



Colchester Public Schools

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Jeffrey E. Burt
Superintendent of Schools

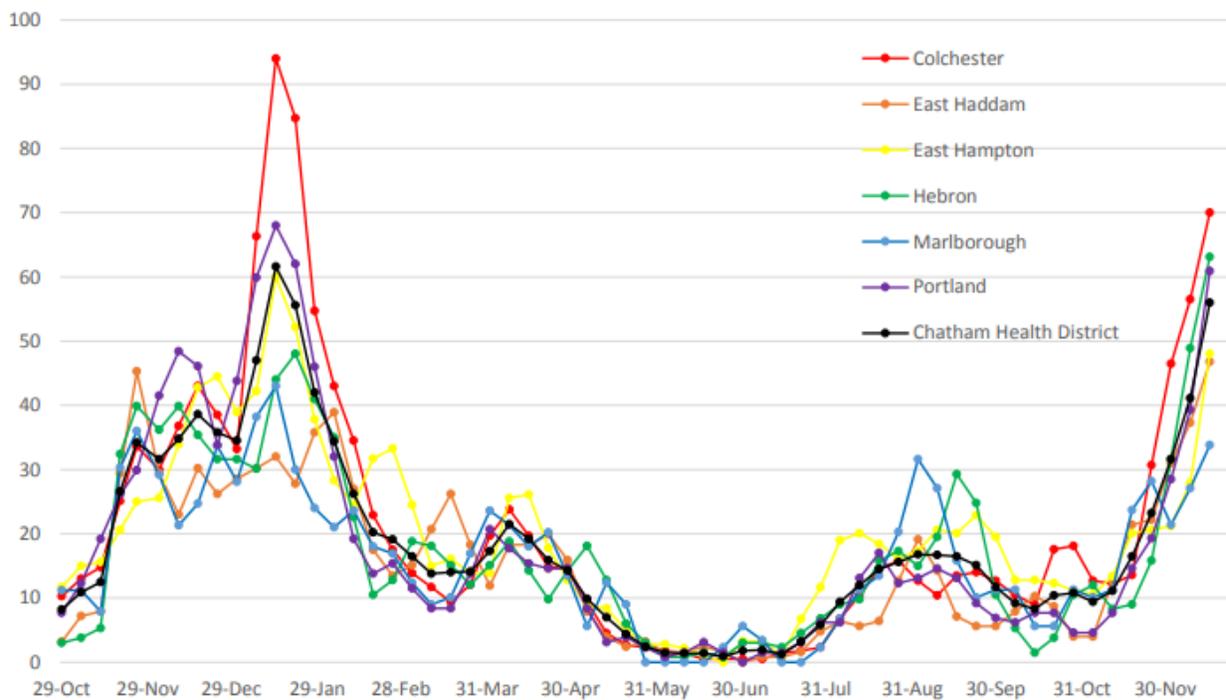
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Dear Faculty and Families,

Cases continue to rise throughout the region and the cases in our schools reflect that trend. While a majority of the cases are at the elementary level, we are seeing an increase of cases at the secondary level as well. 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 11/28-12/1 to a total of 155 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 Monday, 12/13, and are isolating:

- **Four student members of CES**
- **Five student members of JJIS**
- **Three student members of WJMS**
- **One staff member of JJIS**
- **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