



Colchester Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Staff, Parents and Guardians,

As you may be aware, the state has introduced a new process, "[Screen & Stay](#)", that will allow for more students to remain in school even if they are a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case. We are very excited to start this new protocol on **Monday, November 15** and we hope that far fewer students will need to quarantine and miss important instruction with our highly qualified teachers!

Screen & Stay Overview:

- Screen & Stay is only for K-12 students, not for Prek students.
- Screen & Stay is applicable only in the following circumstances:
 - The student or staff member is unvaccinated (vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if they are symptom free).
 - Contact with a positive case happened within the school day or on the bus (excludes extracurricular activities). Exposure outside of school does not qualify.
 - Both the contact and the positive case were wearing masks indoors, or were outdoors without masks.
 - Students that are considered close contacts during a period when not wearing a mask, such as snack or lunch time, will not qualify for this process.
 - The contact student must be able to wear a mask consistently to return to school.
 - "Aerosol increased" activities are restricted for the contact for 14 days, such as singing and certain PE activities.
 - CIAC rules still apply to athletic participation.
- If a student is able to participate in Screen & Stay then the following will occur:
 - The school will contact the parent or guardian to indicate that the student is a close contact and whether or not they qualify for Screen & Stay. The school will send an email outlining the necessary steps that include the one-time

completion of a “Affirmation of Intent to Comply” document and the daily checklist form.

- The Daily Symptom Checklist screener must be completed prior to leaving for school. The student may not come to school if any of the symptoms are present.
- The student may not participate in “increased aerosol” activities for 14 days; schools will provide alternative activities for PE, chorus and wind instruments.

More information, along with the necessary forms, will be shared by school officials on a case by case basis.

Regards,

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

Jeffrey E. Burt
Superintendent of Schools