



Sachem Central School District

Christopher J. Pellettieri, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

September 30, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff;

We would like to inform you that we have recently received information about a confirmed case of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) with more than one student at Sachem High School North. Cleaning and disinfecting of the exposed locations are being completed. As the COVID-19 situation in our country and our community is rapidly evolving, we urge you to take all necessary precautions to limit coronavirus spread in our community. To this end, we have out of an abundance of caution decided to transition to distance learning at Sachem High School North for Thursday and Friday, October 1st and 2nd.

Students should visit their google classrooms for the assigned work for the next two days. Students will not have to follow a bell schedule at this time. If anything should change, we will let you know.

We are also waiting to hear from the DOH for further instructions on this situation and will be updating the Sachem Community as we receive more information., If you are concerned about your child and possible exposure, please contact your medical provider.

How You Can Help

Be proactive about reducing the number of interactions that students and staff have with one another by practicing physical distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart) to limit the spread of the coronavirus. In addition to physical distancing, another important tool to prevent the spread of coronavirus is to practice good hygiene. Important public health prevention messages include:

- **Stay home when you are sick.** Anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should remain at home in isolation for a minimum of 10 days plus at least 24 hours after the resolution of fever (without fever-reducing medication) and improvement in other symptoms.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.** Sing the Happy Birthday song to help know when it has

51 School Street
Lake Ronkonkoma,
NY 11779
631.471.1336



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been 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol.

- **Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and then dispose of the tissue and clean your hands immediately.** If you do not have a tissue, use your elbow, not your hands, to cover your coughs and sneezes.
- **Limit close contact with people who are sick, and avoid sharing food, drinks, or utensils.**
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or bactericidal wipes.**
- **Anyone on school grounds must wear an approved mask.**
- ***If you have been personally notified by the school or the Department of Health in order to return to school after a suspected case of or known exposure to COVID-19 a negative Covid test is required per NYSDOH. If your physician does not feel you had COVID-19, a note supporting that fact must be supplied by the physician.***

Health screening of students and staff for COVID-19 which includes completing a questionnaire about symptoms consistent with COVID-19 illness and a temperature check prior to entering the facility is mandatory in order to help keep our educational setting safe.

Public Health Actions

All confirmed cases should be isolated and close contacts quarantined for 14 days from last exposure in order to prevent illness in new persons. “Close contact” means being a household member, intimate contact, or caregiver of a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case; within 6 feet of the confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case for more than 15 minutes, even if wearing a non-medical face covering; or having unprotected contact with the infected person’s body fluids and/or secretions, for example, being coughed or sneezed on.

Please note that all information, including the name(s) of ill persons, shared regarding any Public Health investigation is confidential in order to protect patient privacy.

For additional questions about Coronavirus in Suffolk County, please visit the Suffolk County Department of Public Health coronavirus webpage at

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<http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at alarson@sachem.edu.

Sincerely,

Mr. A. Larson
Principal at
Sachem North High School

51 School Street
Lake Ronkonkoma,
NY 11779
631.471.1336



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