

## THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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785 Riverside Drive North Grosvenordale, CT 06255 www.district.thompsonk12.org 860-923-9581

January 11, 2022

Dear Thompson Families,

The COVID-19 virus continues to negatively impact our schools. Since we have returned from the holiday break, eighteen percent of our students are absent daily due to virus related to illness.

In addition, absences among faculty and staff are also high. Principals and their team are working together to cover classes when substitutes are not available. Our educators are doing their best to keep our schools operating. This has been a district priority since the start of the pandemic, thanks to our dedicated employees.

Parents and guardians must secure a plan for child care if a school must close due to staff shortages. We are keenly aware of the burden closing school's places on our families and will do our best to avoid school closures. However, please note that the district must make up any full days we do not hold school. As a reminder, remote learning is not an option we can use this school year.

According to health officials, the next two weeks will be the most challenging during this current COVID-19 surge. Be aware when contacting staff that you may not receive a timely response as the individual you are trying to reach may be out sick.

Thompson Public Schools strive to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for students, faculty, and staff. We appreciate your patience as we are faced with yet another COVID-19 hurdle to overcome.

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to your child's school nurse.

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Sincerely,

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