



Dr. Stu Cameron
Superintendent

IMLAY CITY SCHOOLS
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Dear ICHS Parents/Guardians:

As you know, we are experiencing a sharp increase in the number of positive and probable cases of COVID-19 among our high school students. In just the last few weeks, six positive cases and 2 probable (treated as positive) cases have been reported at ICHS. Currently, more than a third of our face-to-face students have been quarantined as close contacts.

We have been working successfully in response to periodic positive cases at ICHS throughout the year in our efforts to stay open and provide face-to-face learning. I've been proud of the work we have conducted in order to accomplish this goal. However, what we are experiencing now is different than the cycles we've experienced earlier. Notable differences include:

- The volume of *simultaneous* (occurring at one time) positive/probable cases is greater than at any point during the school year
- The volume of students requiring quarantine as "close contacts" to positive/probable cases has now exceeded 1/3 of our total face-to-face population
- For the first time this year, we can accurately and definitively document the existence of student-to-student spread among the recent cases

In order to safeguard our students, help prevent potential spread of COVID-19 among our student population and in our community, and to position us to – after a short pause – resume the model of face-to-face instruction we feel is best for our students, I am moving Imlay City High School into online learning from Monday, March 22 through Thursday, March 25. As a reminder, all instructional programming has been cancelled on Friday, March 26.

During this period of online learning, all standard instructional programming will be offered to students. We plan to run the same online schedule that students and teachers observed during the "pause" all high schools observed earlier this school year. Two additional notable items for students: 1.) EdTech students will still be able to attend EdTech courses in-person. Mr. Eddy will communicate additional details regarding transportation and program logistics to EdTech students in a separate communication, and 2.) Per Health Department guidance, antigen testing will be initiated for students wishing to participate in athletic competition.

I hope you can appreciate the need for this course of action. As always, I appreciate your cooperation and understanding. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to the high school office directly.

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Imlay City High School has been selected as one of America's Best High Schools in the United States and awarded a Bronze medal by *U.S. News & World Report*, the nation's leading source of news analysis and service journalism. Imlay City High School is a three-time recipient of the award, having been named one of America's Best in 2007, 2013, and again in 2018.