



Colchester Public Schools

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May 21, 2021

Dear Colchester Families,

We are receiving updates every day from the CDC and federal, state, and local health officials with recommendations for safety protocols during the last month of school. Summaries are below; for complete CDC updates, visit [CDC Coronavirus Disease](#).

Universal Mask Policies in School Buildings

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently announced that fully vaccinated individuals may stop wearing face coverings in certain settings. However, the CDC confirmed shortly thereafter that it recommends schools continue to use the current COVID-19 prevention strategies for the 2020-2021 school year.

Some families have been asking if the District will change our mask mandate. **We will not be changing our mask protocols.** The District will continue to follow the recommendations of CT-DPH and the CSDE, requiring masks for staff, students, and visitors until the end of the school year. The mask requirement extends to parent pick-up at CES and JJIS.

We anticipate updated recommendations for summer activities and next school year by the end of the month and we will adjust our procedures accordingly.

Update from Chatham Public Health

The percentage of eligible Colchester residents who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine is approximately 58%. Anyone 12 years of age or older is now eligible to schedule an appointment for a vaccine. Residents 12 to 17 years old must seek a vaccine provider offering Pfizer's vaccine. Over the next 4 months, our vaccine campaign will shift from conducting large mass vaccination clinics to smaller, pop-up clinics that target hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations in our communities. To learn how to schedule an appointment, visit: [COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling Options](#). All residents who are not yet fully vaccinated are urged to:

- schedule an appointment to get vaccinated or complete the vaccination series,
- wear masks at all times in public when indoors,
- stay home from work or school when sick,
- quarantine when they have been in close contact with a person who had COVID-19 at the time,
- get tested for COVID-19,
- notify their employer and close contacts if they become aware that they have COVID-19, and
- limit social interactions with those outside their own households indoors when neither household is fully vaccinated.

Spring Sports Update

The ECC will continue with the mask wearing policy through the end of the spring regular season and tournaments.

Upcoming Week: May 24th - 28th

CES/JJIS/WJJMS

- Monday & Tuesday: full in-person learning
- Wednesday: in-person/shortened day
- Thursday & Friday: full in-person learning

Bacon Academy

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

Monday, May 31st: NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)

Tuesday, June 1st: NO SCHOOL for JJIS, WJJMS, & Bacon Academy; CES in-person school day.

2020-2021 School Year Calendar

[School Year 2020-2021 Calendar](#)

Have a question or concern?

- **EMAILS**
 - Budget questions: budget@colchesterct.org
 - 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