STATE OF VERMONT

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

GUBERNATORIAL DIRECTIVE TO ALL SCHOOL BOARDS AND SUPERINTENDENTS

UNIFORM SCHOOL REOPENING

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 01-20, Declaration of State of Emergency ("Executive Order"), as amended and restated June 15, 2020 ("Amended and Restated Executive Order"), declaring a state of emergency for the State of Vermont in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the Governor issued Directive 1 to all School Boards and Superintendents for Continuity of Education Planning in order proceed with an orderly dismissal of schools in Vermont to support both the State's response to COVID-19 and the needs of children and families across Vermont; and

WHEREAS, this decision was based on the best scientific evidence available to the experts at the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) and helped to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, at this time, based on the best scientific evidence available to the experts at VDH and leading pediatric medical professionals and educators, I have determined to impose a statewide uniform start date for Vermont schools.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of Vermont by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, the emergency powers set forth in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other laws, hereby direct the governing bodies of all public and independent schools as follows:

1. Except as set forth herein, all public schools and independent schools shall be opened for in person or remote classroom instruction on, but not prior to, Tuesday, September 8, 2020 in accordance with the health and safety guidance issued by VDH and the Agency of Education.

2. Schools that primarily serve students with disabilities may start their instructional operations prior to September 8, 2020 based on student needs.

3. Pursuant to the powers granted to the Governor in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other provisions of law, I shall from time to time issue recommendations, directives and orders as circumstances may require.

4. The Secretary of Education shall oversee the implementation of this Directive and I hereby delegate to the Secretary of Education such authority as may be necessary for this implementation. All local school officials and governing bodies shall consult with and abide by the direction of the Secretary of Education with respect to compliance with this Directive. School officials shall work with and assist the Agency of Education as directed by the Secretary of Education.

This Directive shall take effect upon signing.

By the Governor:

Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Directive No. 6 (Pursuant to Executive Order 01-20)

Dated: July 29, 2020