



Colchester Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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November 19, 2021

Dear Faculty and Families,

SPECIAL NOTE: Please remember that when CPS staff reach out to families to inform them that their student is a direct contact and must either quarantine or is eligible for Screen and Stay that those staff members are not responsible for the State guidelines for COVID-19. I have heard multiple incidents over the past few weeks of our staff members, nurses in particular, being yelled at while trying to work through contact tracing. These staff members are just doing their job and do not deserve to be treated in this manner.

I am writing to you today to inform you that the following members of CPS have tested positive for COVID-19 since our last communication on Wednesday, 11/17 and are isolating:

- **Three student members of CES**
- **Three student members of JJIS**
- **One student member of WJMS**
- **One student member of BA**

As soon as the District was made aware of these confirmed diagnoses, 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 members of our community who have tested positive for COVID-19 have followed medical recommendations to isolate. Please understand that more specific information will not be shared due to privacy concerns.

2) Contact Tracing: CPS staff and CHD have already reached out to those who came into contact with the individuals who have tested positive and have asked them to self-isolate or to Screen & Stay if applicable. CHD will conduct community-based contact tracing as necessary.

3) Continuity of Education: No change to our current instructional model.

To view the total number of staff and students in isolation see the following webpage: [CPS COVID-19 Update Webpage](#)

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