



Erie 1 BOCES Instructional Services

Alternative Education | Career and Technical Education | Special Education

December 8, 2020

Dear Erie 1 BOCES Students and Families,

We are excited to inform you that Governor Cuomo and the NYS Department of Health have recently adjusted the guidelines for Schools in “Orange” or “Red” COVID Micro-Cluster Zones. Based upon the new guideline schools are permitted to open for in-person instruction if they meet the revised testing requirement.

- Orange Zone: Test 20% of in-person staff and students over a month.
- Red Zone: Test 30% of in-person staff and students over a month.

As a result of these updates Erie 1 BOCES plans to shift back to our in-person hybrid instructional model effective **Monday, December 14, 2020**. Full day students will return to their originally assigned A/B cohort groups and follow the same schedule. CTE students will return to District determined schedules.

Specific questions regarding individual student schedules can be addressed directly to your child’s building Principal (contact information can be found on our COVID information website).

In order to sustain in-person instruction, Erie 1 BOCES will begin a voluntary testing program for staff and students as required under the new guidelines. Rapid testing will be offered at our three CTE centers and the main BOCES Education Campus. We will be providing information regarding our Rapid Testing program and scheduling process later this week. Additionally, all information will be posted on our COVID information website.

We will continue to work closely with our partner school districts and public health officials to determine next steps and we will provide updates as the situation evolves. We are working to make every possible effort to sustain in-person, hybrid instruction going forward.

Our teachers, therapists, school leaders and staff continue to work diligently to provide students with an engaging and meaningful educational experience in these difficult times. Please reach out to your child’s teacher, counselor or school administrator if there is anything that we can do to assist you in supporting your child. For school contact information, information on technology resources and COVID-related updates and information, please visit www.e1b.org/covid.

Sincerely,

Erie 1 BOCES' Instructional Team

Michael Capuana, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services

Patrick Canfield, Director, Exceptional Education

Christa McHale, Director, Educational Partnerships and Workforce Development

Anedda Trautman, Director, Career and Technical Education