



Committed to Excellence

Ralph M. Iassogna

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

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Dear Trumbull Educational Community,

As the Board and public are well aware, at one of our last BOE meetings, the district announced that we selected the **Hybrid Learning Model** and continued to develop that plan for implementation.

Also mentioned previously was the fact that many of our staff members were surveyed to determine their return status, whether medical, child-rearing, or disability. As of today, our return numbers are reasonable, but a developing concern is the number of staff requests which have not been processed. That number is high and could affect the Hybrid plan – approximately 20-25 teachers. Worst case scenario is if that not enough teachers return, and substitutes are unavailable, we will consider a return to the Virtual Learning Model, at the very least for a short time period.

You should know that the administration has been working very closely with the Board attorney on the complexities of the leave protocols issued by the State, with particular emphasis on the State's granting the staff a minimum of 2 weeks to obtain a doctor note verifying their condition. The complete process could take up to a month and it is these requests that we still await. In a related vein, the Human Resources Department has been working during the summer expanding substitute roles and in compiling a list of candidates to be considered for the above mentioned positions. Unfortunately, with surrounding towns in the same position as Trumbull, the pool is very thin. We are now reaching out to colleges for potential candidates, particularly in light of the Governor easing certification requirements for college seniors. This change could not have been planned for as only the Governor could institute that order and did so during the summer. Even though most school districts prepared for situations such as this, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant concern among possible applicants that they are reluctant to commit to any school district including Trumbull. Nevertheless, we will keep trying so we can open in the planned Hybrid Model.

We will keep you informed of any changes as we realize it will impact your plans particularly of a child-rearing nature.

Thank you,

Ralph M. Iassogna
Acting Superintendent