Transcript for CDC Telebriefing on New Resources and Tools to Support Opening Schools

Press Briefing Transcript

Friday, July 24, 2020

Audio recording (MP3 - 1 MB)

Please Note: This transcript is not edited and may contain errors.

OPERATOR: WELCOME AND THANK YOU FOR STANDING BY. ALL THE ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE ALL EXTENDED ONE MODE. DURING THE Q&A SESSION IF YOUD LIKE TO ASK A QUESTION YOU MAY PRESS STAR I ON THE PHONE. TODAY CALL IS BEING RECORDED. I'D LIKE TO TURN THE CALL OVER TO MR. BEN HARNEN. MR. YOU MAY BEGIN.

HARNEN: THANK YOU. AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR TODAY'S UPDATE ON NEW RESOURCES AND TOOLS TO SUPPORT OPENING SCHOOLS. I'M BEN HARNEN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION, DIVISIONS, DIVISION, AND I'M Erin Sauber-Schatz, the head of CDC's Community Interventions and Critical Population Task Force are here with me. TODAY FOR A BRIEFING, I'LL TALK, our speakers will provide opening remarks and discuss new CDC resources and tools to support schools and then we'll talk, we'll do this in a Q&A. We'll open the floor for questions.

RESPONDENT: Last fall more than 55 million students filled the classrooms of elementary, middle, and high school nationwide. By the end of the school year, those same classrooms were deserted. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of our communities and has disrupted our lives in many ways. We know that schools play makes it a priority to open schools safely this fall and to help students, teachers, staff, and their families, and communities, and their support, as well as other essential services, in order to provide support to schools safely and helping them remain open, we need communities to adopt and implement mitigation strategies, such as, such as, such as, such as, such as such personal responsibility to be everything, such as such as such as such as COVID-19 so that they can go back to school safely. I understand the trepidation many feel but this time about the upcoming school year. While now is usually a time for finishing lesson plans, buying school supplies, and figuring out when and how students will get to school, the circumstances are, are, are, are different this year. Schools will be, since March to address these issues – consulting with states, schools, and districts – on how to keep students and teachers in the classroom. The resources and tools we are releasing today are intended to help everyone involved in reopening schools, to make informed decisions about how to get back to school as safely as possible. We have all of us have a role to play in this effort.

ZARS: GOOD AFTERNOON. I'D LIKE TO THANK CDC FOR HOSTING TODAY'S PRESS CALL AND FOR PROVIDING US AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT OF SECRETARY DAVIS. CDC ENTER THERE HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY AND THE VERY PRESIDENT AND WE'RE ALSO PARTNER WITH CDC AND PARTNERS FROM ACROSS AMERICA TO GET STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL SAFELY.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN AMAZING IN MAKING SCHOOLS A PART OF THAT REGARDS IS GETTING OUR KIDS BACK IN SCHOOL. THE PRESIDENT'S ADVICE TO SCHOOLS IS TO OPEN SCHOOLS AND MAKE SURE THAT THEY ALL SO THAT STUDENTS ARE FOUND FULL TIME LEARNING. IN MEMO TO STATE EDUCATION AGENCIES, WE ALSO MADE CLEAR THAT SCHOOLS NEED TO BE ADDRESSING THE DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT OF THE COVID ON RACIAL AND SCIENCE CONTINUE TO SUGGEST THAT IT IS SAFER, HEALTHIER, AND BETTER FOR STUDENTS TO BE IN SCHOOLS. THE RISK OF DEATH FOR KIDS UNDER 10 IT TAKES AS DOING, BUT HIGHER FOR MUST BE DONE. THE URGENCY IS ALSO CLEAR FROM THE DISPARITIES IN EDUCATION, ESPECIALLY AMONG BLACK STUDENTS AND THOSE WITH DISABILITIES. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE STUDIES MANY GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS ALREADY FAILED THEIR STUDENTS THIS YEAR. THE PRESIDENT'S ADVICE TO SCHOOLS IS TO OPEN SCHOOLS AND MAKE SURE THAT THEY ALL SO THAT STUDENTS ARE FOUND FULL TIME LEARNING