



# Colchester School District

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September 11, 2020

CSD Community,

After months of intense planning, it has been wonderful to see both our hybrid and virtual learners this week. I was fortunate to get to spend time in each of our school buildings over the last four days and I can attest first hand to the energy and excitement on campus.

Each school year, we always experience a couple of bumps in the road during the first few days while we all reacclimate to the school schedule. This year was no exception, however, I am pleased to report that even with the added COVID-19 components that we implemented for the first time this week, we actually had very few unanticipated challenges. Our successful reopening is a testament to the work put in over the summer by both administrators and reopening committees. We should all be grateful to have a fantastic team here in Colchester and I want to personally extend my sincere thanks to all involved in the planning of our reopening.

Each school became much more efficient with their arrival and dismissal procedures as the days progressed and we will continue to get better at these procedures in the upcoming weeks. A huge thank you to our employees and families for their flexibility as we have made small adjustments to these procedures. Mountain Transit has tweaked a number of bus routes this week and a separate email was sent out just before this one noting the affected buses. We will continue to monitor bus pick up/drop off times and ridership levels. Families may continue to see adjustments as we dial in the routes to be as efficient and safe as possible. [Our bus routes and times can be found here on our website.](#)

As a district, our students have been extremely successful in wearing their masks throughout the day. One of the things that we will continue to stress and work on is educating our students on the importance of physical distancing and verbally reminding our students to “keep your distance.” Anything at home that you can do to reinforce the need for physical distancing would be appreciated.

Our full-virtual classrooms also experienced a successful start to the school year. These students have been meeting teachers online and adapting to their virtual learning routines and platforms. Kindergarten through grade 8 began learning this week and high school virtual learners received introductory information and will begin their courses next week.

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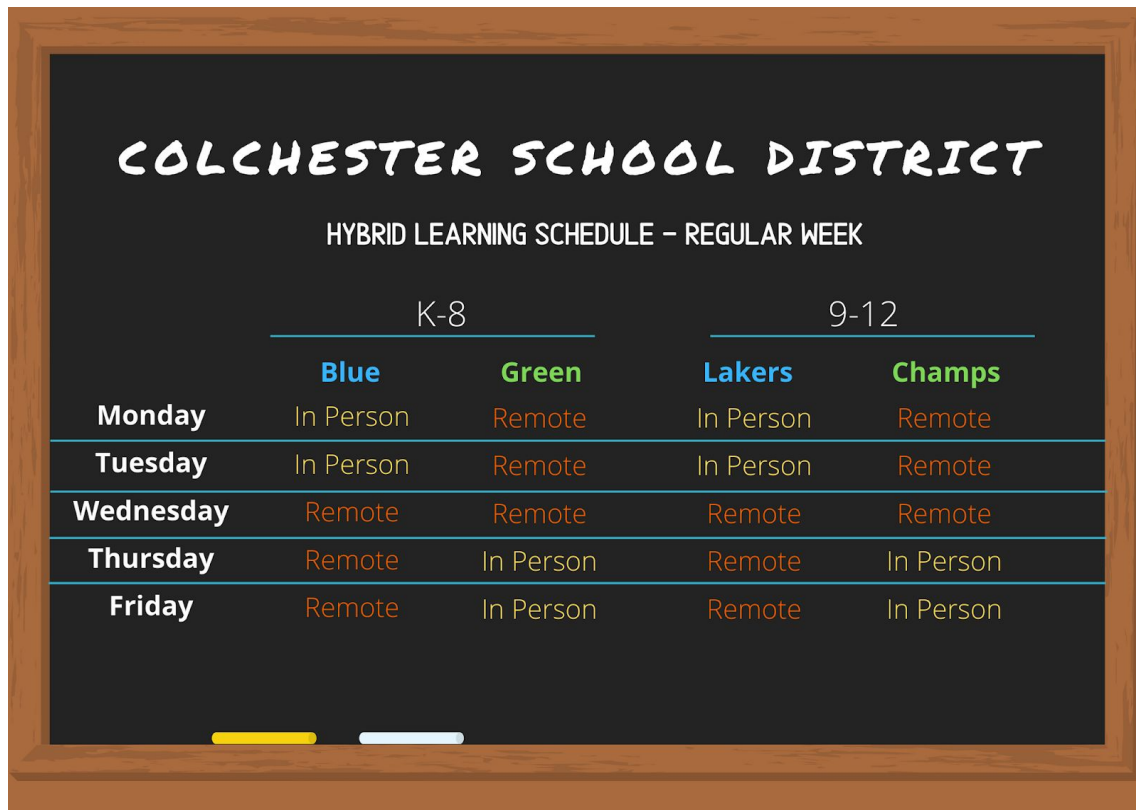
**Amy Minor**  
Superintendent  
of Schools

**George Trieb**  
Business & Operations  
Manager

**Carrie Lutz**  
Director of Student  
Support Services

**Gwendolyn Carmolli**  
Director of Curriculum  
& Instruction

As a reminder, next week we will begin to follow our regular schedule with the Blue/Laker group attending on Monday and Tuesday; the Green/Champ group attending on Thursday and Friday; and everyone learning remotely on Wednesdays.



COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT				
HYBRID LEARNING SCHEDULE – REGULAR WEEK				
	K-8		9-12	
	Blue	Green	Lakers	Champs
Monday	In Person	Remote	In Person	Remote
Tuesday	In Person	Remote	In Person	Remote
Wednesday	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote
Thursday	Remote	In Person	Remote	In Person
Friday	Remote	In Person	Remote	In Person

As we prepare to enter cold and flu season, we encourage you to review our [Guide to Symptomatic and Positive COVID-19 Cases](#) again, if you haven't already. In it, it shares what to do if your child comes down with a runny nose, a cough, or a fever. It also lays out what the district will do if we are notified of a positive case in our district.

The Vermont Agency of Education and Vermont Department of Health will continue to release guidance for schools in the upcoming months and we will share those updates with you as they are released. This week, they released [this letter for families](#) regarding the opening of schools.

In closing, thank you to everyone for the grace that you have extended to us as we opened school this week. We appreciate all of our parents, employees, caregivers, and students for your positivity, high spirits, and willingness to follow the new rules and guidance for the way school will operate this year. We are all excited to be back.

Be Well,  
Amy Minor  
Superintendent of Schools