



Akron Central School District

In Pursuit of Excellence

*Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools*

September 23, 2021

Dear ACS Students, Parent and Staff:

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the decision to temporarily transition our high school to a fully remote model of instruction. This decision comes as a result of the sudden and unexpected increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases and the corresponding number of students being placed in quarantine over the past week and a half.

Currently there are 17 positive cases in the high school and at least 13 high school classes that will be subject to quarantine orders. The total number of students that will be required to quarantine is expected to exceed 175. As indicated in the attached letter from Dr. Gail Burstein, the Erie County Department of Health has indicated that there is evidence of COVID-19 transmission in the high school and has recommended this course of action. During this time, the District will engage in cleaning and disinfection of all areas of the high school.

In an effort to minimize interruption to instruction and student learning, the Elementary and Middle School students will attend classes as usual. We will continue to monitor the infection rate in those buildings and work with the ECDOH to determine if further school closures are necessary. For information on contact tracing, COVID-19 data at all three buildings, and plans to support students, [please click this link](#).

Important Dates for High School Students and Families Only:

- Thursday, September 23 - Regular in-person attendance day for all students
- Friday, September 24 - Superintendent Conference Day - No High School student attendance
- Monday, September 27 - Remote Learning for High School Only
- Monday, October 4 - Return to regular in-person student attendance

Further information regarding students' schedules, rescheduled high school events, instructional resources and social-emotional supports will be forthcoming from Mr. Dimitroff and Mrs. Fial in a separate communication.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we navigate these unprecedented times together.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

*47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, NY 14001
Phone: 716-542-5010 Fax: 716-542-5018*



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GALE R. BURSTEIN, MD, MPH
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

September 22, 2021

Mr. Patrick D. McCabe
Akron Central High School
47 Bloomingdale Ave
Akron, NY 14001
Email: pmccabe@akronk12.org

Dear Mr. McCabe:

After discussions between you and the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) regarding multiple cases of COVID-19 in Akron High School, the ECDOH is recommending a 10-day closure period with pivot to remote learning from September 23, 2021 to October 3, 2021.

The recommendation is based on the following factors:

1. The Akron Central School District has had 29 reported cases of COVID-19 since school has resumed.
2. Akron High School has had 17 reported cases of COVID-19 within the last 10 days.
3. The cases have affected multiple classrooms across the high school.
4. There is evidence of COVID-19 transmission in a school setting.
5. There is evidence of COVID-19 transmission in a school-related extracurricular setting.
6. There are several pending COVID-19 test results of symptomatic people in addition to the above figures.

The above factors can lead to further COVID-19 cases in the school. In order to reduce the risk of additional cases and transmission, the ECDOH recommends a 10-day closure and disinfection of the school. Please contact the ECDOH at 858-7697 with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gale Burstein", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gale Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Erie County Commissioner of Health