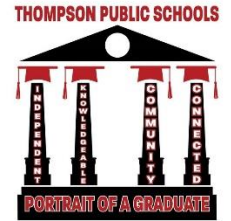




# THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

785 Riverside Drive  
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255  
[www.district.thompsonk12.org](http://www.district.thompsonk12.org)  
860-923-9581



September 16, 2021

Dear Thompson Families,

I want to thank you all for your patience during this current transportation emergency. I realize this situation has been difficult for both students and parents.

The district is developing plans to help ease the burden on families due to the bus driver shortage. Several parents have made suggestions that may be possible to implement. Please take a moment to complete a brief survey to provide input to assist our planning process. Click on this link which will take you to the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MPDGNYZ>

I have also texted a link to any registered cell phones added to the student information system for your convenience.

In addition, we are changing the Mary R. Fisher Elementary School pick-up and drop-off procedures. One of the positive things that came from this experience is that the offer of early drop-off helped reduce traffic congestion in the morning. Principal Prentiss tried this on Monday, and allowing early drop-off worked well. Therefore, plans are underway to offer early drop-off.

The dismissal back-up of traffic must also be addressed as nearly one-hundred and fifty cars are entering the campus. Ben Barbour, Security Coordinator, and Principal Prentiss will be communicating a plan later this week that should make pick-up quicker and safer.

Dattco Bus Co. is still reporting a significant driver shortage. At this time, I do not know how this will impact next week. I will provide you with an update Friday afternoon.

I want to thank the parents who contacted me to offer constructive advice to improve this most unusual circumstance with our transportation program.

Sincerely,

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