

106 Nasmith Brook Road Plainfield, VT 05667 802-426-3213  [www.twinfield.net](http://www.twinfield.net)

Dear Twinfield Families: August 16, 2021

As we prepare for the 2021-2022 school year I want to reframe the position that our students find themselves in after being impacted by the pandemic the past two school years. I am tired of hearing that our students are “behind” or this focus on “learning loss”. I’d like to focus on how students are actually ahead of their peers from previous school years. These students have developed an appreciation for school and the ability to connect with their classmates. Think of the patience they had to develop when their world was turned upside down. They’ve learned to sit with powerful emotions and developed ways to cope with boredom and frustration. Think about the real world citizenship skills that were needed by this generation of students over the past 18 months, or the ability to show compassion and develop empathy that has been heightened due to COVID. Students have had to be more independent and resilient. As you can see our students are not behind but in reality they are ahead on many of these important life skills.

**The entire Twinfield staff is excited to welcome all of our students back to campus.** As we did last year we will be following recommendations from Governor Scott and the COVID task force. At this time we know we will be wearing masks on our buses and when inside the school building. *We will be following the updates on COVID guidance and will get out our entire safety plan before the start of school.*

**The first day of school is Thursday, August 26, except for Preschool that starts on Wednesday, September 1.**

We will be running a split schedule again this year. The first bus run will be for Preschool-Grade 4 students and the second run will be for grades 5-12. The PK-4 day will start at 7:45 and dismiss at 2:00. The 5-12 day will begin at 8:45 and dismiss at 3:00. We will provide after care for K-4 students who need to wait for an older sibling and ride the later bus. The bus route schedule is included with this letter.

TLC will also be running their after-school program for families who need to pick up their K-6 children later in the afternoon (hope.metcalf@ccsuvt.net).

Buses will once again drop off students at the rear of the building and be assisted by school staff. Parents dropping off or picking up their children will do so at the front of the building, again greeted and assisted by school staff.

Attached is a **First Day Packet** for your child. This is mailed to provide extra time for you to complete all documents that need to be returned to your child’s teacher on the first day of school. Please note that the Family Contact page and the Free & Reduced Meals application are filled out one per family. Remember that the information you provide on the Free & Reduced application is confidential and is so important as it relates to more than meals, but many grants and monies that we may qualify for.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and we will see you on Thursday, August 26!

Best,

Mark

Mark Mooney, Principal