



February 5, 2021

Dear Summit parents and caregivers,

As you may know, Governor Cuomo removed micro zone cluster restrictions for Erie and Niagara counties and schools are no longer required to perform on-going Covid-19 testing. However, we have decided that we will use our remaining test kits for random testing of our staff after the February break. We will share the results with you as a demonstration of our commitment to providing a healthy learning environment.

We are very pleased that our staff are currently eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine. Some have been fortunate to secure appointments and a very small number have already received both doses. To make it easier for our staff to get vaccinated, we are teaming with Erie County to open a Closed Point of Dispensing (Closed POD) at Summit Central on a date/time to be determined. We are very excited about this opportunity as the vaccine is a very important tool in our continued fight against the coronavirus.

Due to the logistics associated with the Closed POD, we will move to all virtual instruction on the days it operates- hopefully one or two consecutive days. We have been told that our Closed POD could become operational on very short notice – potentially as little as 12 hours. Please have your “virtual back-up plan” in place. We will notify you as soon as we have confirmation of the date/time this will happen.

Our hope is that in the future we may be able to serve as a vaccine administration site for the children and adults we serve. Right now, the vaccines are only approved for those who are 16 years of age and up (Pfizer) and 18 years and up (Moderna) and only those who reside in group homes are eligible.

Lastly, I strongly urge you to keep your child home from school if they aren't feeling well. And, please abide by NYS's quarantine/testing requirements if you travel out of state. You can find those requirements [here](#).

With your cooperation we can lessen the spread of Covid-19 and protect the health of our staff and students. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Susan

Susan Whittaker, Ed.D, SBL
Summit Academy Principal