

December 7, 2020

Good afternoon. This is Pam Stiles, Superintendent of Schools. I'm sure that by now when you hear my voice you're anticipating that the news is not good. Unfortunately, that is the case with this message.

This morning, Mr. MacArthur and I met, along with our nurse April Elliott and Sandy Flanagan, who manages the placement of substitutes and general coverage during the day, to discuss the impact of Covid-19 at ACS. Due to staff being considered a close contact themselves, or needing to be home because their child is a close contact, or for having symptoms - 15 staff will be home for the week. This does not include anyone who becomes sick during the next few days or gets information that someone they were in contact with tests positive. With this number of adults out and a very small pool of substitutes, it is not possible for adequate coverage to be in place to oversee the safety of students. Believe me, the four of us looked at all possible options but there simply are too many people out.

It was my most sincere hope not to have to close the school for any length of time, but it is going to be necessary to stay in remote learning until this Friday, December 11. In looking at the staff who are currently out, several will be returning on Monday the 14th and we are hopeful to be back in-person at that time.

I know that this is terrible news. At some point soon I look forward to sending a message that has only good news.

I hope that you weathered the weekend storm without the loss of power. But if you did lose it and are still out, crews are working tirelessly to get everyone back on line as soon as possible.

Thank you. Take care and be well.

Most Sincerely,

Pamela Stiles, M.Ed., CAGS
Superintendent