STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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BOARD OF EDUCATION: Frank Todisco, Board Chair; Heidi Simmons, Board Secretary

SUPERINTENDENT Van W. Riley, Ph.D. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT Mary Anne Butler **DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES** Allison Van Etten DIRECTOR OF FINANCE Gary J. Shettle

March 19, 2021

Dear Families and Students,

Reference: Return To School

As you know, last week the Board of Education gave direction to implement a plan to return all students to a four-day in person instructional model prior to spring break with priority on grades K-5. Families have been given the option to return to the four-day in person model or to remain in a full distance model. At the Board's direction, the following return schedule was developed. Board of Education members confirmed this past weekend that these parameters meet their expectations for a return to school schedule. All phases will be monitored to assess the need for any modifications moving forward over the next few weeks. Each principal has already shared a site specific plan with families. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to share with your site administration. The following is a summary of return plans for all grades:

Four Day In Person Return Dates:

March 15th	Grades K-1-6-9
March 22nd	Grades 2-3 (Grades K-1 move back to original classrooms)
March 29th	Grades 4-5-7-10 (Grade 6 move back to original classrooms)
April 5th	Return Grades 8-11-12
April 12th	Spring Break

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Travel Advisory

As of March 19th, Connecticut residents and travelers to Connecticut should follow travelrelated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH). **Mandates and requirements are not currently in place in Connecticut. For more information visit:** https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus/travel

Reporting Positive COVID-19 Cases

Starting Monday, March 22nd the district's <u>website page</u> will have live updates on cases in the district. This will eliminate the need for multiple communications every week regarding positive COVID-19 cases. Instead one "live" Google Sheet will be updated with information on the number of cases by date and building. Contact tracing protocols will remain in place and are unchanged. All close contacts will continue to receive direct communication from the school district. Families and staff will be able to access the "**District COVID Data**" link under the red banner section of our website. As always, we will only be reporting cases of students and staff who are in-person. For information on community data, please visit: https://www.stonington-ct.gov/

Requests for Temporary Distance Learning

Any student who is required to quarantine at the direction of the district or by an outside healthcare provider/health district will be allowed to participate in distance learning for the duration of the quarantine period. Families will not be afforded a distance learning accommodation for vacations.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Van Riley Superintendent of Schools