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Randolph County School System

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Jack Fowler, Vice-Chairman
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Dr. Tangela Madge, Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In keeping with the correspondence sent to you last school term, I vowed to immediately close in-person learning on all campuses if the COVID-19 cases ever reached a point where the safety of our students and staff could be compromised. As you know, we have already had several reported cases this school year. Please know that all information we release to the public is based on information obtained through our district's nurse and the Randolph County Health Department. There may be a discrepancy between the positive numbers we report and the numbers others may share on social media. Again, the district can only report official numbers as confirmed by the health agencies.

As superintendent, I felt that it was necessary to close school in order to contact trace as well as disinfect buildings and buses. Last school term and during summer school, the district was fortunate to have no reported COVID-19 related cases participating in face-to-face instruction. For the past month, I received weekly photos of members of the community participating in social events and not wearing masks. This concerned several stakeholders because news of the resurgence of the virus was being reported daily.

Parents, I want to stress again the importance of helping us keep students and staff safe. The district has gone above and beyond to put every possible protective measure in place in all of our schools and buses. We applaud those who are working hard to practice the CDC recommended actions to slow the spread. When one person decides against taking the necessary precautions, it has a direct impact on everyone else. Again, we are asking our staff, parents, and the community to do their part when it comes to being safe and keeping our students safe. In order for us to beat this virus, we must social distance ourselves from others as much as possible, wear our masks, and wash/sanitize our hands regularly.

Because the number of positive cases are growing daily throughout the community, it is reasonable to assume that the cases will continue to grow inside the school district. Therefore, I have decided to close schools until August 23, 2021. This will give the district teams an opportunity to plan. Teachers will deliver instruction to students both virtually and in-person. This format will be utilized for the remainder of the first nine-weeks.

Please check the schools' or district's website on Monday, August 16th to participate in a survey asking you to decide which model of instruction you prefer for your child(ren). As always, our primary goal is to ensure the safety of our students. Thank you for your support and please know that we will continue to share updated information with you through School Messenger, Facebook and our schools' and district's websites. PLEASE STAY SAFE!!

Sincerely,

Tangela Madge

Tangela Madge, Ed.D.
RCSS Superintendent