



West Irondequoit Central School District

321 LIST AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14617
Telephone: (585) 342-5500
FAX: (585) 266-1556
www.westirondequoit.org

April 12, 2021

Dear Families:

Late Friday, the NYS Department of Health updated its guidance for in-person instruction. Here is a [LINK](#) to the document. The DOH aligned its modifications mostly to the CDC guidance in March, and the clarity is good news. We can make final decisions and solidify plans through the rest of this school year. The most challenging part for many has been living the past few months with the unknown.

Elementary schools (for us grades K-6) may reopen for full, in-person instruction with 3 feet of distance regardless of the CDC risk of transmission zone designation (low, moderate, substantial or high). During lunch, physical education and music, 6 feet of distance must be maintained. Our elementary families have provided significant input in recent weeks via surveys and a webinar. We will send **K-6 families** one final opportunity to comment on our plan to **move to five days of full in-person instruction**. Expect a follow-up communication tomorrow, Tuesday, April 13, to gather input through your Infinite Campus parent portal.

For the **secondary levels** (grades 7-12), schools may reopen in a high-risk zone (red) if students can remain in a cohort throughout the school day. Due to the complexity of 7-12 student schedules, this is impossible for us. Instead, secondary schools may reopen with 3 feet of distance if located within a substantial (orange) risk zone or lower. The local transmission rate must be less than 100 total new cases per 100,00 in the last seven days to qualify for this.

According to the Monroe County COVID-19 Dashboard, we had 222 new cases as of 4/12. We will continue to monitor this but, as you can see, the transmission rate must drop. In the meantime, we will move forward with the plan to increase teacher-student contact on remote days by adding more synchronous time. Expect specific details soon.

Patience has certainly been a virtue throughout this pandemic, and we cannot celebrate our staff's efforts and our families enough. Everyone has worked extremely hard with our staff, exceeding expectations. We appreciate your strong will and care for our students. If you feel the same way and have not had an opportunity, please consider dropping a note to your child(ren)'s teacher(s) to express your gratitude. Those little notes mean a lot during these unprecedented times!

COVID-19 UPDATE

Since our last communication on Friday, April 9th, the Monroe County Department of Public Health has reported five new cases in our District: two students at Irondequoit HS, one student at Dake Jr. HS, one student at Rogers Middle School and one staff member at Iroquois MS.

Per federal privacy laws, we can't disclose any more details or personally identifiable information. If you have questions, call the [MCDPH](#) Hotline at 753-5555. For COVID-related updates, visit our [COVID-19 Information page](#).

For other recent updates like this, go to the Superintendent Update page at [THIS LINK](#).

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Johnson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Aaron R. Johnson, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools