



Colchester Public Schools

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Dear Colchester Families,

I am grateful for the valuable feedback you've been providing the District as we consider a possible shift in our educational model to full-time, in-person learning. Thank you for sharing your perspectives and observations so that we may make decisions that are informed by those affected most, our students and families. Two areas upon which we plan to focus our immediate attention include improvements to the voluntary at-home learner program and technology support for child care centers.

Last week, we had planned to return to full-time, in-person instruction. However, due to recent local indicators of an uptick in COVID-19 in the Colchester community, and on the advice from Chatham Health District (CHD), we have given pause to that plan. We will reevaluate in four weeks. In the meantime, the CPS leadership team is formulating a Recovering the Learning plan. This plan, once finalized, will illustrate the District's strategy to support students in recovering lost learning and receiving intervention. This plan will drive our budgetary decisions over the next few years.

As a reminder, we will not close an entire school or the entire District unless there is a recommendation from the State Department of Public Health or CHD that there is significant community transmission of COVID-19. For the positive cases that we have had in our school communities, we have carefully followed guidelines for quarantines and isolations to protect the larger community while reducing the educational interruption to those not exposed.

The following sources are among those monitored and reviewed in determining the course of action for our educational models:

Data Resources for Monitoring COVID-19

- [CT School Learning Model Indicators | Connecticut Data](#)
- [COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population and percent test positivity in the last 7 days by town](#)
- [Connecticut Rt: COVID Reproduction Rate](#)
- [Connecticut Covid Map and Case Count](#)

CES Instructional Model Update

Please see this link: [CES Instructional Model Update](#)

2020 Virtual Kids Convention

On October 17 and 18, Stepping Stones Museum for Children and partners, Literacy How and Norwalk Public Schools, is holding the inaugural KC 2020 virtual kids' convention. KC 2020 will give children, families, and classrooms across the U.S. a global platform to talk about their place in the world and dreams for the future. Empower your children and students with the information and inspiration they need to make a positive difference by registering for KC 2020 today! Register at <http://www.stepsingstonesmuseum.org/kc2020> and use the promo code VOICE at the final checkout screen. All students and families who enter the VOICE promo code will receive free access to the entire two-day virtual convention. For more information, contact Brooke Miron at brooke@stepsingstonesmuseum.org.

Have a question or concern?

- **EMAILS**

General questions: covid19@colchesterct.org
Tech questions: techhelp@colchesterct.org
BOE questions: boardquestions@colchesterct.org

Frequently asked questions: [CPS Parent FAQ](#). For the most current update on COVID-19, please visit ct.gov/coronavirus.

Please enjoy the long weekend and stay safe and healthy.

Best Regards,



Jeffrey Burt
Superintendent