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July 20, 2020

Happy Summer Thompson Families,

I do hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather we have been having over the past month since schools closed in June. While it seems early to be discussing the start of school, district personnel have been busy developing plans for the reopening of school with new protocols to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.

Thompson Public Schools Re-Entry Plan is being developed by a team of administrators, teachers, directors, union representatives, and parents. Reopening school plans must adhere to requirements and guidance directed by Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and detailed in a school reopening document, *Adapt*, *Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together*. A copy of this text can be found on the main page of Thompson Public School's website, http://district.thompsonk12.org/ under the Coronavirus section.

The school district's plan will be reviewed and approved by the members of the Thompson Board of Education at a special meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at 7:00 pm via ZOOM platform. This is an open meeting, and the public is invited. The link to the ZOOM meeting will be posted on the main page of the district's website. Once approved, Thompson's plan must be submitted to CSDE by July 24, 2020.

You will receive a form to specify what learning program your child will attend and if you plan to use school bus service following this BOE meeting. This form will be mailed and emailed to all families. It will also be posted on the district's website in the COVID-19 section.

We have planned several parent forums for each school to allow folks to ask questions. A separate flyer with the ZOOM links will be sent out next week. The district has also established an email specifically devoted to answer school reopening questions: Re-Entry@thompsonpublicschools.org

Our goal is to keep everyone informed as we work toward bringing our students, faculty, and staff safely back to school.

Sincerely,

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