



# TYRRELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Joseph Norcross - Principal  
Daniel Caetano - Assistant Principal

500 TODD ROAD WOLCOTT, CONNECTICUT 06716  
PHONE: (203) 879-8151 FAX: (203) 879-8419

August 26, 2020

Dear Tyrrell Middle School Families,

I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones have had a restful and relaxing summer break, and that you are all healthy and safe as the start of the new school year approaches. At this point each year, I am usually hyper-focused on providing our students with a rigorous curriculum that addresses the academic, social and emotional needs of our students. However, this year the focus and top priority has been planning to keep our students, faculty, and staff safe and healthy in light of the current pandemic. In addition, providing each student with an optimal educational experience considering the impact the pandemic has had on school operations. I recognize the difficult times that we have all recently experienced and the uncertainty of what lies ahead. Hopefully, the opening of school, albeit hybrid in nature, will bring a sense of normalcy to our lives once again.

As we began to plan for in-person learning this year, we had to consider how to bring students back to the building while keeping them safe and reducing the risk of infection. We believe that we have created and are implementing a plan that will keep our students as safe as possible in the school setting. We have gone to great lengths to “cohort” students into small groups that do not mix with other groups of students throughout the day thus minimizing the likelihood of widespread transmission of illness throughout our school.

This letter outlines some basic information regarding our reopening plan, but I encourage you to view our Tier II Hybrid Reopening Outline via the following link below:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/10v8TbI0anrL-qf5vDXFR2RkSDCo2s6LNm47pqNm0sk/e/dit?usp=sharing>

As it provides much more detailed information regarding the operation of our school and what your child’s day will look like under our Tier II Hybrid model.

As previous communications from the district have indicated, we will begin the year in a “Tier II Hybrid Model” meaning that students have been placed into one of two groupings with one group attending Monday and Thursday and the other on Tuesday and Friday. On Wednesdays, all students will participate in remote learning which will afford students and teachers an opportunity to work 1:1 or in small groups digitally to remediate, address learning issues, or reinforce concepts. We will implement a Day 1/Day 2 schedule in which the schedule stays the same, but the different student groupings will attend. Students have been placed in homeroom cohorts of 8-10 students (with the exception of one 12 student cohort) within the building. As a means to minimize exposure to other students, teachers will rotate rooms and students will

*It is the policy of the Wolcott Board of Education that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against under any program because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, mental retardation, past or present history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability.*

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



# TYRRELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Joseph Norcross - Principal  
Daniel Caetano - Assistant Principal

500 TODD ROAD WOLCOTT, CONNECTICUT 06716  
PHONE: (203) 879-8151 FAX: (203) 879-8419

remain in the same classroom with the same cohort throughout their academic periods. You can expect an email next week in which student cohort assignments are shared.

Seeing as our instructional model has changed, so has our supply lists. You may access the updated supply list appropriate for Tier II Hybrid operation via the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uURg7dqTSvI7L7pisy5N1py8MsbV2kJ4dS22oJGRYA8/edit?usp=sharing>

I realize that the Tier II Hybrid Model document that you can access via the above link contains a significant amount of information, but I encourage you to take the time to review all information contained within this document as it will likely answer most if not all of your questions related to the changes to how we will be operating to begin the year. On behalf of the faculty and staff, we are genuinely excited to have students back in the building and our school bustling with activity again!

Sincerely,

Joe Norcross