



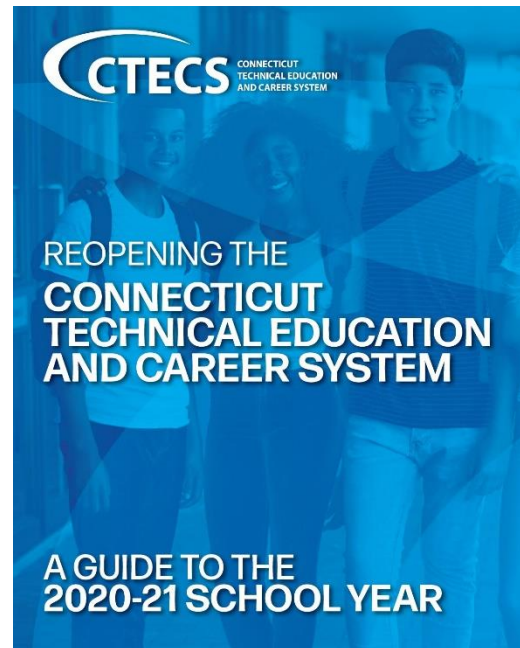
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July 31, 2020

Dear CTECS families, students and staff,

I am writing today to share with you [CTECS' Guide to Reopening for the 2020-2021](#) school year. It is broken down in sections related to prevention, response to confirmed or potential COVID cases, instruction, school meals, transportation, extracurricular activities, social emotional support, and communication.

Please keep in mind that CTECS' Guide to Reopening is based on public health information available at this time. The plan will be revised and adjusted as new guidance from the Connecticut State Department of Education, Connecticut Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and other public health officials is received, or as necessary to best support the health and safety of our students and employees. All updates will be posted online at cttech.org/coronavirus and shared with our families and employees.



Each one of our schools is unique, not only because of their various locations throughout the state, but also in student population, facility layout, trades offered and more. As such, your principal will share specific plans for your school in the coming weeks.

A few things to be aware of:

- The first day of school for students is now Wednesday, September 2, 2020. The Connecticut State Board of Education passed a resolution to waive up to three (3) days of the school year to provide schools with additional time to build capacity to safely transition back to in-person classes. CTECS will be taking advantage of this time to prepare our school buildings and further train our staff for your children's safety and our staffs' safety.
- Please keep in mind that students and staff who travel outside of Connecticut within the two week period just prior to the first day that they return to school may be

subject to a mandatory travel quarantine. The list of current affected states is available here.

- We will make a decision regarding what phase of instruction we will reopen in – full-time in-person, or a hybrid model (a combination of distance and in-person learning) - during the coming days. This decision will be made utilizing current public health data.
- Parent/guardians will have the option to voluntarily choose distance learning for their child on a temporary basis. In the coming weeks we will issue further guidance on this topic.
- If at any point during the school year public health data supports moving towards a hybrid model of instruction, we will prioritize in-person instruction in the trades.
- Students will be required to wear a mask each day, unless a documented medical exemption is provided. This safety measure is coupled with other mitigating strategies including social distancing; frequent hand washing; enhanced cleaning, disinfecting, and air filtration; and health self-assessments before coming to school each day. More details are outlined in the plan.

Be well,

Jeffrey Wihbey, Superintendent