



MASSAPEQUA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Office of the Superintendent

December 8, 2020

Dear Massapequa Parents/Guardians,

I hope you and your family are doing well as we move into the holiday season and the new year. This is an exciting time for all despite the restrictions in place that may change customary holiday celebrations. At this time, I would like to update the school community on some important matters.

As you know the District works closely with the Department of Health to implement all protocols to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Reflecting on the weeks ahead, the District's goal is to proactively minimize the risk of spreading the virus within and outside of our schools. Therefore, **the District will move to a full remote learning model on Monday, December 21, Tuesday, December 22, and Wednesday, December 23.** Please note that all students will work from home on these days. We are hopeful that this additional measure will minimize any exposure that may jeopardize the health of our students, staff, and their families. Additionally, this has the potential to reduce the volume of students and staff who may be subject to quarantine in the week prior to the holidays.

Next, based on the new zone requirements that the Governor implemented, several schools in the district that are in the 11762 zip code were placed in the "Yellow Zone." Consequently, the District is mandated to test 20% of its total population, i.e. students, teachers, and staff combined, in the affected schools - namely, East Lake, McKenna, and Birch Lane. I am pleased to report that this morning's testing at East Lake went very well. I thank parents, students, and building staff for contributing to such a smooth operation.

Finally, you may be aware that the CDC has revised its guidelines to reduce the number of total days someone who has been exposed will need to quarantine; however, the NYS DOH has yet to adopt these new guidelines. Therefore, the 14 day quarantine period remains in effect. If and when NYS DOH adopts the CDC guidelines, I will advise the community of this important change in protocol.

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season and a healthy New Year ahead.

Sincerely,

Lucille F. Iconis

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Superintendent of Schools