

FRONTIER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FRONTIER EDUCATIONAL CENTER
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Richard J. Hughes, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Linda M. Leising
District Clerk

November 10, 2020

Dear Frontier Families,

As of yesterday, our community and much of Erie County entered a new phase of our battle against COVID. Hamburg was declared a Yellow Buffer Zone. While all school districts are working to gather information on what this entails, we do know that the “purpose of a Yellow Buffer Zone is to restrict some activity to help prevent the further spread” of the virus (<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-details-covid-19-micro-cluster-metrics>). When a school is in a yellow zone, they can remain open but must begin random testing of students and staff. There are many questions on what the testing involves but one thing we have been told is that Erie County will not be able to assist school districts in any testing effort. In numerous prior communications from NYS Department of Health, Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) and the Governor’s office, school districts have been told we would not be responsible for testing. This recent change requires us to find out more information as quickly as we can before we are able to give our families an answer to what the Yellow Buffer Zone designation truly means for us.

Of more immediate concern, is the growing number of positive and quarantine cases in our community and our school buildings. Just after 1:00 pm today, we were informed that a number of employees in our transportation department have to quarantine. Combined with the growing quarantining of students and staff, we have no other choice but to move all learning to fully remote instruction beginning Thursday, November 12th through at least Thanksgiving break. We will continue to assess the COVID infection rate and those personnel affected to determine whether, remote learning will continue after the holiday. Each building has a plan to transition to longer term remote learning that will officially be put into effect on Monday, November 16th. Please see the letters on our website (www.frontiercsd.org) for information that applies to the building your child(ren) attend.

This is not where we wanted to be. We have done everything we can to keep our doors open to our Falcons but the growing positivity rate makes it impossible to continue to do so at this time. All of us are tired of what the pandemic has done to our lives but we cannot give up the fight. We must do everything we can to lower the positivity rate so that we can return to in person learning sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard J. Hughes".

Richard J. Hughes, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools