



# Colchester Public Schools

127 Norwich Avenue, Suite 202  
Colchester, CT 06415

**Jeffrey E. Burt**  
Superintendent of Schools

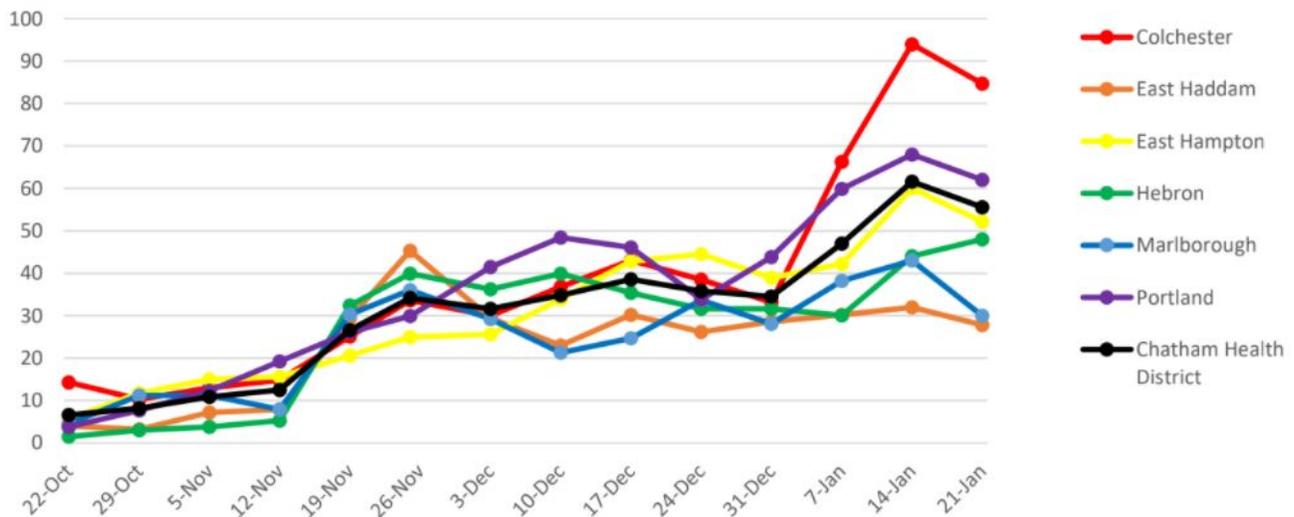
Phone (860) 537-7208  
Fax (860) 537-1252  
[jburt@colchesterct.org](mailto:jburt@colchesterct.org)

January 22, 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We have seen about the same number of positive cases since we returned on January 4th as we saw in the first four months of school, or about 50 cases in each period. While this has been a significant increase in our weekly average, this mirrors the increase in cases in the community and does not indicate an increase of in-school transmission (see graph below). As I have stated a number of times, we are not seeing widespread, in-school transmission, and only two of the approximately 50 cases this month *may* have been as a result of in-school contact.

**Average Daily Case Rate (# of cases /100,000 population)**



(Chatham Health Department 1/21/21)

To reiterate my message earlier this week, many of you have asked why we have not gone to full remote learning given the increase in the number of cases both in our schools and in the community. We will remain in our current model as long as we have enough staff to open each building, and as long as we do not see consistent in-school transmission. The reasons for this stance are to avoid the consequential disruption to students’ learning and family life, as well as significant evidence that students are generally safer in school. I know that this pandemic has created tremendous anxiety for all of us, and I am hopeful that the roll out of the vaccines will accelerate and provide some relief.

### COVID-19 Cases & Quarantine Data

The district has added a new data tracker to our website on the number of cases and the number of staff and students that are currently in quarantine: [https://www.colchesterct.org/c\\_o\\_v\\_i\\_d-19](https://www.colchesterct.org/c_o_v_i_d-19)

## Vaccines for Staff

The CT-DPH has requested that districts and educators wait to register for a vaccine until a significant portion of the 65-75, and 75 & older adults have been vaccinated. We do not have a clear timeline for when our staff can register, but early estimates place that date in mid-March.

## CIAC Winter Sports Update

[Winter Sports Letter to Families](#)

## Upcoming Week: January 25 - 29

### Colchester Elementary School and Jack Jackter Intermediate School

- 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

- Monday & Tuesday: Group 1 in-person
- Wednesday: All remote, shortened day
- Thursday & Friday: Group 2 in-person

## Have a question or concern?

- **EMAILS**

General questions: [covid19@colchesterct.org](mailto:covid19@colchesterct.org)

Tech questions: [techhelp@colchesterct.org](mailto:techhelp@colchesterct.org)

BOE questions: [boardquestions@colchesterct.org](mailto:boardquestions@colchesterct.org)

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