

Susette L. Bollard
Superintendent of Schools

Andrea M. Wasson
Co-Director of School Transformation



Michaela B. Martin
Co-Director of School Transformation

Christopher F. Locarno
Director of Finance & Facilities

Committed to cultivating within all our students the knowledge, skills, and character essential to becoming purposeful, productive and engaged members of their world.

September, 24, 2020

Dear CVSU community

I want to start by saying that you are all doing an amazing job of following the guidance put in place to keep our school community safe. Because we have demonstrated our true grit and perseverance as a community, we have had a successful start to the school year. I have confidence that the closure at the WMHS was appropriately managed and we will be able to continue with our current model. All of the hard work put into our in person schedule made working with the health department seamless.

Secretary French announced that schools may move to phase 3 of opening starting Saturday, September 26th. While we are optimistic about this, we will continue to maintain our current plans. We will evaluate how we can implement the changes into our schools and continue to maintain the gains we have made. It takes each of us to maintain the current success we have seen thus far. In the coming weeks we will meet with our COVID Coordination Team to determine where and when we can implement changes.

Some of the changes from Phase II to Phase III suggest we can open up areas like our gymnasiums and our cafeterias. All CVSU schools have been able to adapt their daily routines without the use of these areas. We are getting children outside for physical education and utilizing lunch time in the classroom. Our teachers report that having lunch in the classroom is preferable because it allows for smoother transitions in the day. As the weather in Vermont begins to change we will be working on a safe plan to transition our Gym classes indoors.

All of that said, there is one area we will make significant changes and that is in sports. Students will be able to compete against other schools as their sports' schedules dictate. Athletic Director TJ Powers will be in touch with athletes and their families with more details.

As the state has modeled, we will make our changes at a very slow pace, ¼ turn of the spigot at a time. Please keep the positive momentum going and continue to wash your hands, wear your mask, and stay home when sick!

Sincerely,
Susette Bollard
Superintendent

Sincerely,
Chantelle Safford, RN, CPN
CVSU COVID Coordinator

Guidelines Organized by Phases

Daily Health Check and Hand Hygiene

Phase I: Always Required

Phase II: Always Required

Phase III: Always Required

Facial Coverings

Phase I : Required in all indoor and outdoor locations with the following exceptions:

- When alone in a private space.
- When in a bathroom performing personal grooming.
- While eating in an appropriately physically distanced location.
- When exercising outdoors alone

Phase II: Same as Phase 1 It is now clearer than ever that use of face coverings is among the most important protective measures we can take. The safest option is therefore to maintain the same approach as Phase 1, wearing face coverings on and off campus, indoors and outdoors.

Phase III: Same as Phase II

Physical Distancing

Phase I : Physical distancing of at least six feet is required for all

Phase II: Physical distancing of at least six feet is required.

- Physical distancing and wearing face coverings are critical public health measures that reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Exposure risk increases when you are in close contact with another person. A close contact is defined as someone you are within six feet of for more than 15 minutes or someone with whom you have direct bodily contact.
- All employees must maintain strict physical distancing on campus and follow their department's exposure control plans.
- Students must maintain physical distancing of six feet from others and maintain as few close contacts as possible to reduce exposure.
- All employees should keep track of their close contacts for contact tracing purposes.

Phase III: Same as Phase II

Dining Services

Phase I: .All meals to-go or delivered, no inside seating

(students eat in classrooms or outside in groups of 25 or less and with strict physical distancing).

Phase II: Same as Phase I

Phase III: Cafeterias set up in compliance with current state of Vermont guidelines for seating capacity.

Building Access

Phase I: Access to buildings is restricted.

- Faculty and staff may only access buildings for approved work and scheduled activities (e.g., classes, training)

Phase II:

- Same as Phase I

Phase III:

- Same as Phase I

Visitors (**Defined as anyone other than employees of CVSU and students enrolled for in-person instruction.*)

Phase I:

- Campuses closed to visitors.
property will be closed to the public and reserved for students/staff use only during school hours
- Contractors working with students approved on a case-by-case basis.

Phase II: Same as Phase I

Phase III: Same as Phase I

Club Sports, Intramurals, Varsity Sports**Phase I:**

- Outdoor, low-risk, noncontact recreational activities allowed, consistent with gathering-size restrictions and state of Vermont requirements.
- Face coverings and physical distancing required

Phase II: same as Phase 1

- Guidelines for supervised athletic practices will be determined by the Athletics Department. Varsity athletic practices, unlike impromptu games, are permitted due to approved design, supervision, and enforcement of mitigation measures by on-site coaches.
- Club activities, intramurals, and pickup games of soccer, basketball, and similar activities do not meet physical distancing requirements and are not allowed initially in Phase 2.
- Students do have options of activities that meet the physical distancing, gathering size, and face covering requirements. Creativity is encouraged while maintaining all safety recommendations.
- Outside activity is preferred; however, limited, low-risk indoor activity is allowed with face coverings and appropriate physical distancing.

Phase III:

- Same as Phase 2.
- Low-contact or short-duration incidental contact may be allowed depending on local health conditions and in compliance with state of Vermont VPA guidelines.