



# THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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785 Riverside Drive  
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

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

January 8, 2021

Dear Thompson Families,

Happy New Year! Thompson Public Schools will reopen for onsite learning on Monday, January 11, 2021, for all grades preschool through grade twelve. As you know, several variables could impact this decision.

- Increase number of positive COVID-19 cases reported among students, faculty, and staff
- Lack of substitutes to cover school personnel
- Overwhelming number of individuals that impact our ability to contact trace

Given the high COVID-19 rates reported in the community, the district could be forced to switch back to remote learning quickly. Please be sure that you maintain child care options if we must make this change.

We are hopeful that the safety and mitigation strategies we have practiced since August will allow us to remain in school. Students, faculty, and staff must be vigilant to wear masks, wash hands or use hand sanitizer frequently, and maintain social distancing. Families can help us by limiting social interactions with folks outside of your immediate family or social bubble.


A special thanks must be extended to parents and school personnel who have reported positive COVID-19 cases and exposures to our Director of Nurses, Shannon Grauer. Ms. Grauer can be reached at [sgrauer@thompsonpublicschools.org](mailto:sgrauer@thompsonpublicschools.org) or by cell phone, 860-617-3873.

Thompson Public Schools are fully enrolled in the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS), and twenty-five identified educators had received the vaccination already! Susan Starkey, Director of Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), anticipates that our remaining employees will be eligible in phase 1(b) of the vaccination process in the next few weeks.

At this time, all students will return to school currently enrolled as an in-person student or distant learning student. If you wish to make any **changes** regarding your child's enrolment status, please contact your child's principal.

The district's goal is to have schools remain open as long as we can ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.

Sincerely,

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

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