



October 25, 2020

High School Switching to Full Remote through Wednesday, November 4th.

Dear WTHS Families and Staff,

This past week the high school has experienced a significant rise in the number of positive Covid cases amongst the student population. This has led to many more students needing to be quarantined once it had been determined that they were considered a close contact. A close contact is considered any individual who had been within 6 feet for more than 10 consecutive minutes of a Covid Positive person.

On Friday afternoon, October 23rd The New Jersey Department of Health adopted a new definition put out by the CDC redefining a close contact as any individual who spends 15 **cumulative** minutes or more within 6 feet of a Covid Positive person in a 24 hour period. This is a significant change and will make contact tracing even more challenging.

Over this weekend, the high school has been made aware of one additional positive case as well as 5 presumed positive cases whose test results are pending.

It is clear that we are in the midst of a surge that will require a significant amount of contact tracing. Therefore, after consulting with our health professionals and administration, and for the health and safety of our students and staff, the high school will be switching to full remote through Wednesday, November 4th. All after school activities are suspended until further notice.

Now more than ever it is critical that we all are practicing social distancing, wearing our mask in the presence of others, and frequently washing our hands. It is only through these measures that we can limit the spread and curb this current surge.

Mr. Strout will be communicating more specific directions to the high school staff later today. In the meantime, we will continue to monitor the situation throughout the week.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. Bollendorf, Superintendent of Schools

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