



Colchester Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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September 4, 2020

Dear Colchester Families,

It has been over six months since we've seen students, and we are excited to welcome students back for the 2020-2021 school year. Here are this week's important updates:

REMINDER: First Day of School for all Students is September 8th. Tasks for Group B on September 8th and 9th will complement in-class activities. Students in Group B will not be in-person until September 10th, but will be expected to participate via their Google Classroom or See Saw Classroom.

Mask Requirements During COVID-19 Pandemic

Please review this document for appropriate [Mask Requirements](#). Gaiters are not acceptable. Please note that a new state mandate requires preschoolers to wear masks.

Pick-up and Drop-off: There may be an extended time for both drop-off and pick-up of students as more families are opting to drive their children to school. Staff will do their best to help with the process at each school, but please remember to be patient. During the first few weeks of schools, students will not be penalized if they are late due to increased traffic.

Buses

Due to the decreased ridership buses may be early to each designated bus stop. We recommend that students arrive at their bus stop a few minutes earlier than usual until a routine has been established.

Sports Update

The CIAC continues to develop its plan for the fall. Please see their most recent decision here: [CIAC Sports Update](#)

Parent Survey: Students' Thoughts on Re-Entry to School

Please complete the following survey regarding your student's thoughts concerning re-entry to school: [Pupil Services Survey on Re-Entry to School](#)

Voluntary At-home Learners

- If your student has voluntarily opted-out of in-class learning, please reference this [Quick-Guide to CPS Curriculum Resources](#) for support in navigating curriculum documents and resources.
- Please understand that the District's first priority is the safety of its students and staff. For this reason, we are still making adjustments to staff assignments, and will be able to provide access to a tutor for voluntary at-home learners no sooner than September 14.
- Parents can expect information on recording the attendance of voluntary at-home learners early next week.

Google Virtual Meet Sessions - Passive Agreement

All students will be expected to attend live Google Meet sessions with their teacher(s) unless parents inform the district. Please [click here](#) to read the Google Meet Passive Agreement.

M&J Bus Information

- [CES/JJIS Estimated Route Times 2020-2021](#)
- [WJJMS/Bacon Academy Estimated Route Times 2020-2021](#)

Meals Update

"Grab and Go" meals will be available at William J Johnson Middle School on in-school learning days from 12:30PM to 1:00PM and on distant learning days from 9:30AM to 10:30AM.

Upcoming Communications

- **Weekly Schedule:** Every Sunday evening, we will send a text of the upcoming week's schedule. To opt in for School Messenger texts, simply text to the **number 67587 and type in the word Yes** in the message area and send.
- **Student/Staff Health Screener:** Beginning Tuesday, September 8th, the District will send **daily** to all students and staff a link to a Google survey that will gather information on an individual's daily health status (e.g., Do you have a fever exceeding 100.4 degrees?). Please complete this survey for each student who lives in your household. The survey will also be sent to the school issued emails of students in Grades 6-12 for them to complete. As a prevention strategy, our nurses will review the results of the daily survey and contact staff or families if responses indicate an individual might be experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The results of the screener are confidential and will only be viewed by the school nurse. All screener results will be deleted daily.

Updated Q&A Document

Please visit our frequently asked questions: [CPS Parent FAQ](#)

Have a question or concern?

- **EMAILS**
 General questions: covid19@colchesterct.org
 Tech questions: techhelp@colchesterct.org
 BOE questions: boardquestions@colchesterct.org

Enjoy the long weekend and we look forward to welcoming our students back!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Burt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeffrey Burt
Superintendent