

Dear Tri-County Career Center Community:

Tri-County Career Center has continued to work with local and state officials along with our teacher's union to decide on what is the best course of action for school operations. When it comes to cases and COVID-19 in our school, there are a lot of facts that most do not know because it cannot be shared. Individuals assuming what is the best action don't know what they don't know.

As many of you are familiar, each time a positive or presumed case is identified in our district or a member district, there is a ripple effect to students and staff who may need to quarantine. We have been taking this very seriously and being aggressive to keep students and staff safe. We always work with the local Health Department for these decisions. We have the school setup for social distancing in classrooms and have students in cohorts to try to keep the exposure to a minimum. We know lunch is our most vulnerable area but continue to remind students to wear masks after they are finished eating.

We have had more cases this week than we have had all year. We have told teachers and students to be on alert to change plans if needed. Per state and local recommendations, the safety risk to students and staff are not high, but being out of school is a huge risk to the social and emotional learning and status of our students. We clean our buildings multiple times a day, and we have ion air purifiers installed throughout our buildings. We are taking precautions behind the scene that most do not know about or see.

It is imperative that we continue to strengthen our protocols with students and staff continuing to social distance, limiting gatherings outside of school, wearing masks, and hand washing regularly. Our choices inside and outside of the school will determine our course to stay in session. That includes this upcoming holiday season. We can slow the spread in our community and make good choices to keep our Center open. Career Technical Education is super hard to do remotely. We want each of you to get the best education possibly in the safest way possible.

As of today, our plan is to stay in our current plan with students attending five days a week. But we have our pulse on the current cases and number of students quarantined ready to change plans if needed. Again, this decision will be with teachers and local and state health officials. The center greatly appreciates your cooperation, and we understand quarantines cause hardships and emotions are high. Continue to encourage the COVID safety protocols and stay home if you are sick.

Sincerely,

Tri-County Career Center Superintendent

Connie Altier

Inspire, Challenge, and Prepare Students to Reach their Career Potential.