Champlain Valley SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Starting the 2022-2023 School Year
Considerations About COVID-19

As we enter another school year where COVID-19 is on our minds, we are hopeful that we can balance healthy learning environments and positive safety measures. Most of the following guidelines come from the August 10 communication sent to school nurses by the Vermont Department of Health and the Agency of Education. The Champlain Valley School District and its schools will continue to follow their guidance.

As you'll see when reading the following 10 considerations, this work falls largely on our school nurses. We greatly value their knowledge and expertise. We thank them for their dedication to the health and safety of our students and staff.

Please view the Health Services page on our website to see "When Should I Keep My Child Home?"

Thank you for your support and partnership.

- Students and staff should keep up to date on all vaccinations.
- As always, school nurses will follow best practices for infection control.
- We are not requiring masks, but encourage families, caregivers, students, and staff to make their own choices. Our schools remain mask-friendly environments.
- If a student or staff member is presenting with mild symptoms, the decision to test or return to class will be made by the school nurse based upon their clinical decision-making.
- If a student or staff member is not well enough to learn or participate, regardless of whether they are tested for COVID-19, they will be sent home from school.

- If a student or staff member has confirmed COVID-19, they should follow the Vermont Department of Health isolation guidance.

- We will encourage good respiratory hygiene practices. The CDC has published this resource which can be used to promote respiratory hygiene.

- We will continue to encourage frequent and thorough hand washing using soap and water or hand sanitizer to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

- We will not share notifications about positive cases unless there is an outbreak as defined by the Dept of Health. This follows the same process as we would for chicken pox, influenza, and other communicable diseases.

- We will not be sending test kits home, but if you need help obtaining a test, please contact your school's nurse.

As always, you are welcome to provide feedback, ask questions, or share compliments using Let's Talk.