



# Colchester School District

Administrative Offices, 125 Laker Lane, PO Box 27, Colchester, Vermont 05446

Phone: (802) 264-5999 • [www.csdvt.org](http://www.csdvt.org) • Fax: (802) 863-4774

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## In This Newsletter:

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### **Introducing Monthly Virtual Family Support Nights**

We're excited to expand on a popular online event that we held several times last year. Starting in January, the district will hold monthly virtual family support nights to help answer questions parents and caregivers may have on timely topics. These events are free, held via Zoom, and open to anyone. Save the date for January's topic:

#### **Virtually Family Support Nights: Your Questions Answered**

Talking to Kids About LGBTQIA+ Topics

January 11, 2022 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

[Zoom Link](#)

Gain the tools and confidence to talk to kids about what it means to be gay, transgender, and gender nonconforming. Learn tips from queer, nonbinary writer and advocate, Amber Leventry, on ways to answer kids' questions, start conversations about sexuality and gender, and foster a love of diversity. Hear the significance of accepting and affirming our kids' LGBTQIA+ identity.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Now Available to Ages 5+ and Boosters Open to 16+**

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available for children ages 5 years and older at state-run clinics, many health care providers and some pharmacies. As a reminder, there is a vaccine clinic for ages 5-11 tomorrow at MBS from 9 am - 3pm. There are still spots available, register here:

<https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>.

Additionally, 16 and 17-year-olds are now able to receive a booster shot once six months out from their second dose. Learn more, review FAQs, and make an appointment through the [Vermont Department of Health's vaccine website](#).

**Amy Minor**  
Superintendent  
of Schools

**George Trieb**  
Business & Operations  
Manager

**Carrie Lutz**  
Director of Student  
Support Services

**Gwendolyn Carmolli**  
Director of Curriculum  
& Instruction

## **International Travel Guidance**

With many traveling for the upcoming winter break, we wanted to remind families and employees that while there are no restrictions on stateside travel, after returning to the United States from international travel, it is recommended that:

- All travelers get tested for COVID three to five days after travel.
- Self-monitor for [COVID symptoms](#); isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
- If you are **NOT** fully vaccinated, in addition to the testing recommendations above:
  - Stay home and self-quarantine for a full seven days after travel, even if you test negative between three to five days.
  - If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.

For more information on international travel, please [visit the CDC online](#).

## **Search for New CHS Principal**

Principal Heather Baron has announced that she will not be returning as the CHS principal next fall. I would like to publicly thank Principal Baron for her dedication and commitment to the students, employees and families of Colchester. During her 19 years at CHS, she has made a tremendous impact on improving the learning environment for students. Thank you, Heather, for your service. You will be deeply missed, and we wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

In January, the district will begin the search process for the next principal of CHS. We have posted the position and are seeking a dynamic candidate to continue the positive growth that is happening at the school. The voices of CHS students, employees, and families will play an important role in selecting the next leader. We'll share more information about the process and ways to participate soon.

## **Hiring: Help Us Fill Open Positions**

Staffing has been a major challenge this school year. Please help us spread the word as we are in need of substitute teachers and nurses, support staff, behavior interventionists, and bus drivers. We also have a few unique positions open including an administrative assistant and a technology specialist. For a full list of job openings, visit [www.csdvt.org/jobs](http://www.csdvt.org/jobs) or contact HR Coordinator, Kelsey Sadewicz at [kelsey.sadewicz@colchestersd.org](mailto:kelsey.sadewicz@colchestersd.org) or (802) 264-5976.

## **Important Upcoming Districtwide Dates and Reminders**

- Thursday, December 23 - Friday, December 31: Winter Break - No School
- Tuesday, January 11 - Virtual Family Support Night: Talking to Kids About LGBTQIA+ Topics
- Monday, January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No School
- For the full calendar, visit [www.csdvt.org/calendar](http://www.csdvt.org/calendar).

Be well,

Amy Minor  
Superintendent of Schools