



# Colchester School District

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November 3, 2021

CSD Community,

Here are a few updates, notifications for some upcoming events, and information about winter sports.

## Important Upcoming Districtwide Dates and Reminders

- Monday, November 8 and November 15: Virtual SEL Workshop for Families
- Wednesday, November 10: Emergency Notification Test
- Wednesday, November 17: Last day to donate to the Giving Thanks Food Drive
- November 22-26: Thanksgiving Recess
- For the full calendar, visit [www.csdvt.org/calendar](http://www.csdvt.org/calendar).

## COVID-19 Vaccine Now Available to Ages 5+

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available in children ages 5 years and older at state-run clinics, many health care providers and some pharmacies. Learn more, review FAQs, and make an appointment through the [Vermont Department of Health's vaccine website](#).

## Virtual Town Hall: Vaccines & Children

The American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter is inviting Vermont families to join them for a conversation about COVID-19 vaccines for children from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. via Zoom on the below dates. Check the [AAP website](#) for more information and updates as additional dates are scheduled.

- Monday, November 8th with Leah Costello, M.D. (So. Burlington) - [Nov. 8 Zoom link](#)
- Wednesday, November 10th with Elizabeth Richards, M.D. (Brattleboro) - [Nov. 10 Zoom link](#)
- Tuesday, November 16th with Josh Kantrowitz, M.D. ( St. Johnsbury) - [Nov. 16 Zoom link](#)
- Thursday, November 18th with Ashley Miller, M.D. ( So. Royalton) - [Nov. 18 Zoom link](#)
- Monday, November 22nd with Colleen Moran, M.D. (Lamoille) - [Nov. 22 Zoom link](#)
- Tuesday, December 2nd with Tracy Tyson, M.D. (St. Albans) - [Dec. 2 Zoom link](#)

## Virtual Workshop: Supporting Students' Social & Emotional Growth

The district has partnered with national award-winning teacher, author and speaker, Keeth Matheny to facilitate a workshop for families regarding social and emotional learning (SEL). He'll cover what SEL is, why it is important, how we can better support teens and help them manage their emotions and make positive decisions, and how to build transformative programs for kids. There are two chances to see his presentation, November 8th and the 15th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm, and you must preregister using one of the links below. (They are repeat sessions.)

**Amy Minor**  
Superintendent  
of Schools

**George Trieb**  
Business & Operations  
Manager

**Carrie Lutz**  
Director of Student  
Support Services

**Gwendolyn Carmolli**  
Director of Curriculum  
& Instruction

- November 8:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcodu2prj8sG9xuWXYIIWn7oz-s1Xr35Yf2>
- November 15:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlsd-igrDosGNFP6vf29i5f9TP9Fd\\_Dvais](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlsd-igrDosGNFP6vf29i5f9TP9Fd_Dvais)

### **Emergency Notification Test**

The district will be conducting an annual routine test of our emergency notification system on Wednesday, November 10 at 6:00 pm. The test notification will go out to all families using the contact information on file with the district. If you would like to update or change your contact information in advance of this test or if you do not receive a call/email/text during the test and feel you should have, please contact the front office of your school or [meghan.baule@colchestersd.org](mailto:meghan.baule@colchestersd.org).

### **Changes to COVID Testing Options at CSD**

As we've shared in several recent emails, the district has been evaluating and assessing the various testing options offered by the state to determine how we can implement them locally. Tomorrow, we will be sending a stand-alone email with detailed information about the testing options we will offer moving forward and how to sign up.

### **Winter Sports and Co-curriculars**

Sixteen school districts covering Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties who are members of the Champlain Valley Superintendents Association (CVSA), have developed common agreements across the region for sports and co-curricular events during the winter season based on the Winter Sports Advisory Memo from the Agency of Education.

If an athlete is vaccinated, they will not be required to quarantine should an exposure occur. Participation in the upcoming Test to Stay program will allow unvaccinated athletes to continue to participate in team-based practices during their quarantine, however, it will not enable involvement in interscholastic competition (i.e., games, meets or competitions).

Depending on the school facility, locker rooms may be used by both visiting and home teams this winter season. **Masks are required by ALL student-athletes**, coaching staff, referees, and spectators during indoor practices, competitions, and games, regardless of individual vaccination status. Exceptions to this are limited. Athletes participating in wrestling, gymnastics, indoor track, cheer, and dance skills are exempt when participating in the physical skills of that activity. When these athletes are not actively competing, masks will be worn.

Spectators/audience members will be allowed for all athletic and co-curricular activities (music, drama, etc). **Masks are required for all spectators and audience members** and must remain on at all times unless eating in the designated eating area. Please leave space between your family and others. We will monitor gym capacity and may limit ticket sales for larger events. At this time, we are setting the capacity of the CHS Performing Arts Center to 200 tickets per event and we will continue to assess capacity based on health conditions. Contact tracing for spectators will be done by the Vermont Health Department, and we strongly encourage that you take note of the section of the gym you are in and/or

your seat number in the CHS Performing Arts Center. If protocols are not followed, future events may need to have a limitation on spectators or no spectators at all.

Community members attending competitive events can also expect to hear a statement read aloud reminding participants and spectators that Vermont law requires learning environments free from hazing, harassment and bullying of any kind. This is especially true with respect to a person's race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, ethnic differences, or disability. Under no circumstances should any students, judges, officials, or coaches be subjected to behavior and/or language aimed to demean, disrespect or harm.

Our spectators can expect that if behavior or hate speech of this kind is observed and/or reported at a competitive event that the officials will stop the event immediately to meet with the coaches and the site administrator about the next course of action. Possible outcomes of violating this expectation range from immediate ejection from the event, ending the event early, forfeiture, rescheduling the event or future events without fans. Sportsmanship and a safe environment are a top priority for all Vermont school-sponsored activities. Thank you to our entire community for helping ensure the highest levels of respect and safety for all.

Be well,

Amy Minor  
Superintendent of Schools