

Tel: (860) 923-9581 Fax: (860) 923-9638

November 11, 2020

## Dear Thompson Families, Faculty and Staff

It is the policy of Thompson Public Schools, (TPS) to notify parents and the school community when an individual associated with has been identified as having tested positive for COVID-19 AND having been in close contact with one or more individuals in a TPS setting. Settings include classrooms and other interior school locations, bus stops, buses or other forms of transportation, school grounds, or school-related events held at other locations.

Individuals who have laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 are referred to as "Cases."

"Contacts" are individuals who spent at least 15 minutes within six feet of a confirmed Case or had a direct exposure such as being sneezed or coughed on in the face.

On Wednesday November 11, 2020 TPS was notified that a student associated with Tourtellotte Memorial High School tested positive and is classified as a COVID-19 Case. In working with the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) it was determined that the Case was in close contact with one or more people while in school.

Shannon Grauer, TMHS School Nurse and NDDH have initiated case investigation and contact tracing activities to identify all individuals who may have been in close contact with the Case. TPS and NDDH will continue to work cooperatively to ensure that all Contacts have information on how to protect themselves and others. Information related to case investigations is confidential and private health information will not be disclosed by TPS or NDDH.

Tourtellotte Memorial High School families please be sure the school has your correct phone number on file. To assist in contact tracing efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, please answer any calls or texts from the following numbers:

- "Northeast District Department of Health" or "Town of Brooklyn" (860) 774-7350
- CT COVID TRACE 855-670-0299
- Email messages from <u>SVC-Covid19@ct.gov</u>
- Shannon Grauer, school nurse phone number 860-617-3873.

As a precautionary measure, Tourtellotte Memorial High School will switch to remote learning starting tomorrow Thursday November 12, 2020 in order to provide for the safety of students, staff, and others in the school community. Remote learning will continue until Monday November 30, 2020 to accommodate the quarantine and isolation requirements. This will also allow our custodial team ample time to clean the high school.

I cannot deliver a more important message to our school community than the importance of wearing a face mask that fits appropriately and covers both the mouth and nose. A face mask must be worn at all times while in school.

The safety of our community is our priority. We are monitoring this situation and will continue to keep you informed of any changes or additional information. As a reminder, students at Mary R Fisher Elementary School

and Thompson Middle School will resume classes tomorrow. Siblings of high school students are not required to remain home unless they have been specifically instructed to do so.

As always please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Melinda A. Smith, M.Ed., Superintendent