



# Skaneateles Central School District

*Nationally Recognized for Excellence*  
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Dear Skaneateles family,

Over the weekend we learned of two COVID-19 related concerns. The first involved infected students who participated in the cross country meet on Saturday 10/7/2020. Right now we only know of infected students from outside our school community and, as of this moment, we have not been directly impacted. The second concern exists within our school community. While we know of additional positive cases, none of these individuals were present in school for several days which limited contact and exposure. At present we are unaware of any additional students or staff testing positive or being placed into quarantine. Thank you for your continued understanding as confidentiality and privacy concerns limit what we can share. While neither of these new reports have impacted operations, it is clear that things have been escalating.

The number of cases throughout New York and especially within our region has been climbing at an alarming rate. Last week Governor Cuomo warned of additional restrictions as numbers in Central and Western NY continue to rise. This week, our region could be designated a yellow zone. What does it mean to be in a yellow zone?

[Yellow Zone MicroCluster Metrics 10.21.20 FINAL.pdf](#)

**Schools that are in a designated Yellow Zone are required to test 20% of the on-site learning school community (inclusive of both students and faculty/staff) for COVID-19 weekly for as long as the school remains in a designated Yellow Zone.**

1. Each week the 20% of the school population tested must be composed of unique individuals who have not previously been tested for the surveillance screening, as part of the weekly 20% testing.
2. If the school continues to be inside a Yellow Zone for more than six weeks, upon the sixth week of weekly testing the individuals who composed the 20% the first week of testing should be tested again.

This is concerning for a number of reasons. While the health and safety of everyone in our school community will always be our primary concern, this could operationally cripple us and limit our ability to provide the instructional model we worked so hard to build. Compliance will require testing up to 300 students, faculty, and staff each week.

As always I will continue to share information as it comes in and I thank each of you for your vigilance in keeping your families and our school community safe.

Stronger together,

Eric Knuth  
Superintendent of Schools

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