



DATE: November 17, 2020 **END DATE:** November 30, 2020

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Acting Health Officer

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RE: **Genesee County Health Department Supports Genesee County School Districts in District-Specific Data-Driven Decisions on Learning Modalities**

In light of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services epidemic orders and continuing to follow the MI Safe Start Plan, Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) has been working closely with all area schools helping to ensure their ability to provide a safe and effective learning environment for the students and staff. GCHD supports all decisions recently made by schools within Genesee County regarding the transition to virtual learning for high schoolers and has provided guidance in the decision making process for K-8th grade learning modalities.

With the exponential rise in COVID-19 cases, school districts are tasked with the difficult decisions to continue face-to-face learning or transition to remote learning. For this reason, Genesee County Health Department will continue to support all schools in making district-specific decisions. These decisions will be based on case and transmission data specific to the individual schools. Genesee County data currently supports that transmission is mostly occurring outside of school grounds, at small and large indoor gatherings, activities in which individuals gather in groups such as youth sports, events not sponsored by the schools or held on school grounds such as homecomings, and between family members within households.

The Genesee County Health Department is closely monitoring the data and developments to provide guidance and understand next steps in the approach to mitigating the impact of the virus in our community. GCHD and School Superintendents' will continue to be in regular communication evaluating county-level and school-level data to make targeted and temporary decisions as necessary.

Genesee County Health Department

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