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J. Warren Killam School

A T.R.R.F.C.C. Place to Be!

July 7, 2020

Dear Families,

As we settle into summer, I hope this finds you healthy. The Reading Public Schools continues to prepare for our entry into school for the 2020-21 school year. Much still remains unknown and the purpose of this letter is to provide follow up information from Dr. Doherty's letter on Thursday, July 2nd. Currently, DESE has requested that districts create opening plans for in-person, hybrid, and distance learning with the goal of maximizing the number of students in the building if we are having hybrid or in-person learning. I will keep you informed as the Reading Public Schools move toward a formal opening plan based on directives and guidance from Governor Baker and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The Commonwealth has indicated to school districts that DESE may issue a directive pushing the start of school back (and reducing the number of mandatory school days) based on the steps necessary to prepare for in person school. We have not received definitive information about the timing of this decision. Based on this, you should know that the September 2nd start date for the Reading Public Schools for 2020-2021 is a provisional start date. Our current information is that the start date could be pushed back one week, thus starting our schools on Tuesday, September 8th, however that is not certain at this time.

Additionally, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has a number of states under a quarantine order and people traveling to Massachusetts from those states are required to quarantine for two weeks upon entering Massachusetts. This list may change as the summer continues. If your summer travel plans involve traveling to a state that has a quarantine restriction in Massachusetts, your child will need to quarantine for two weeks (14 days) prior to coming to Killam. Mass.gov has a page that regularly updates information about travel. You can find it by following this link <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/travel-information-related-to-covid-19>

I recognize this information produces many questions. It is challenging for all of us to plan for the fall with unknowns and I want to acknowledge these challenges. I will continue to keep you informed as the summer progresses and more information becomes available. Until then, have a healthy and enjoyable summer.

As always you can reach out to me with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Sarah Leveque

