtual instruction model while the district operates in a hybrid model. Parents/Guardians may also select home schooling/instruction, as per the Commissioner's regulation 100.10, that is delivered by the parent/guardian. This form needs to be completed **ONLY** for those children that will not be returning to school in the Fall.

Additionally, a transportation form will be issued later this week. This solicitation is in response to the results from a previous survey where over 47% of Tonawanda respondents stated they would remove their child(ren) from district transportation in an effort to reduce student density on each bus and to support mitigation efforts of virus transmission. **ONLY** those who regularly receive district transportation and now desire to provide their own transportation will complete this form. **Completion of this form will remove your child(ren) from our transportation services and reduce the student density on our buses to support our mitigation efforts.**

Parents/Guardians should be aware of the following community meetings that will be held virtually. These meetings will allow for parents to ask questions to our administrative team regarding the hybrid model of instruction planned for the Fall. These meetings will be scheduled for 90 minutes.

- *Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at 2pm – High school hybrid model focus*
- *Thursday, August 13, 2020, at 10am – Elementary school hybrid model focus*
- *Thursday, August 13, 2020, at 5pm – Middle school hybrid model focus*

The District will release meeting details and log in information in the coming days.

These meetings are intended for parents/guardians to ask questions regarding the hybrid model of instruction. Additional questions can be directed to the building principals following these meetings and in the future.

Mike Brown – Principal – High School – 716-694-7660 – mbrown@tonacsd.org

Dave Sellan – Principal – Middle School – 716-694-7660 – dsellan@tonacsd.org

Michelle Siebert – Principal – Fletcher Elementary School – 716-694-7694 – msiebert@tonacsd.org

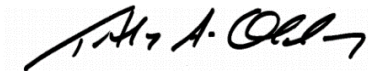
Diana Nigro – Principal – Mullen Elementary School – 716-694-6805 – dnigro@tonacsd.org

Claudia Panaro – Principal – Riverview Elementary School – 716-694-7697 – cpanaro@tonacsd.org

Many details continue to emerge daily. There will be questions that will occur in the future and we will be there for you to support your needs. We have an unwavering dedication to the profession of educating and supporting the needs of our students and school community in a manner that prioritizes the health, safety, and welfare of all of us.

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

Sincerely,



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