



October 21, 2020

Dear CTECS families and students,

CTECS continues to closely monitor the COVID-19 positivity rate across all regions of the state. On a weekly basis we consult with many local departments of health, CTECS' medical advisor, the State Department of Education and superintendents of schools across Connecticut. After all of these conversations, we have made the decision **to remain in Phase 2- Hybrid Learning, until at least November 6**. *Note: If your school is currently in Phase 3 – Distance Learning, you will remain in that model until your Principal informs you otherwise.*

The driving factor behind our decision is the current public health data, which shows a slight uptick in COVID-19 positivity rates, with some regional outbreaks. Our top priority is keeping our students and staff safe. So although this is difficult decision, we believe it is in the best interest of our school communities.

We will reassess our opening status on November 6 and will update you then. We hope, just as you do, that the coming weeks will show data that will support a full return to the classroom.

A few important reminders:

- **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's test comes back positive, and they have been attending school while waiting for the results, the steps that the school must then take create a serious disruption to the educational process.
- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you need to inform your school as soon as possible.
- If you want to change the model of learning for your child (i.e. switch them to a full-time distance learner, or switch from distance learning to attending in-person classes) please provide your school at least 1 weeks' notice, if possible. This will allow teachers time to best plan for your child.

Thank you for your patience and partnership this school year. Please reach out to your school if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeff Wihbey, Superintendent