

# TEN BROECK ACADEMY & FRANKLINVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

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November 19, 2020

Dear Franklinville Families,

With the holidays and winter season nearly here, I wanted to reach out as we continue to navigate the pandemic.

Since the shutdown in March, we have complied with new executive orders and changing guidance. As the State reopened, we planned to safely reopen. Through it all, as individuals and a group we faced challenges. We came together, successfully opened and we have now completed one quarter of the school year. As we move into the winter, it will be important for us to remain mindful of safety protocols as we continue to provide for students.

While it is my hope that everyone will enjoy the holidays and the winter season, the reality is that many of us will face difficult decisions. As you plan to celebrate the holidays, please keep in mind guidance from health professionals (e.g., avoid large gatherings, wear masks, etc.). Please also keep in mind New York's travel rules. Before finalizing plans, consider the safety protocols mandated by New York State for any out of state or international travel.

For the most recent information on travel rules, visit (<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>) as it relates to interstate travel and (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html>) for international travel. Please read the rules carefully and keep in mind, they are subject to change. (Note, new rules apply to travelers who were in a state other than states contiguous with New York for less than 24 hours and for 24 hours or more).

As it stands, with the exception of states contiguous with New York, the 14 day mandatory quarantine period applies for travelers who were in another state for 24 hours or more. Although negative COVID-19 testing may result in a shortened quarantine period, this depends upon strict criteria being met as well as 2 negative tests. Whether a traveler may be released from quarantine early will not be known until several if not more days after the traveler's return. Consequently, depending upon the circumstances, we may not be in a position to allow students to return to an in-person instruction setting if mandatory travel rules are not followed. Therefore, it is important that you are aware of the consequences and discuss the impact of any such travel with your families to gain access back into our buildings.

*Teach, Believe, Aspire ~ Fostering a Culture for Success*  
*"Preparing Students Today for the World Tomorrow"*

Along with other information on COVID-19, tips on enjoying life safely can be found on the NYS Department of Health website (<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/protect-yourself-and-your-family-coronavirus-covid-19>).

If you have any questions regarding this message, you are welcome to contact me. Otherwise, once again, I want to thank you for your continued understanding and dedication to our students, faculty and, collective school safety.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Swiatek  
Superintendent