



# THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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December 3, 2020

Dear Thompson Families.

The district was notified today that an individual associated with the sixth-grade team tested positive for COVID-19. Shannon Grauer, Thompson Public Schools Lead Nurse, will be contacting anyone who is considered a direct contact. She will provide you with guidance and testing resource information. We will notify you when the contact tracing is complete.

This positive COVID-19 case is isolated to the sixth-grade team only. After consulting with the health officials at the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) and out of an abundance of caution, all sixth-grade students, faculty, and staff will switch to remote learning starting **tomorrow, Friday, December 4, 2020, through Friday, December 11, 2020. Classes will resume for sixth-grade students on Monday, December 14, 2020.**

As a reminder, faculty, students, and staff must remain home if you experience any COVID-19 symptoms. COVID-19 is spread mainly via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to take and speak to your children about the following preventive measures:

- Wash your hands frequently, but especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze inside the elbow of your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Wear a face covering (mask) whenever there is a likelihood that you or your family members will be in the presence of others.
- Maintain social distancing (at least 6 feet) between yourself and others when outside of your home.

Below is the list of COVID-19 symptoms for which everyone should monitor in their family members:

- Fever (100.4° Fahrenheit or higher)
- Chills or shaking chills
- Uncontrolled new cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell

For additional information on COVID-19 symptoms, please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Staff and students exhibiting any of the above symptoms, or feeling ill, should remain home, call their medical provider to report their symptoms and ask about testing prior to seeking in-person care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital.


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For more information on what to do if you or a family member has possible symptoms, a diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19, please see *Addendum 5: Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in Connecticut School Districts*, available here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/COVID19/COVID-19-Resources-for-Families-and-Educators/Addendums-and-FAQs>

We are closely monitoring this situation and working with the Northeast District Department of Health and will provide you with updates as we know more. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school nurse.

Sincerely,

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