



June 17, 2020

Dear LEARN staff,

Yes, our central office Hatchetts Hill Road building in Old Lyme reopened. We currently have a two-phase plan to bring back employees who regularly work from the Hatchetts Hill facility. We launched phase 1 of the plan on Monday, June 15 with phase 2 scheduled for July 6.

As we map out steps for the Hatchetts Hill Road building, we are also keeping the 2020-2021 school year in our sights. LEARN, along with superintendents of school districts throughout the region, is part of a planning group focused on safely reopening our schools in August/September. Currently, we are waiting for critical guidance from the State of Connecticut and the Commissioner of Education. We will use that guidance to develop the details of our plan, so everyone can begin to look toward the future.

While many of the details of the reopening plan will depend upon that guidance, LEARN also wants to hear from all of our families, students, and staff members about reopening schools. We invite you to register for a group discussion during the first week of July. These discussions have been organized by school age groups including elementary (for grades PK-5) and secondary (for grades 6-12). Each session will allow us to share the information we know by that time and will also serve as an opportunity to collect your ideas, questions, and concerns. The dates and times for these meetings are included below. We ask you to please register by clicking the link next to the session you wish to attend.

Zoom invitations and agendas will be sent the day before your session.

Staff

Session 1: July 1 1:00-2:00 Elementary Staff (PK-5) <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E49A5AD2DA5F58-reopening2>

Session 2: July 1 2:30-3:30 Secondary Staff (6-12) <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E49A5AD2DA5F58-reopening5>

In the meantime, we continue conversations with our sister agencies in Connecticut and across the nation to gain their insight on the best course of action. Staff should expect to receive updates in the LEARNing Curve throughout the summer, outlining the latest developments around plans to reopen.

Thank you again for your understanding, patience, and support particularly throughout these last several months. We end this school year with sincere appreciation for and in celebration of every student, parent/caregiver, and staff member who rose to meet each challenge during these extraordinary circumstances. We eagerly await the time when we will be back in our school buildings and classrooms. Until then, be well.

Always,

Kate Ericson
Bridgette Gordon-Hickey
Dr. Ryan Donlon

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