



November 20, 2020

Dear Germantown Parents/Guardians:

Germantown Central School District was informed today that a couple of staff members have been designated as a Person under Investigation (PUI) and have symptoms of COVID-19. We are currently awaiting the results of testing which may not be provided until Monday, November 23rd.

Per our health and safety protocols, Germantown Central School District has been in communication with the Columbia County Department of Health to determine any necessary follow-up. The county is continuing to investigate at this time.

As a safety measure for our students and our learning community, we have made the decision to transition to full remote learning for all students in grades Pre-K-12 for Monday and Tuesday of next week. We are expecting students and staff to report back to in-person instruction on Monday, November 30th. We will keep you informed of any changes to this decision.

Any families in need of breakfast or lunch on Monday or Tuesday, please call the school at (518) 537-6281 extension 2304, leave a message and we will organize food for your children.

We understand this is a significant change for our students, staff members and families. This decision was not made lightly. Over the past week, we have seen a significant increase in positive cases both in our school district and throughout our region and feel this is a necessary action to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. Our top priority is the health and safety of our entire school community.

We encourage you to offer your full cooperation if you are contacted by a representative of the local health department or the district. If you are not contacted, there is no further action needed. While I understand that you may want additional details, privacy laws restrict us from disclosing or confirming any personally identifiable information.

We ask that all families continue to follow all safety guidelines outside of school hours including proper use of face coverings, social distancing, proper hand hygiene and avoiding gatherings and travel to states with high positivity rates.

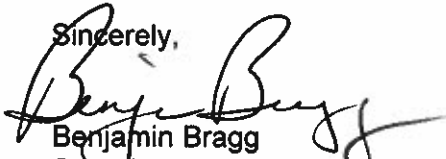
Please monitor your child(ren) for any symptoms of COVID and report any absences and positive COVID-19 test results to your child's school. Symptoms vary, and some people may not experience any symptoms. Please contact your healthcare provider, or the county health department if you do not have one, to be assessed if you or your child have one or more of these new or worsening symptoms:

- a temperature greater or equal to 100.0° F
- feel feverish or have chills
- cough
- loss of taste or smell
- fatigue
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- muscle pain or body aches
- headaches or nasal congestion/running nose

Thank you all for your ongoing efforts to keep Germantown safe and healthy. Please contact me directly with any questions or concerns.

Wishing all of you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjamin Bragg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Benjamin Bragg
Superintendent of Schools
Germantown Central School District