



December 2, 2020

Dear Finn Families,

Thank you to everyone who was able to participate in last night's Re-entry Committee meeting; we appreciated your presence and input. For families unable to attend, we have attached the brief presentation that was reviewed.

Per the NYS Health Department's daily COVID-19 reporting, our school remains in an orange zone as part of the State's Cluster Action Initiative (<https://forward.ny.gov/cluster-action-initiative>). Given the various factors and challenges that still exist for school-based testing, the continued rise in positive cases in Chemung County, and feedback from both parents/guardians and staff, the Finn Academy Re-entry Committee has made the decision to **not return to in-person instruction prior to the week of January 4, 2021.**

If the opportunity arises for us to return sooner - although we do not anticipate this - we will update families immediately. Please note that this date of the week of January 4th is not definitive for a return to in-person, but more so a projection to enable families to plan for childcare and make other necessary arrangements for remote instruction. The Committee carefully weighed and considered the various issues that our families and staff face in planning for remote, as well as the potential impacts of the coming holiday in our county. It was determined that a continuation of a fully remote model is the best option for our school community at this time.

In the upcoming weeks, we will be reaching out to families to confirm instructional model preferences and to obtain consent for testing to be prepared for a return to in-person instruction. In addition, the Re-entry Committee plans to reconvene **January 4th, 2021 at 4:00 pm** to review the current positivity rate in the county, our zone designation, and the various needs of our families and staff, in order to make informed decisions regarding a return to in-person instruction.

As always, we invite you to reach out to your child's teacher, members of the leadership team, or a member of the Board of Trustees with any questions, needs, or concerns. We will continue to hold scholars to high academic expectations, while also remaining flexible and understanding of the various circumstances and challenges of each of our families.

Best,

Aimee Ciarlo
Aimee Ciarlo
Dean of Scholars

Martina Baker
Martina Baker
Chief Operating Officer

Jeremy Wheeler
Jeremy Wheeler
Chief Academic Officer