



December 16, 2020

Good Afternoon CVSU Families:

First of all I want to thank you for doing all the things you have done to help us keep the schools open and safe for students and staff. We have not experienced any new COVID cases in the schools that can be traced to activities over the Thanksgiving holiday. The cases we had that caused some schools to move to remote learning that first week back were traced to activities to the weekend BEFORE Thanksgiving. Again, thank you.

It feels like we have one more challenge to get through before we return to our new routines and wait for the vaccine to become available. It's of course the holiday break coming up and the Governor's restrictions on multi-household gatherings and out-of-state travel. If you choose to gather together with people outside of your own home over the holiday or to travel out-of-state, your students will be required to quarantine (fourteen days OR seven days and a negative COVID test). Families MUST do what they believe is right for their loved ones, but I simply ask if your plans include multi-household gatherings and/or out-of-state travel, PLEASE let your home school know so that we can plan accordingly. Teachers will keep their Google classrooms updated for all students including those in quarantine. Their primary focus will remain on in-person instruction but they will do their best to assist students at home.

There is the saying "It takes a village to raise a child". Well COVID has made it clear that it takes a village to keep us all safe from the ravages of this virus. As a career educator I stand behind the belief that kids need kids and in-person instruction is our highest priority. I am confident if you are transparent with the schools regarding your student's need to quarantine, we can get through this next holiday challenge in great shape. If you have specific questions, please contact your school nurse.

There is one more related piece of information I want to share. All three levels (elementary, middle and high) of the Virtual Academy are closed to new members. However, the middle and high school levels reach the end of their first semester on January 22nd. Students wishing to return to in person classes or join the Virtual Academy should be in touch with their home schools now or right after the first of the year. Elementary students' opportunities to enter the Virtual Academy will come a little later. Parents interested in making a switch should contact their home school between February 8th and February 19th. Students may return to in person instruction at any time after consulting with your home school.

Thanks again for everything you are doing to help the schools stay open and safe. Please know that I truly support you doing what you believe is best for your family. I am simply asking that you not send you student back to school if that action potentially puts other students or staff at risk.

Sincerely,

Susette Bollard, Superintendent