



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

30 Greenough Rd. • Plaistow, NH 03865

603/382-6119

Fax 603/382-3334

Serving The

Timberlane Regional School District
Hampstead School District

Dear Timberlane Families:

November 24, 2020

I am writing with some important updates regarding the district's Return to School Plan. In October, the Timberlane School Board had directed the Superintendent and Administration to develop a plan to bring all students in the district model into schools 4 days per week. The district also sent a survey on October 30 that asked all district families to commit to either full remote instruction or the district default instructional model for either Trimester 2 (Preschool-8) or Semester 2 (9-12). Since then, our district has successfully transitioned students in grades pre-K-1 to in-person learning 4 days per week. Students in grade 2 will begin in the 4-day model on December 7. While we will continue to plan for opportunities to bring additional students to our buildings 4 days per week, as discussed at the TRSD School Board meeting on November 19, the district is no longer planning to bring all students in grades 3-12 to school 4 days per week on December 7.

Our district Administrative team continues to monitor metrics associated with the spread of COVID-19 at the national, state, and local levels. Although we have seen significant increases in infections across our state, county, and four towns, we have not experienced a spread of the disease within our district schools. To our knowledge, all cases in our schools have resulted from exposure to the disease that occurred outside of school buildings. Our success in preventing the spread of the disease in our schools is in large part due to the consistent efforts of all staff and students to abide by our district COVID-19 protocols and risk mitigation strategies. We are grateful to all members of our community for their collective efforts to keep our schools safe and healthy.

As we enter this holiday season, we are actively seeking to prevent a potential increased spread connected to holiday gatherings and travel. The District intends to remain in the hybrid/cohort model through January 15, 2021, with the exception of Grade 2, which will transition to the 4-day in person model on December 7. We will re-evaluate the district default instructional model in mid-January to determine if we can bring additional grade levels to school buildings 4 days per week. During the coming months, we will continue to monitor the metrics associated with the spread of COVID-19 to determine if the district will need to pivot temporarily to a period of remote instruction. We ask that all families and staff remain prepared for this possibility. Should the district need to revert to remote status, we will make every attempt to provide as much notice to families as possible. However, because a pivot to remote instruction may need to happen quickly, all staff and families should be ready for this possibility.

Sincerely,

Brian Cochrane

Dr. Brian Cochrane, Interim Superintendent of Schools