

Jay Lebrun

Superintendent of Schools

49 Broad Street Plattsburgh, NY 12901 Ph: (518) 957-6002 jay@plattscsd.org

11/14/2020 NOTICE FOR PHS PARENTS

Last evening, the Clinton County Health Department notified our district that a student at Plattsburgh High School has tested positive for COVID-19. This student last attended school in-person on Friday, November 6, 2020. Subsequently last evening, our district provided a significant amount of data which the health department will use in their contract tracing processes, which they anticipate will take several days.

Contact tracing notifications will likely come via the State's virtual contact tracing center, and this outreach is expected to occur sometime tomorrow. A number of PHS faculty and students who may have had contact with the infected student on November 6th will be directed by the Clinton County Health Department to quarantine, effective immediately.

Officials from the health department have asked that we convey their request that families not contact their office to solicit information as this will delay their outreach efforts. Rather, the health department will be directly contacting any individuals who will need to quarantine as soon as possible. Fortunately, the 14-day quarantine period begins on the date of last possible exposure, which means that today is already day 8, and that the required quarantine period will end on Friday, November 20th.

Given the number of faculty and students at Plattsburgh High School who may be made to quarantine, that building (and only that building) will convert to the remote mode of instruction, effective immediately, and extending through the Thanksgiving break. Otherwise stated, PHS will follow a remote schedule every day this upcoming week, and on Monday, November 23rd (which is the lone day of instruction during the Thanksgiving week).

Students and parents will soon receive an email from Plattsburgh High School which reviews the schedule for the fully-remote mode of instructional delivery. As

a reminder, in the fully-remote mode, live, synchronous instruction is offered every day to students, using a schedule of periods 1-5 on the first day, periods 6-10 on the second day, and so on. Again, the specific daily schedule will be re-sent to parents and students, via email, today.

Students and staff in our district have adhered to the strict distancing, hygiene, and masking protocols outlined in our reopening plan, and we therefore are hopeful and confident that there has been no spread through the school setting. But, as with all else surrounding this pandemic, we will join the Clinton County Health Department in practicing extreme caution and prudence.

We recognize that this shift to remote instruction at Plattsburgh High School is inconvenient, but it is necessary to best protect students, staff, families, and our community. A decision about the mode of instructional delivery which will be employed following the Thanksgiving break has not yet been made, and will be based upon local infection rates in the coming days.

Again, in summary: Plattsbugh High School will be converting to remote instruction through Thanksgiving break. Many students and faculty will soon be contacted by the Clinton County Health Department and directed to begin quarantine. This conversion to remote instruction currently affects only Plattsburgh High School, and not any other Plattsburgh CSD school. The Clinton County Health Department asks for your cooperation in not contacting their office, and instead waiting to receive a telephone notification of quarantine requirement, if applicable. Any individuals who do not receive such a call, are not required to quarantine. Further, the Clinton County Health Department recommends that only symptomatic individuals seek a COVID test.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school nurse or building principal.

Thank-you for your patience and cooperation, and for your continued dedication to best hygiene practices.