



Colchester Public Schools

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Dear Faculty and Families,

I am writing to you today to inform you that a **student member of William J. Johnston Middle School** has tested positive for COVID-19 and is isolating. As soon as the district was made aware of this confirmed diagnosis, Colchester Public Schools (CPS) notified the Chatham Health District (CHD) to assess the risk of transmission. Based on the guidance provided by the CHD, the District has taken the following steps below to keep our community safe.

- 1) Isolation:** The student member of our community who has tested positive for COVID-19 has followed medical recommendations to isolate. Please understand that more specific information will not be shared due to privacy concerns.
- 2) Contact Tracing:** Working collaboratively, the CPS staff and CHD **have already reached out** to those who came into contact with the individual who tested positive and have asked them to self-isolate.
- 3) Continuity of Education:** After consulting with CHD and the administration of WJJMS, it was determined that because of the number of staff who have been asked to isolate, **one team on one grade level** will move to remote learning for 14 days. The remainder of the school will remain open and students will continue to be taught in cohorts.

The District will continue to monitor this situation and will use sound decision making based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and CHD to maintain safety and continue instruction. Please feel free to contact us for specific questions or concerns.

Thank you, as always, for your support and partnership as we work to keep our students, staff, and community safe.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey E. Burt
Superintendent of Schools