

December 20, 2020

Dear Rutherford School Community,

Thank you to everyone for helping to make the past four months a success. Whether attending school in person or being fully remote, we have worked together to provide educational opportunities for our students. I am truly appreciative of the work done by the faculty, staff, supervisors, and administrators. I am also thankful for the Board of Education, the parents, the students and the entire Rutherford community. The ability to analyze, reflect, and pivot is another example of what makes our District a special place. We are truly One Rutherford.

In the last few days we have had to make the move to fully remote instruction through December 23 in the following buildings:

- Washington School, the entire first grade and one pre-school class due to staffing issues caused by an exposure to a positive case;
- Kindergarten Center due to two positive cases within 14 days;
- Rutherford High School due to staffing issues caused by exposure to a positive case;
- Pierrepont School due to two positive cases within 14 days.

Based on the analysis and reflection regarding the above, it is time for a brief pivot. **The District will go totally remote for the remaining two and a half days before Winter/Holiday Recess begins.** This decision is based on the chain-reaction quarantines that a positive case may cause. With the holidays approaching we feel this is the best course of action. Remote instruction will be held according to each school's virtual day schedule on December 21, 22, and 23.

During the Winter/Holiday Recess please continue safe health practices and monitor your children and yourself for signs of illness. The District will continue to monitor data and be in touch with the health officials. Please email your school nurse and building administrator with any COVID positive cases or exposures over the break. **In person instruction will resume on January 4**, but we will continue to analyze, reflect, and pivot if needed.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. I wish you good health and happy holidays.

Regards,

Jack Hurley  
Superintendent of Schools