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**TRUMANSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*"Celebrating Diversity • Educating for Excellence"*  
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August 3, 2020

Dear Trumansburg Community,

I hope this communication finds you well and still enjoying the warm days of summer. As you can imagine these past couple of months, we have spent a great deal of time envisioning our 2020-2021 reopening, taking into consideration guidance from the NYS Education Department, CDC, and the Department of Health. We have also considered feedback from our community surveys, including a "Thought Exchange" and a community Livestream with Q & A. Based on the dynamic nature of local community transmission of the COVID-19 virus, a phased-in approach or hybrid model combining in-person instruction and remote/distance learning will begin for the academic year on September 14, 2020. A [visual overview](#), [detailed working plan](#), and [Reopening FAQ](#) of our hybrid model can be found on [tburghschools.org](http://tburghschools.org).

Some insight into our planning, daycare has been and will continue to be an obstacle for our families. We recognize that virtual or distance learning requires more parental support for our youngest of scholars. For these reasons, we have proposed that all PK-6 students return every day with more physical distancing and reduced contact among students. For grades 7-12, our scholars will be divided into group A or B, with each group attending school physically only twice weekly and virtually the other three days. Students with learning disabilities, 504's, and ELL will be invited to attend in person four days weekly. We are proposing that Fridays will be virtual for all scholars in grades 7-12. Friday's will allow for more individualized or small group student support with teacher office hours, professional development time, meetings, and time to work on virtual instructional planning. The hybrid approach also allows for more physical distancing and reduced contact among students. All families PK-12 have the option to choose "all virtual" should they feel this is a better health choice for their scholars. Those that opt for "all virtual" will lock into this option for a marking period at a time. Making a choice by marking period will allow us to balance those students in person and maintain six feet of social distancing in all classrooms. Your building Principal will be sending more communication in mid-August regarding how to select your choice.

The planning and re-entry for our professional faculty are extensive; therefore, we are dedicating our four annual Superintendent conference days reserved for professional development to September 8-11. That makes our first day to welcome students back on campus Monday, September 14.

We will spend the next month working out additional critical details, including transportation, student schedules, master schedule changes that allow for reduced transitions with one-way directional foot traffic, meal distribution, sanitation and health, and safety procedures, etc.

We have submitted our draft plan to the NYS Education Department. Our submission also includes working drafts for a full return and full virtual return should we need to make those shifts. Governor Cuomo will decide on the reopening of schools in September in the coming week. We will keep you apprised of any changes.

Finally, we would like to invite you to participate in another [Livestream Zoom community event with Q&A on August 24, 2020 at 6 p.m.](#) To register you can click the link in this letter or the [tburghschools.org](http://tburghschools.org) main page.

Also, be watching for an email district wide survey for families to complete between August 14-21st to make the choice for your children to attend 100% virtual for the first marking period or for your child to participate in the plan as presented in the linked detailed documents.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude for the continued support of our community. I fully recognize these are difficult decisions to make for your children. Whether your child attends virtually 100% or participates in the model we have described, we are dedicated to promoting the best learning outcomes for each child.

Please check our website [tburgschools.org](http://tburgschools.org), for updates and links to information.

Sincerely,

*Kimberly Bell*

Superintendent TCSD

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