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TYRONE
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Soaring Forward to Explore, Challenge and Succeed
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December 7, 2020

Message from the Superintendent

Update on Instructional Models for December 14-22, 2020

Again, this week, Blair, Huntingdon, and Centre Counties have continued in the substantial level of community transmission with steady and/or growing case counts and positivity rates. Area hospitals are experiencing increasing numbers of COVID-19 patients and the state has set new records of positive case counts over the last two weeks. Last week, TASD added approximately 100 new quarantined staff and students due to positive cases and close contact exposures to both in school and out of school scenarios. There are currently 9 known, active cases of COVID-19 among district staff and students. Given the new requirements set forth by the PA Department of Education, TASD is attempting to remain as proactive as possible in the movement between instructional models.

Therefore, we feel that it is in the best interest of staff, students, and the community to **move ALL district schools (grades PreK-12) to a virtual learning model from December 14 – 22, 2020. At this time, TASD daycare will remain open to families who are currently utilizing this service.**

The staff in each school will continue to communicate with its families regarding the daily schedules and other pertinent information specific to the students in each building. We will provide an update prior to Christmas break regarding our January calendar.

Meal distributions will continue for all students this week and again on Wednesday, December 16th, Friday, December 18th, and Tuesday, December 22nd. Additional information will be posted to the TASD website as it becomes available.

While in the virtual format, it is important that you continue to report to the school nurses regarding positive COVID cases in your household so that we can monitor compliance with the latest PDE and DOH requirements and ensure a safe transition back to face-to-face instruction when appropriate.

We acknowledge that moving all students to a virtual format may create a hardship for some families; however, this action is a proactive measure intended to allow the appropriate planning to occur. Please know that these decisions are not made lightly and not without a great deal of consideration for everyone's health, safety, and well-being. We greatly appreciate your continued support as we make our way through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Leslie A. Estep