



Allamuchy Township School
20 Johnsonburg Road, Allamuchy, NJ 07820
908-852-1894

20 November 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Since our last communication on November 13, we have continued to be made aware of the growing number of positive Covid-19 cases in our area. The most recent update to that information was provided to the school districts last evening by the Department of Health. This new data indicates that the number of positive cases for our area has moved our region to “High Risk” status (Orange) on the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix.

To reiterate from last week’s communication, this is problematic not only because it means a rise in cases but also the protocols for handling positive, probable and possible COVID-19 cases in schools become much more stringent, as do the standards for contact tracing and quarantine. For example, in “High Risk” status, students or staff members who have symptoms are considered probable cases resulting in their close contacts having to quarantine. As you can imagine, “High Risk” status would create problems in trying to maintain a healthy environment for in-person instruction. Further compounding all of this is the start of the holiday season beginning with Thanksgiving next week, during which the likelihood of family gatherings with those outside of the home increases as does traveling out of the state.

We have reviewed the Covid Activity Level Report that was released yesterday. The Warren County Superintendents and the Warren County Department of Health have determined that we must adjust our lesson delivery to maintain the ability to follow CDC guidelines and safety protocols. The Allamuchy Township School District will be pivoting to remote learning for the two weeks following Thanksgiving while continuing in-person learning for a select group of children. We will continue our hybrid model and the Blue cohort will report to school as usual on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 23 and 24. **With more stringent protocols in place due to our Orange status, please know that families are required to complete the daily health form by 8:00 AM. Failure to do so will deny your child(ren) entry to the building.**

Wednesday, November 25 will remain a virtual day and we will continue with fully-virtual learning from November 30 to December 11. During those two weeks, the district will evaluate the data and plan for a return to in-person instruction accordingly. Our aim is to return to the in-person hybrid model on December 14 as long as the data indicates that this is an appropriate course of action. This decision will be made and communicated by December 11.

Please continue to be vigilant, safe and healthy. Please feel free to contact us anytime with your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

The ATSD Admins