

CPS School Community Update- District Closure 11-17-2020

Dear Clinton Public Schools Families and Staff,

I am writing this message to inform Clinton Public Schools families and staff of significant changes related to COVID-19 transmission in our community and its impact on our schools.

Since last night, the district has been notified of five positive COVID-19 cases within our school community. Each school (Joel, Eliot, and Morgan) has seen at least one case, and it has demonstrated to us that the commitment to in-person learning at this time must be re-evaluated. The impacts of the increased transmission rates in our community in the last few weeks has challenged our ability to maintain school operations for in-person learning. In all of these cases, the individuals were not in any of our schools during the period of time which would have resulted in exposure to other staff or students and the need to quarantine others.

The rapid increase in the number of additional positive cases of students and staff in such a short period of time, the continued rise in the number of positive cases within the town of Clinton, and the current staff and students who are quarantining have significantly impacted our ability to maintain in-person school operations. This has prompted the difficult decision to suspend in-person learning for the next two weeks.

Therefore, after tomorrow's Hybrid schedule, all schools in the district will shift to Remote Learning on Thursday, November 19th through Wednesday, December 2, 2020. We expect our schools to return to the Hybrid Model (L-Z cohort) on Thursday, December 3, 2020. More information regarding the transition to remote learning will be provided to families by our school administrators and from our teachers.

As a district, we continue to rely on the expertise and insight of our health district personnel and over the next two weeks we will be monitoring all of the health data to inform our future decision-making. The experiences and decisions of the past few weeks have not been easy and we understand the impacts that these transitions have had on students, staff, and our families. The uncertainty of predicting our future is challenging, but we are committed to informed decision-making and ensuring our students will have quality instruction regardless of the learning model that we must adopt.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership and for the commitment to working with us as we navigate this very challenging time.

Sincerely,

Maryann O'Donnell
Superintendent