



November 11, 2020

Dear CTECS families and students,

As we approach the holiday season - and the gatherings, cold weather, and increased time indoors that comes with it - I want to share some reminders with you that are critical to maintaining the health and safety of our school communities over the coming months.

First of all, a big thank you to everyone who has followed the numerous COVID-19 mitigation strategies we've had in place since the beginning of the school year. What the data shows is that these strategies are working! Transmission of COVID-19 is not high within schools, and our medical advisors have urged us to keep doing what we are doing.

That being said, we are seeing people put themselves in vulnerable situations outside of schools, such as large gatherings and sporting events, and often this leads to the isolated COVID cases that occur within our schools. With this in mind, we all must double down on our efforts to follow the mitigation strategies that we know are working.

Some reminders:

1. Check your student's temperature every day and assess them to see if they have any symptoms of COVID-19 before sending them to school or riding the bus.
2. If you or someone in your household is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, even if you do not yet have a positive test, we ask that you keep your student home. They can access classes virtually during this time.
3. If you have any reason to test your child for COVID-19, please keep them out of school until you get the results. If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you need to inform your school as soon as possible.
4. Social distancing is not a suggestion! It is mandatory, especially when in school, to maintain 6 feet between individuals whenever possible.
5. CTECS requires cloth face masks on all students, staff and visitors when on school property or riding the bus. The masks are intended to keep the wearer from spreading respiratory secretions when walking, sneezing, or coughing.
6. Continue to practice good hand hygiene. Lather up and scrub for at least 20 seconds.
7. If your family has travel plans in the coming months, please be mindful of the Connecticut Travel Advisory, which requires you to self-quarantine if arriving in Connecticut from an affected state. The list of affected states is fluid and will be updated every Tuesday on this [website](#). If you travel to a state on this list, and have spent more than 24 hours there within 14 days of returning to Connecticut, you will not be permitted to return to the school building until completing the self-quarantine period.

As always, thanks for your support and partnership during this time. Please contact your school's Principal with any questions or concerns.

Jeffrey Wihbey, Superintendent