

Catherine Huber, Ed.D.

District Superintendent
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November 1, 2020

Dear BOCES Community,

Over the weekend, we were notified that one of our BOCES employees and one of our BOCES students at the OAOC campus tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The two cases are unrelated.

New York State Department of Health guidance advises that the local health department investigates and contacts anyone who may have been exposed. We are currently working with the Otsego County Department of Health staff to trace any close contacts to the employee or student.

On Monday, November 2nd, we will move to remote learning for all students and staff at our OAOC campus. This shift to remote learning allows time for contact tracing and additional cleaning. If you are a staff member that needs access to the building for any reason, please contact your immediate supervisor.

News like this can be received with mixed emotions. As always, the safety and health of our students and staff are our top priority. We continue to work to support our students, families, and employees during this difficult time and appreciate your cooperation.

If you have questions regarding the COVID-19 virus, please visit or call the health department in your county of residence. For example, if you live in:

Otsego County: https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/d-m/health_department/covid19.php

Delaware County: <http://delawarecountypublichealth.com/>

Schoharie County: <https://www4.schohariecounty-ny.gov/departments/public-health/>

Greene County: <https://www.greenegovernment.com/departments/public-health/>

If you or a family member is exhibiting symptoms of the COVID-19 virus (fever, cough, and shortness of breath), please do not go to the emergency room or your healthcare provider without first calling for further guidance.

Please remember that mask wearing, social distancing, and good hygiene are our best defenses against the virus.

We know this time may be stressful for employees, students, and families. If you feel the need to talk to someone, New York State has established a new Mental Health hotline at 1-844-863-9314. Employees have access to resources provided by BOCES from the Employee Assistance Program. The confidential hotline is 1-800-252-4555.

Thank you for your patience and partnership as we work through this challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Huber', is located below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Catherine Huber, Ed.D.
District Superintendent