



Welcome to the first official Laker View of the 2020-2021 school year! In previous years (pre-COVID) the Laker View has been a monthly publication. When schools closed in March we found that every week we had important information to share with our community and began sending out Laker Views (this document and an associated video) every week. We know there will continue to be a lot of information to share and, for the near future, we plan to continue to send the Laker View weekly on Thursday or Friday.

Before we get further into this View I would like to extend a warm welcome to our **Class of 2024**. We are excited to have you join the Laker community. We know this isn't how you imagined you would start your high school career, but we are confident you will have a great four years here and will love being a Laker.

### **Traditional versus 4x4 Schedule**

Thank you for taking the time to watch our video and complete the survey last week regarding the CHS Master Schedule and the decision to keep the traditional schedule or switch to a 4x4 schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. As we shared in the video, there are pros and cons to both models. This is an important decision and we appreciated hearing your voice, including both the opportunities and concerns you identified for each model. Over 500 students, parents/caregivers, and teachers completed the survey (a big thank you!) and a significant majority favored a 4x4 schedule for the 2020-2021 school year.

So... we are ready to share that CHS will be on a 4x4 schedule for this upcoming school year.

What's next? Now that the community has weighed in and the decision has been made, we are working on converting the CHS master schedule and all courses to the 4x4 format. We plan to have this completed by early next week. Our counselors will then be going through student schedules by hand to ensure each student's schedule is balanced. Thank you for your patience as we do this work! We anticipate having student schedules done and out to students and families in a few weeks. We will schedule an add/drop period once we send out schedules and will communicate the process to add or drop classes. Stay tuned in future Laker Views for more information about the add/drop process and timeline.

In addition we are working with the leadership team and content-area teachers to think creatively about what a 4x4 will look like for our music, Advanced Placement, and support classes (to name a few).

**CHS Reopening Plans:**

The district has done an excellent job of communicating with families about the reopening plans and updates. If you have not seen the CSD Reopening Guide, I've linked it here: [Reopening Colchester Schools: A Guide to the 2020-2021 School Year.](#)

As you likely know from the district's last communication, the high school has moved from a Monday/Thursday (Lakers) and Tuesday/Friday (Champs) schedule to a **Monday/Tuesday (Lakers)** and **Thursday/Friday (Champs)** schedule.

	K-8		9-12	
	Blue (A-K)	Green (L-Z)	Lakers (A-K)	Champs (L-Z)
<b>Monday</b>	In Person	Remote	In Person	Remote
<b>Tuesday</b>	In Person	Remote	In Person	Remote
<b>Wednesday</b>	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote
<b>Thursday</b>	Remote	In Person	Remote	In Person
<b>Friday</b>	Remote	In Person	Remote	In Person

We know that some families may like to request a waiver to move groups (from Laker to Champ or Champ to Laker) based on family circumstances. If you would like to request a waiver, please fill out the [CSD Hybrid Learning Group Waiver Form](#). Any existing waivers from the old schedule (prior to the district's email on Tuesday afternoon with the schedule change) will not be used. Please submit any requests by Wednesday, August 12th.

So... what does the 4x4 in the Hybrid model really mean for a student's schedule? Below is an example of a Laker student schedule for semester 1 and semester 2:

Sample 4x4 Hybrid for: <b>Lakers: A-K</b>					
	SEMESTER 1		SEMESTER 2		Wed/Thurs/Fri
	Monday:	Tuesday:	Monday:	Tuesday:	
<b>Mod1</b>	AmEx	AmEx	AmEx	AmEx	Remote Learning
<b>Mod3</b>	French II	French II	Hum. Ecology (Q3) Math of Sports (Q4)	Hum. Ecology (Q3) Math of Sports (Q4)	
<b>Mod4</b>	Health (Q1) Study Hall (Q2)	Health (Q1) Study Hall (Q2)	Geometry	Geometry	
<b>Mod2</b>	HB/Lunch	HB/Lunch	HB/Lunch	HB/Lunch	
<b>Mod5</b>	Biology	Biology	Pottery (Q3) Study Hall (Q4)	Pottery (Q3) Study Hall (Q4)	

The CHS Reopening of Schools Committee has been meeting regularly to plan for the reopening of CHS. The committee is developing a guide that will outline teaching and learning expectations during full Remote Learning (Step 1) as well as during Hybrid Learning. We are using the feedback from families, students, and teachers from spring to strengthen our remote learning systems. We are committed to providing a rigorous learning experience for students whether we are all at CHS, Hybrid, or Remote. We will share the guide with students, families, and teachers once it's complete.

### **Athletic and Co-Curricular Updates:**

Currently, we are waiting for the latest guidance from the State and the Vermont Principals' Association (VPA) for the fall sports season. This guidance should be released today (Thursday 8/6/2020). I have been in close contact with our administration and other local ADs to ensure we are able to best implement that guidance at Colchester High School. As always, we are doing our best to advocate for our students' interests while making sure we follow the health and safety guidelines. The well-being of our community is our number one priority.

Mr. Ellingson  
CHS Athletics and Activities Director

And a few last things:

- ★ Student School Board representative: I am thrilled to share with you that Julia Correll has been selected as the 2020-2021 student representative to the school board. I know she will bring the variety of student perspectives to the school board and represent the CSD student population well. Congratulations Julia!
- ★ Parking: If you have a valid VT driver's license and are considering driving to school (which we encourage you to do!), please see the linked document for more information and deadlines: [CHS Parking Application 2020-2021](#).
- ★ Laptops: All 9th grade students receive a laptop for use during their time at CHS. 9th graders can pick up their laptop Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. starting August 10th. Any 10th-12th grade student that returned their device can pick it up anytime after August 10th. All device pickups happen at Colchester High School, [door D-18](#).



That's all for now! See you next week.

Ms. Baron