

**TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS**  
20 State Street, Tully, New York 13159  
Telephone: 315-696-6200 Fax: 315-883-1343  
*http://tullyschools.org*

**MARY ANN MURPHY**  
Junior/Senior High School Principal

**ROBERT J. HUGHES**  
Superintendent of Schools

**EDWARD KUPIEC**  
Elementary Principal

**PAUL SCHIENER**  
Junior/Senior High School Assistant Principal

**BRADLEY R. CORBIN**  
School Business Administrator

**CRISTY BOBBETT**  
Director of Student Support Services

February 10, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 7 & 12:

Teaching and learning during the pandemic created an educational environment like none other we have seen before. Since school began in September, we have explored opportunities to bring more students back to in-person learning. We have arrived at a time when we can bring our 7th & 12th grade students back to school, four days a week. We selected 7th grade because it is a very important time in transitioning to the rigors of pre-high schoolwork. For the 12th graders, it is more about preparing them adequately for their imminent graduation, but also to bring the class together before they move on to whatever is next for them. We recognize that a case can be made for other grade levels as well; however, we have thought this through and arrived at this decision after much deliberation.

Bringing these two grade levels in creates some challenges for us. Since we continue the need to follow social distancing guidelines for wearing masks and keeping desks six feet apart, some classrooms may not be large enough to accommodate the number of students that are in some sections of courses. We are in the process of decommissioning two former computer labs that will have only desks and technology needed for teaching. Some classes will need to rotate through those spaces with careful attention paid to cleaning throughout the day per our current protocols. We will continue to explore other classroom set-up options once we know the number of students participating in four days per week of in-person instruction.

We purchased additional technology to accommodate the new teaching spaces. If that equipment arrives on time, we plan to implement this change effective **Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**. In the event the equipment is delayed, we will need to push our next effective date to Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. We will let students and parents know if the date is pushed back.

Students in grades 7 & 12 will only have two options from which to choose for their learning plan:

- four days per week of in-person instruction (every day except Wednesday)
- fully remote, five days per week

Please note that once a student commits to four days per week of in-person instruction, we expect them to honor that commitment and refrain from self-selecting remote learning at any time. The only time an in-person 7<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade student should learn remotely is for state-approved absences such as illness or quarantine.

(over)

Please complete [this Google Form](#) to let us know the option that will work best for your child. You will be asked for information regarding transportation. If you need a paper copy of the questionnaire sent to you, please contact the Main Office at 315-696-6235 as soon as possible.

**We must have your commitment form returned to us no later than Tuesday, February 16th at 9:00 am.** Due to the intense amount of planning and preparation this will require for seating arrangements in classrooms and lunch, as well as reconfiguring transportation as needed, we cannot accept late forms. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

We understand that this may be a very difficult decision for some families. If you need to talk things through or have specific questions, we can help you with this. Please email or call us. Our contact information is below our signatures.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mary Ann Murphy  
[mmurphy@tullyschools.org](mailto:mmurphy@tullyschools.org)  
315-696-6235



Paul Schiener  
[pschiener@tullyschools.org](mailto:pschiener@tullyschools.org)  
315-696-6236