



SALMON RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Stanley Harper
Superintendent

Angela Robert
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

November 9, 2020

Dear Salmon River Central School District Parents and Guardians, Staff and Community Members,

Based on the strong recommendation from the Franklin County Department of Health, the Franklin Essex Hamilton BOCES and several of its component school districts, including Salmon River, have made the difficult decision to move to remote instruction **voluntarily** from November 12th until at least January 4th. We will hold in-person learning Tuesday November 10th to prepare students to move to a full remote model that will begin on Thursday November 12th after the Veterans Day holiday. Free meals for all students will continue to be available for pickup at the St. Regis Mohawk School and door 13 at the Campus School from 11:00-1:00 daily. The districts in collaboration with Public Health, will reevaluate the infection trends prior to the return to in-person instruction on January 4th.

The COVID-19 infection numbers have risen exponentially in the last week, and we've reached a point of community spread, meaning officials aren't able to identify where every case comes from. In a Monday morning video call, health department leaders as well as Franklin County leaders asked the school Superintendents for help containing the virus. The decision is purely a preemptive measure to prevent any further widespread outbreak of COVID -19 in our communities.

Many of the COVID-19 spikes across the nation have happened after holiday gatherings, celebrations and long weekends that are traditionally times for travel. Franklin County Public Health officials say much of the current uptick in infection rates is related to travel and gatherings related to Columbus Day and Halloween.

We are asking you to follow the basic guidelines to prevent COVID-19:

- Stay home whenever possible
- Stay 6 feet away from people from outside the household
- Wear a mask in public
- Wash hands regularly with soap and water
- Don't host or attend large gatherings

Please join us in doing everything that we can do to stop the COVID-19 spread. The pandemic has been a long, hard road already, but our aim is that everyone will help us get our kids back to school where they belong.

We will continue to keep an eye on all the data coming from the Franklin County Department of Health, and we may change the current plan if necessary.

We recognize that this will again be hard for many families, students and teachers. Thank you for partnering with us to make this work. We appreciate all that each and everyone one of you has done so far to get us through the pandemic, and we appreciate everything you will do as we move forward. Thank you!

With appreciation,

Dr. Stanley Harper