



Colchester Public Schools

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Dear Colchester Families,

As you enjoy the Memorial Day Weekend, please take time to reflect on the sacrifices made by countless Americans in service to our nation. We all owe a debt of gratitude for their service and willingness to give their lives to protect all that we hold dear. Discuss with your students the significance of this important holiday, and reflect why our nation pauses to honor those Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

This past week, Colchester Public Schools adjusted our COVID-19 procedures and protocols in light of significant updates from public health officials. Summaries are below; for complete CDC updates, visit [CDC Coronavirus Disease](#).

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 57%. To learn how to schedule an appointment, visit: [COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling Options](#).

Update to Mask Policies in School Buildings

Current mask policy is as follows, based on recent guidance from the Connecticut State Department of Education:

“Specific to outdoor settings, masks are not required, but we recommend continuing mask wearing for students and staff in situations where students and/or staff are outdoors and in close contact while stationary (e.g., sitting/standing together in a group). Where students are actively moving around during recess or physical education activities, masks can be removed. Masks should also be on when going out of the building to recess and back into the building afterward. Good hand hygiene should be emphasized before and after outdoor activities.”

Masks continue to be required for all staff and students inside school buildings for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. Masks will be mandatory for any CPS summer programs until we receive further guidance from CT-DPH or CSDE. At this time, public health officials have not released mask recommendations for the fall. Once such recommendations have been announced, we will adjust our procedures accordingly.

CT State Department of Public Health - Immunizations Update

On April 28, 2021, Governor Lamont signed into law Public Act 21-6, “An Act Concerning Immunizations,” which updates Connecticut’s immunization requirements for students attending preK-12 schools, day care programs, and institutions of higher education by removing exemptions

that are not medical. For more information, visit [CSDE Guidance - Immunizations](#).

Emergency Broadband FAQ

There is a new, temporary federal program to help eligible families pay for internet service during the pandemic. For more information, visit:

[Emergency Broadband FAQ](#)

District Device Collection

This past year Colchester Public Schools had a one to one device program set up to meet the educational needs during the pandemic. We will be transitioning back to our original plan before the pandemic started during the 2021-2022 school year. The one-to-one chromebook program will be in grades 6 - 12. Please refer to the schools Digital Backpack about the device collection process at the end of this school year. The collection will be for grades PK-5, 8, and 12. All other grades will keep their chromebooks over the summer.

Upcoming Week: June 1-4

Colchester Elementary School

- **Monday, May 31st: NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)**
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday: full in-person learning

JJIS/WJJMS

- **Monday, May 31st: NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)**
- **Tuesday, June 1st: NO SCHOOL (Built-in inclement weather day)**
- Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday: full in-person learning

Bacon Academy

- **Monday, May 31st: NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)**
- **Tuesday, June 1st: NO SCHOOL (Built-in inclement weather day)**
- Wednesday & Thursday: Group 1 full in-person learning
- Friday: Group 2 in-person

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