



# THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

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March 13, 2020

Good Morning Thompson Families,

Due to the reports of community spread of the COVID-19 virus, Thompson Public Schools will be closed Monday, March 16, 2020 through Friday, March 27, 2020. We will reassess the health risk situation prior to this date to determine if the district must extend the school closure beyond this date.

This decision to close school was made after consultation with the Northeast District Department of Health and out of an abundance of caution to mitigate community spread of this illness. Please refer to the attached letter from Susan Starkey, MRH, MS, RD, Director of Health NDDH.

Thompson Public Schools has not had a confirmed case of the coronavirus within our schools. There has been confirmation that an individual outside the school community has been tested for this virus.

#### Supplemental Learning

Teachers have prepared lessons for this two-week period. Your child will be given hard copy packets to complete or direction to access online platforms to access their assignments while at home. It is critical that our students continue to learn during this period of school shut down.

Next week, I will be sending information in order for Thompson Middle School and Tourtellotte Memorial High School to download books to their Chromebooks. Be on the lookout for information regarding the Tumblebook Program.

#### Meal Service

Thompson Public Schools will provide lunch and breakfast Grab-and-Go meals beginning on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, Monday through Friday until school reopens.

The pick-up sites and distribution times are below:

TEEG	11:30am-12:30pm
Thompson Public Library	11:00am-11:45am
Quinebaug Fire Station	12:00pm-1:00pm

I plan to provide you with updates throughout this health crisis. Please be sure that all of your contact information is up to date. If you need to update your information, please contact Heather Burns, Technology Director, at [hburns@thompsonpublicschools.org](mailto:hburns@thompsonpublicschools.org).

School offices will be closed during this period. If you require assistance, please email your school principal. Please take every precaution to keep your family healthy.

Sincerely,

Melinda A. Smith, M.Ed.  
Superintendent of Schools



## Northeast District Department of Health

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69 South Main Street, Unit 4, Brooklyn, CT 06234  
860-774-7350 / Fax 860-774-1308 [www.nddh.org](http://www.nddh.org)

March 12, 2020

### **Re: School Closures Due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

Whereas the Governor has declared a state of emergency in the state of Connecticut as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and the confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

Whereas COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

Whereas the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus and to slow down the transmission of the virus;

I support the decisions of school superintendents to close schools to protect the health and well-being of their students, staff and community.

Signed,

*Susan Starkey, MPH MS RD*

Susan Starkey, MPH, MS, RD  
Director of Health