



## Erie 1 BOCES Instructional Services

Alternative Education | Career and Technical Education | Special Education

November 18, 2020

Dear Erie 1 BOCES Students and Families,

**We are sorry to inform you that Erie 1 BOCES will shift to a fully remote learning model for all students effective Monday, November 23, 2020.**

The shift to remote instruction is a result of the decision by Governor Cuomo to designate parts of Erie County as an Orange Zone. Schools identified as falling within an Orange or Red Zone are required to temporarily transition to fully remote instruction for at least four days. Before reopening for in-person instruction, all students and staff must have a negative COVID-19 test result before returning to in-person schooling. In order to sustain in-person instruction, schools in the Orange and Red Zones must also be able to test 25% of students and staff each week thereafter.

At this time, Erie 1 BOCES is reviewing options for offering on-site rapid testing for students and staff. As we gather feedback and plan for in-person COVID testing, **Erie 1 BOCES anticipates all schools and services will remain in our remote instructional model while in an Orange Zone.**

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 return to in-person, hybrid instruction.

We understand this poses significant challenges and hardships for many families. Our teachers, school leaders and staff are working diligently to prepare students for this transition. Please reach out to your child's teacher, counselor or school administrator if there is anything that we can do to assist you. For school contact information, information on technology resources and COVID-related updates and information, please visit [www.e1b.org/covid](http://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