



401 W. Chicago St. · Buchanan, MI 49107
(269) 695-8401 · Fax (269) 695-8450 · www.buchananschools.com

March 8, 2021

Dear Families and Staff,

We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy. I want to express how grateful I am for your patience and partnership, and how honored I am to serve you and your children. Due to the number of teachers at the high school who are out for various reasons and a shortage of substitute teachers, we will move to remote learning for the remainder of the week.

Starting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, all high school students (8-12) who have been attending school face-to-face will transition to remote learning from home through Friday, March 12. High School students should plan on returning to in-person learning on Monday, March 15, 2021.

Additional detailed information has been communicated to high school students by email. Please have your students check their email for this important information from BHS Principal, Mrs. DeMaio.

Buchanan Community Schools has also learned today that *four students that attend Buchanan High School have tested positive for COVID-19*. The students are in self-quarantine. Due to federal health privacy laws, information regarding the students' identity cannot be released. Please respect the students' privacy during this difficult time.

In working through the contact tracing process, the Health Department has confirmed that when we are tracing a person's contact that we look at anyone who has been within 6 feet of a confirmed, positive case for 15 minutes, even if that person is wearing a mask. Per the Berrien County Health Department, for the safety of all people, any student or staff member who falls into the above category is required to be quarantined for 10 days. All families directly impacted by this news have been contacted by either Buchanan Community Schools staff or the county health department.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends contacting your doctor if you believe you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and other symptoms, such as coughing or difficulty breathing. More information can be found at Berrien County Health Department. In addition, please take social distancing seriously: avoid crowds, stay at home, and maintain at least a six-foot distance from other people.

If a student or staff member is sick and has taken a COVID-19 test, they are not to return to school until the results are in. If the results are positive, they will need to quarantine. If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, the student or staff member and all household members of the positive case are to immediately be excluded from school and are to quarantine.

We will continue to provide updates as needed. You can access all of the district's related

communication by visiting our website at <https://www.buchananschools.com>. If you have questions, please contact your building administrator.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we will get through these challenging times. As you know, the well-being of our students, staff, and families, is our number one priority.

Please join me in sending healing thoughts to our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia Robinson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patricia Robinson
Superintendent