



# OXFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*“Sailing Towards Success”*

June 14, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

With the close of the school year tomorrow, I wanted to extend the thanks of the entire Oxford Public School educational community for your patience and understanding during the last three months of remote learning. We realize how this unprecedented change in our educational delivery model has impacted you by adding another new title to you as “co-educators.” In particular, I wish to acknowledge and thank those of you who are first responders and who have continued to work while juggling this new role. I know how difficult this has been!

Also, I want to clarify what I said last week regarding what school re-opening could look like in the fall as I believe that some (including the press) may have read something different than my meaning. First, districts DO NOT know what fall school re-opening will look like yet. Will we continue with remote learning? Will we have a blended learning model? Will we return to school as in the past years? As the Commissioner stated, medical information around COVID-19 is continually changing and as such, so is the guidance. What I provided to you last week were two potential scenarios **IF** blended learning was the model that districts had to follow in the fall.

The Commissioner and his advisory team, comprised of medical, health, safety, and educational experts, are still working on the plan which should be released to districts in two phases, a draft overview memo in **late June** followed by the complete detailed plan **in early to mid-July**. Once we receive the July document, we will develop a District re-entry planning team to develop our District Re-entry Plan based on the state guidelines. I hope that we can engage some of you in the planning stage. After the District Re-entry Plan is developed, you will receive it. **I wish to advise you that the plan may not be available until early August**. I recognize that this late date may not give you time to plan for the fall. However, timelines are not under my control and rather are dependent on DESE release. If there are some preliminary broad details that I can provide earlier, I will do that. Having said that, I realize that only when you have the complete District Re-entry Plan will you be able to make an informed decision about your children and school in the fall. I also anticipate surveying you in the summer regarding your intent in the fall with school and transportation.

This has been a trying few months for all, parents, educators, and administrators as we dealt with the sudden change to an educational model that flipped the traditional classroom. Our staff miss their students. Saying good-bye without hugs and smiles is just not the same. If you get a chance, reach out via email to your child’s/children’s teacher(s) today or tomorrow. They would love to hear from you! They would love to hear from your children!

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Finally, although for students the ritual of the last day of school that marks the beginning of summer is not present this year, on behalf of the School Committee, administrators, and staff, I wish all our students and families a healthy and safe summer. I will be in touch! Stay well!

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristine E. Nash Ed.D.".

Kristine E. Nash, Ed.D.  
Acting Superintendent of Schools