



Colchester Public Schools

127 Norwich Avenue, Suite 202
Colchester, CT 06415

Jeffrey E. Burt
Superintendent of Schools

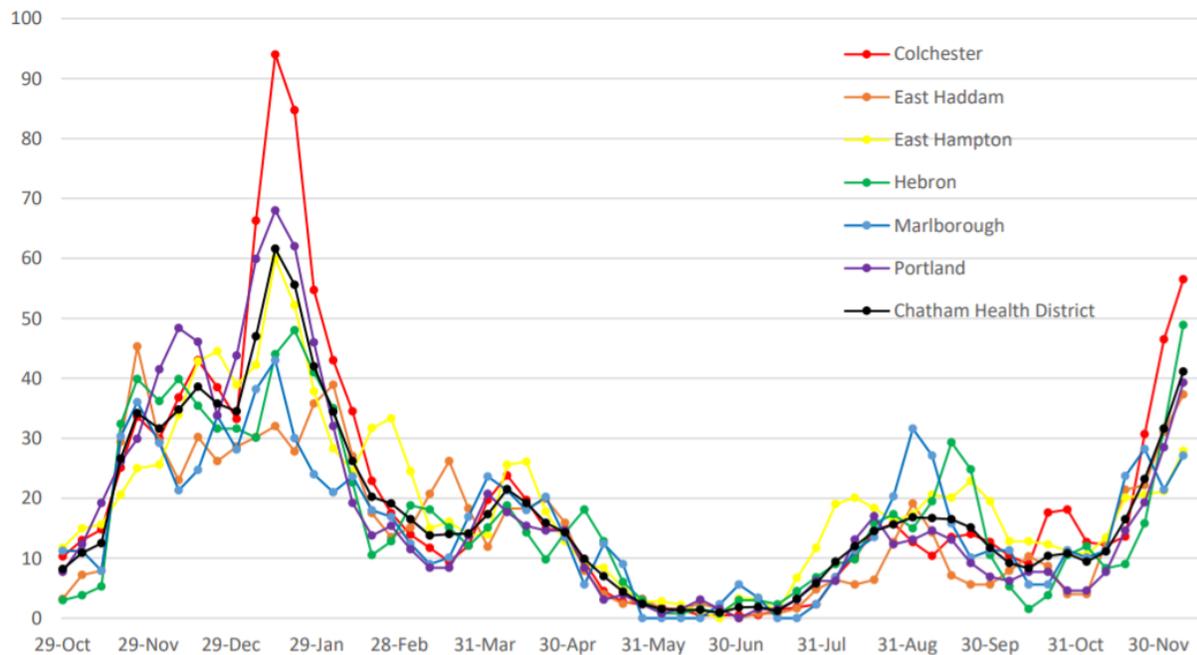
Phone (860) 537-7208
Fax (860) 537-1252
jburt@colchesterct.org

December 13, 2021

Dear Faculty and Families,

We have seen a significant increase in the number of positive cases since Thanksgiving, with over 55 cases in just that window. A majority of the cases are elementary students and I am encouraging all families to continue with mitigation strategies at home as best as possible. The graph below shows cases per 100,000 to allow for comparisons between towns. Colchester's official count of cases increased by 22 for the reporting period of 11/21-12/4 to a total of 125 cases.

Average Daily Case Rate by Town (# of cases /100,000)



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 Friday 12/3, and are isolating:

- **Eight student members of CES**
- **Six student members of JJIS**

- **Six student members of WJJMS**
- **Six student members of BA**
- **One staff 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 staff and 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: At this point, there is no change to our current instructional model but we are monitoring the situation daily.

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 with 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