Dear Parents/Guardians,

We receive information throughout the day updating us on the recent guidance regarding the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). Most recently, we have been receiving information from the Department of Health, Center for Diseases and Control, the Governor’s Office and the New York State Department of Education regarding school closures.

If there is a COVID-19 case related to a school, the school will be contacted by the New York State Department of Health in consultation with the local health department. If a student or staff member attended school prior to being a confirmed as a COVID-19 case, the school must close for a minimum of 24 hours. The New York State Department of Health will then begin an investigation to determine if further closing is required. While there are no confirmed cases in Oneida County, we want to be sure we are prepared so we can act effectively should the situation change.

In addition to the safety precautions we have in place to keep our students and staff healthy, we need to be prepared to potentially deliver instruction to our students if we are given the direction to close our schools. Our building principals are working with our teachers to design content that will not only enhance their skills, but also enrichment activities, pre-teaching activities of content not yet to be covered or preparation for regents or final exams.

In order to provide teachers time to prepare this work, school will be closed Monday, March 16, 2020. Students will not be in school that day. I apologize for the short notice but these conditions are constantly changing and unprecedented. Please keep in mind this work is being done proactively and there is not an indication that we are facing an imminent threat.

We will continue to monitor the guidance from the Department of Health, Center for Diseases and Control, the Governor’s Office and the New York state Department of Education regarding the Coronavirus -19 and also school closures. This is a fluid situation and continues to change by the hour. Thank you, your understanding and continued support, as we continue to take proactive steps in protecting our students and staff. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jason P. Evangelist