

HOLLAND PATENT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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January 14, 2021

Dear Golden Knights,

In the beginning of December, the District made the decision to shift to remote instruction due to the growing number of students and staff in quarantine. This was causing continual disruptions to the learning process for our students. Initially, a return date to our hybrid model of learning was scheduled for January 19th. After careful consideration and much discussion with the Holland Patent Learning Community, I have made the difficult decision to extend the remote learning period for an additional week. We will return to our hybrid model of instruction on Monday, January 25, 2021.

The additional week of remote instruction will allow time for our staff to receive the vaccination, which will provide more protection from getting sick with COVID-19. This will also allow additional time for the District to survey our families to determine the number of in-person and remote students going forward.

Upon our return to school on January 25th, we will follow the safety protocols and procedures put in place to keep our schools safe. This will include continuing with our social distancing and requiring face coverings to be worn by students and staff at all times.

While we all want our students in school, we can only accomplish this with the community's help and ensure we do it in the safest manner possible. Please continue to follow the NYS Department of Health safety guidelines for mass gathering limitations, social distancing, hand washing and facial coverings. This will help our schools remain open, continue the downward trend of positivity rates in our region and prevent the virus from entering our buildings.

I understand the decisions made will affect each family differently. We appreciate your understanding and collaboration during this very difficult time.

Stay safe,

Jason P. Evangelist
Superintendent of Schools