



March 14, 2020

Dear GST parents and guardians,

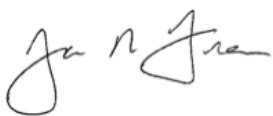
I want to thank you for your flexibility and patience as our response to COVID-19 has been rapidly evolving each day. We have been working diligently with our community partners to plan and respond to this emerging issue. As ordered by the Chemung and Steuben County Health Departments, all GST BOCES campuses – Bush, Coopers and Wildwood – along with our Adult Education and Training programs, will be closed to students effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 through Sunday, April 12. Although we have no knowledge of confirmed cases associated with GST BOCES, the Health Departments noted that this action is ordered for several reasons:

- To slow the potential spread of disease among groups of students in confined spaces.
- To protect vulnerable populations including older adults, those who are immune-compromised or have chronic medical conditions, especially heart or lung disease, and those with diabetes.
- To promote social distancing, putting space between yourself and others, limiting large gatherings and refraining from handshakes and hugs.

While we are closed, everyone is encouraged to make decisions that best address your own health and safety. Any health-related concerns should be brought to a medical professional. Please continue to take care of yourself and others.

We appreciate your cooperation during this challenging time.

Sincerely,



James Frame  
GST BOCES District Superintendent