



PLATTSBURGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jay Lebrun

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November 19, 2020

Dear Hornet students, parents, faculty & staff:

Tonight, the Board of Education approved an important recommendation from the district's Reopening Committee. **Following the Thanksgiving recess, all Plattsburgh CSD schools will move to the fully-remote mode of instruction for two weeks.** More specifically, this 'pause' from our hybrid mode of instructional delivery will begin on Monday, November 30, 2020 and extend through Friday, December 11, 2020. Students are therefore projected to return to the hybrid mode of instructional delivery on Monday, December 14, 2020.

These amendments to the Reopening Plan were motivated by recommendations from the district's medical staff and the Clinton County Health Department. The rationale for such involves increasing COVID infection rates, the potential for widespread transmission over the upcoming Thanksgiving recess, and the desire to protect future hybrid instruction by working to avoid a situation which invokes the State's cluster protocol and/or yellow zone designation.

It is hoped that this proactive action will help to curtail recent increases in local infections, and thereby help to avoid a much longer conversion to remote instruction as would be necessary if community spread becomes uncontrolled.

For those families for which this decision creates inconvenience, I offer sincere apologies. This action was taken in the interest of the broader community, and was based upon the recommendation of health experts; both from within and outside of our district.

You may have questions about this temporary pivot between instructional modes, and many of these, I believe, are addressed in the accompanying summary.

Clearly, this proactive measure will be most effective if it can be combined with vigilance with regards to social distancing, minimizing congregation, mask wearing and hand hygiene. Though Thanksgiving is typically a time to gather and rejoice with loved-ones, doing so in large numbers will surely compound the spread of the virus, and threatens to delay our return to hybrid instruction even further. So, on behalf of our students, I encourage a more measured, demurred (and unfortunately, limited) approach to holiday gatherings. The

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that advances intellectual, physical, social, and cultural development.

infection data which emerges post-Thanksgiving will inform our Reopening Committee's discussion about a similar move to remote instruction in January.

Please feel free to contact your child(ren)'s building Principal(s) with any questions.

Wishing health and safety for our community,

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Addendum to the Plattsburgh City School District Reopening Plan

Following meetings of the district's Reopening Planning Committee on November 17, 2020, certain amendments to the district's reopening plan were recommended. These amendments are summarized below, and will be advanced to the Plattsburgh CSD Board of Education for approval on November 19, 2020.

All buildings in the Plattsburgh City School District will convert to the remote mode of instructional delivery from Monday, November 30, 2020 through Friday, December 11, 2020. Barring impediments to a return to in-person instruction, such as cluster protocol/zone designation and/or the emergence of specific cases from within the immediate school community, a return to the hybrid mode of instructional delivery is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2020.

For the duration of this specific closure, the District will permit faculty to exercise professional discretion about wherefrom (school, home, other) they will deliver remote instruction, provided that any alternate site presents no barrier to instructional delivery (whether technological, setting/environmental, or other). The District reserves any right to revoke this privilege, in the event an alternate site impacts the instruction being offered. For those electing to work from school, buildings will remain open and cleaned as per normal protocol.

Students who attend Champlain Valley Educational Services special education programs at the Plattsburgh campus may continue to attend in-person during this remote 'pause' period, to the extent that this mode of delivery will be available. Transportation services for these students will continue uninterrupted during this remote 'pause'.

Students who are placed in self-contained special education programs within the Plattsburgh City School District will follow this remote 'pause,' and are scheduled to return to school on December 14, 2020.

School Psychologists and Related Service Providers may schedule student evaluations during this period of remote instruction, provided such evaluations do not interfere with students' scheduled remote instruction. If a mutually-convenient time for these assessments can be determined, they should be conducted in a designated space in the Duken Building

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CV-TEC students may continue to attend occupational education programs in-person to the extent that this mode of delivery will be available, but CV-TEC students will temporarily be converted to the remote-option mode of instructional delivery for their PHS studies during the interim period between this remote 'pause' and the Christmas recess. That is, students may continue to attend CV-TEC in-person, but will follow the remote-option schedule for their PHS studies from December 14 through December 22, 2020. Transportation services will continue for these students during this remote 'pause', but students will not have access to the PHS school building.

As during the Springtime closure period, student meals will be made available for pick-up at each school building, on each scheduled school day.

The early-release day scheduled for December 8, 2020 is no longer applicable and will be cancelled. Students will continue to follow their normal building schedule and will receive a full day of remote instruction.

Further programmatic and operational considerations not outlined herein will be made on a case-specific basis, and details of the operational considerations outlined above are subject to administrative review and update.

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