

March 13, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

I know you have been following developments related to the COVID-19 outbreak, and our leadership team has been working diligently in the background to plan and prepare for any possibility. As of today, we do not have any confirmed positive cases in Madison County. However, this situation is changing. As you may have seen, Oneida County Executive, Anthony Picente, has declared a state of emergency and has closed all Oneida County schools which includes Madison-Oneida BOCES. This means that our Career and Technical students and our special education students who receive services in Oneida County will not be able to continue programming as usual. It is important to provide all of our students with equitable educational opportunities. With that in mind, and as a precautionary measure, we have decided to alter our calendar and **close our schools for students from Monday, March 16 through Monday, April 13**. This includes all school-related activities. Our current plan is for school to be open for students effective, Tuesday, April 14th.

Schools will be closed for students and instructional staff beginning Tuesday, March 17. Non-instructional and 12-month staff should continue to report on a normal schedule.

We know that our schools play an important role in providing stability and safety for our students, families and staff, and we understand that an extended closing can pose a hardship for families. However, our leadership team believes this decision is in the best interest of our entire community's health, safety and well-being.

In order to prepare for this closure, **we have rescheduled our Superintendent's Conference Day to a half-day Superintendent's Conference Day on Monday, March 16**. The middle/high school students will be dismissed at 10:47 AM and the elementary students will be dismissed at 12:00 PM, with lunch being served at both buildings. There will not be any BOCES programs on Monday. This half-day will provide our instructional staff with time to prepare materials and plans for students to utilize while they are home. We will be communicating how we will be delivering educational materials to our students.

While students are home, we would ask that they not congregate unnecessarily and that they do not come to school. Our staff is working diligently to finalize plans for educational materials that focus on review of previously learned materials for our students.

While we are closed, keep safe and have students work on educational materials that will be provided to you. We want to keep students engaged in their learning while we address this global pandemic. Students will receive instructional guidance that focuses on review materials rather than new instructional material. We will be in contact with you, please look for emails, phone calls, or mail directing you to important information pertaining to your child's academic progress over the next few weeks.

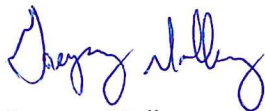
BOARD OF EDUCATION:

• Nichole Doroshenko, *President* • Jacalyn Groves, *Vice-President* • Murry Ames • Steven Broedel • Brian Koehl • Jodi Shantal, *District Clerk* •

In addition, we are working with our food service department to support students who are food dependent on the district. NYSED has provided guidance that schools may continue to provide breakfasts and lunches to children during school closures related to COVID-19. Breakfast and lunch will only be available on previously scheduled school days. Please complete the survey online or complete the one that was sent home today. If you have trouble accessing the link, please call: 315-684-9158 and speak with Jessica.

Over the next few weeks, we will continue to monitor this developing situation and continue to consult with regional colleagues and state health and education officials. We will update you with developments as they become available. Please be assured that we are doing everything in our power to continue to provide academic opportunities and minimize disruption to our students, families and staff during this unprecedented situation. As always, thank you for your patience, understanding and flexibility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory Molloy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Gregory Molloy