



Colchester Public Schools

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Dear Colchester Families,

While we did experience an uptick in COVID-19 cases in our school community after Thanksgiving, the rate is consistent with the previous three weeks, so we are not experiencing the “spike” that was anticipated. It is clear that the collective efforts (mask wearing, social distancing, handwashing, staying home if experiencing symptoms) of our Colchester community are working to keep the impact of COVID-19 as low as possible. Specifically, there have been 13 new cases in CPS since the Thanksgiving break: 9 students and 4 staff (total of 43 since July 1st). Thank you to the community for remaining diligent and working together to ensure that we can continue to offer in-person instruction.

Contact tracing continues to reflect that almost all of the COVID-19 cases in our school community resulted from out-of-school transmissions at small social gatherings. We will continue our in-person learning model as long as we have enough staff to open schools and continue to see a low rate of in-school transmission.

We need your help. Please keep your student(s) home if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Please notify the school nurse immediately if experiencing symptoms and continue to complete the daily health screen.

Free COVID-19 Testing

A message from the Selectman’s Office: Free COVID-19 testing will be held in the Citizens Bank Parking lot located at 111 Norwich Ave., Colchester on the following 3 Mondays: December 14th, 21st and 28th. The testing is drive-up and you will remain in your vehicle during the testing. Please come

prepared for a wait in your vehicle. Testing will begin at 10 a.m. and will finish at 1 p.m. The line will be assessed and may close prior to 1:00. If you have any questions, please contact the Colchester First Selectman's Office at 860-537-7220.

Upcoming Week: December 14th - 18th

Colchester Elementary School and Jack Jackter Intermediate School

- [CES AND JJIS ADJUSTED CALENDAR](#)
 - Monday & Tuesday - CES/JJIS full in-person learning
 - Wednesday - CES/JJIS in-person, shortened day
 - Thursday & Friday - CES/JJIS full in-person learning

William J. Johnston Middle School and Bacon Academy

- [WJMS AND BACON ADJUSTED CALENDAR](#)
 - Monday & Tuesday - Group 1 in-person; Group 2 remote
 - Wednesday - All remote, shortened day
 - Thursday & Friday - Group 2 in-person; Group 1 remote

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. Information on the impact of COVID-19 in our community can be found here: [CT COVID-19-Data-Tracker](#).

Best Regards,



Jeffrey Burt, Superintendent