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YOUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION
915 LOWBER ROAD
HERMINIE, PA 15637-1219
PHONE (724) 446-7272 FAX (724) 446-5017

Administration

Dr. Janet M. Sardon
SUPERINTENDENT

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BUSINESS MANAGER

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October 26, 2020

Dear Yough School District Parent/Guardian:

As per the letter sent last week, Westmoreland County is remaining in "substantial" for the second consecutive week, with regard to the spread of COVID-19. With that being said, the Yough School District will follow the recommendation of the Department of Health and Pennsylvania Department of Education and transition to Full Virtual Instruction on **Wednesday, October 28, 2020**. Tuesday, October 27, 2020 will be an off day for students, and an Act 80 day for staff in preparation for **Full Virtual Instruction on Wednesday**. Any student currently participating in face to face instruction will automatically be placed on Virtual Live Instruction. Current Virtual Live and Virtual Recorded students will remain the same. If a parent wants to move from Virtual Live, they must contact their building administrator.


Over the last two weeks, we have seen an increase in the number of students and staff that have been tested, as well as an increase in the number of students required to be quarantined. Not only is Westmoreland County "substantial", but some of our surrounding communities fall within this designation as well. In the last week, the percentage in Westmoreland County students ages 12-17 has increased by 11% from the previous week, which is the highest it has been since the start of the pandemic.

As a school district, the health, safety, and welfare of our students, staff, and communities is a priority. We are hopeful that the Full Virtual Instruction will only last for a short period of time. The goal will be to transition back to our current instructional model after the county receives two "moderate" designations. The district will communicate information regarding the closure on a weekly basis through our All Call system, as well as the district website. Designations from the state are announced on Mondays, therefore, parents should expect to hear updates on Monday afternoon/evening.

If you are in need of breakfast/lunch during the school closure, we will be having pickup on Mondays and Thursdays at Yough High School, Yough Intermediate Middle School, and West Newton Elementary from 4:00pm - 5:00 pm. At this time, all students qualify for free breakfast/lunch through June 30, 2021. **In order to receive the free breakfast/lunch during this time, please visit the Yough School District website at www.youghsd.net and complete the Google Form.** This form must be completed by all families, even if you have completed it in the past.

We want to thank you for your patience and understanding during these challenging times. Your support for education, combined with your support for the health and safety of all is critical.

Sincerely,


Dr. Janet M. Sardon
Superintendent
Yough School District