



West Irondequoit Central School District

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Dear West Irondequoit Families and Staff,

Over the weekend, the Monroe County Department of Public Health confirmed six new positive COVID-19 cases in our district: Four Irondequoit High School students, one Iroquois Middle School student and a Dake Junior High School staff member. All six cases are a result of community spread, and there were no close contacts found related to students or staff. All six individuals proactively self-quarantined early last week to limit contact, including those in the full-remote instructional model.

The MCDPH continues to do an excellent job with contact tracing. If the MCDPH does not contact you or your child, there is no risk of exposure. As you know per federal privacy laws, we cannot disclose more details or personally identifiable information about COVID-19 cases. If you have information, questions, or concerns, please call the MCDPH's hotline at (585) 753-5555 or your healthcare provider.

[As noted](#) by MCDPH Commissioner, Dr. Michael Mendoza, schools are the safest place in our community with virtually no transmission of COVID happening in our buildings. We need to keep our children in school and safe but unfortunately, the rising infection rates may direct otherwise. Today the [seven-day rolling average for Monroe County](#) is 3.4%. I mentioned the [NYS Micro-Cluster Strategy](#) in my most recent letter on Friday, and as you can see, the Governor may soon identify "yellow precautionary zones" in our county. As stated in the past, we must take action to control this outbreak. The only way to do that is for everyone to take precautions. For schools to remain open, we must apply the following precautions with fidelity to gatherings outside of school. They are:

- **Limit large gatherings**
- **Face coverings covering nose and mouth when gathering**
- **Maintain physical distance when possible**
- **Regularly practice appropriate hand hygiene**

We do expect more cases this week resulting from Halloween gatherings. I know people are sick and tired of this pandemic, but we must stay vigilant. Please watch your family's daily health closely and if you see any changes, be proactive. Self-quarantine and seek out a healthcare provider. **Thanks to your self-awareness and our practices in school to date we've kept the spread at bay. Now, it could potentially be taken out of our hands. I urge us all to tighten up for the next month for the benefit of our children.**

In partnership,

Aaron R. Johnson, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools