



CENTRAL SQUARE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent

December 15, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

With COVID-19 cases increasing throughout Oswego and Onondaga County (833 new positive cases in Oswego County during the two weeks following Thanksgiving, <https://cnycentral.com/news/local/833-new-covid-19-cases-in-oswego-county-during-2-weeks-after-thanksgiving>, totaling 543 active cases in Oswego County and a total of 3,964 active cases in Onondaga County as of 12-14-2020) we are reminding all parents and guardians to closely monitor their child's health daily. If a child is exhibiting ANY of the symptoms (listed below), please do not assume it is allergies or the common cold, and not COVID-19. We are hearing from several parents that initially believed that was the case but after getting their child tested, they were shocked that their child tested positive. For most students the symptoms remain minor, while others have informed us that their children exhibited flu-like symptoms and a loss of smell and taste.

Many parents/guardians have done an amazing job notifying the District immediately after receiving their child's positive COVID-19 results, even before the Health Department received them. This allows us to inform the Health Department of the positive case and provide them with class rosters, bus-seating charts, and bus duration times, which they need for their contact tracing to determine who needs to be quarantined for 14 days. Unfortunately, we are experiencing the new reality of what operating schools is like during a pandemic. Several students and staff members will continue to be in quarantine at any given time because they are considered "close contacts" connected to individuals in their families and/or community, and entire classrooms will be quarantined by the Health Department when a student or staff member in the classroom or on the bus tests positive for COVID-19. We can anticipate some classrooms in each of our schools being quarantined and switching to 100% remote instruction for the 14 day quarantine period. When classrooms return from quarantine, it is likely that we will see other classrooms quarantined for 14 days throughout the District. This is not an ideal situation, however, we recognize the value of in-person learning and what we must endure to continue with in-person learning until the pandemic is behind us.

Symptoms of COVID-19:

- **Fever at or above 100 degrees**
- **Lingering headache**
- **Loss of taste or smell**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Muscle aches**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Sore throat**
- **Prolonged runny/stuffy nose**
- **Cough**
- **Fatigue**
- **Nausea or vomiting**

If your child is experiencing any of the symptoms above, please let your child's school know and **do not** send your child to school and consult your local healthcare provider.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Colabufò
Superintendent