



**Phoenix Central School District**  
 District Office  
 116 Volney Street  
 Phoenix, New York 13135  
 Phone # (315) 695-1573  
 Fax# (315) 695-1201

**Karl J. Seckner**  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 of Finance and  
 Educational Services

**Nicole M. Covell**  
 Executive Director of  
 Instruction  
 and Personnel

**Christopher J. Byrne**  
 Superintendent of Schools

September 17, 2021

Good Afternoon Phoenix CSD Families, Staff and Students,

It has been wonderful seeing everyone back on campus for the first couple weeks of school! Athletics and extracurricular activities are all taking place as they would any other school year. Our biggest challenge continues to be navigating COVID-19. Let's hope it is behind us very soon!

Here are some updates to keep you all informed:

• **Positive COVID-19 cases reported to PCSD in the past 2 weeks -**

	Number of Positive COVID-19 Cases (includes staff and students)
Michael A. Maroun Elementary School	3 cases
Emerson J. Dillon Middle School	8 cases
John C. Birdlebough High School	2 cases
Operations & Maintenance Department	1 case
Transportation Department	3 cases
Food Service Department	1 case
District Office	0 cases
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 cases</b>

○ *Anyone required to quarantine has already been contacted by the school district.*

• **Open Houses – Virtual and Updated Dates -**

○ Due to the increase in COVID-19 positive cases in our community, and for the safety of our staff and families, we have decided it is best to hold our Open Houses **virtually** again this year. For planning purposes, we have rescheduled our EJD and JCB Open House dates. Here are the updated dates for our Open Houses:

	Dates for Open House
Michael A. Maroun Elementary School	Thursday, September 23, 2021 (same date) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Emerson J. Dillon Middle School	Thursday, September 30, 2021 (new date) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
John C. Birdlebough High School	Wednesday, September 29, 2021 (new date) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

○ Staff will be required to be on campus for their virtual open house.  
 ○ Building Principals will be sending additional information to staff and families in the coming days.

• **Important to Always Think Ahead -**

○ Our goal has been to make this year as normal of a year as possible for our students and staff. Unfortunately, we have had a high number of positive COVID-19 cases and high number of individuals required to quarantine the past 2 weeks. While we very much hope to continue with in-person learning, at this time, I do *highly recommend* the following:

- Families – please have a plan in place should the district or a building have to switch to remote learning for a period of time.
- Faculty and Staff – please be prepared should the district or a building have to switch to remote learning for a period of time.

• **Reminder from Oswego County Department of Health -**

○ “Please be reminded that if a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19, all unvaccinated household members should stay home until contacted by the health department.”

• **Stay Home When Sick and Get Tested -**

- Please be sure to monitor yourself / your children each day.
- Students and staff experiencing any of the following COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and be tested for COVID-19, this applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals:

Fever or Chills (100° F or more)	Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
Cough	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Loss of taste or smell	Muscle pain or body aches
Fatigue / feeling of tiredness	Headaches
Sore throat	Nasal congestion / runny nose

- If you or a family member test positive for COVID-19, please notify me immediately at 315-695-1555 or [cbyrne@phoenixcsd.org](mailto:cbyrne@phoenixcsd.org), so that I can work with the Oswego County Health Department and plan our next steps (contact tracing, communications and / or programmatic changes).

Thank you very much for your continued support of our school district and programs. I hope that you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend!!

Sincerely,



Superintendent of Schools



- @cbyrnepcsd