

Colchester School District

NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT



● August 2017 ●

Superintendent Minor's Message



I hope everyone is having a great summer filled with adventures. As we roll into August, it's hard to believe there are only a few weeks until school starts! Just this past week I was reminded how quickly time flies when I watched both my girls leave their training wheels in the dust.

WATCH OUT WORLD, the Minor girls are on two wheels!

For our wonderful custodial and maintenance crews, the work didn't stop in June. They have been busy cleaning, fixing, waxing, and preparing every inch of every building since the kids left. We're also crossing some **big summer projects** off the list. MBS is getting a new walkway and gym floor, the STEM room at CMS is getting a makeover, the parking lots at UMS and PPS have been resealed, PPS has reorganized and renovated two classroom spaces to make room for 96 incoming PPS kindergarteners, crews are putting down new tile in several classrooms at UMS, the cafe at CHS has new lighting and crews are finishing up construction on a new locker room space.



We tried our best give your inboxes a **BREAK** for the month of July; who wants to think about school in between camps, popsicles, swimming lessons, and summer jobs! But, I'm sure you've noticed, once the calendar flipped to August we couldn't wait any longer. In addition to our emails this week regarding *busing* and completing the required *InfoSnap* forms, you should also be receiving newsletters from the schools. As always, please reach out to your building principal if you have any questions regarding the opening of school.

Enjoy these precious *last weeks of summer* but make sure you keep your elementary kids **reading** and remind those high schoolers to complete their **summer homework**!

New District-wide Calendar

The CSD District Calendar had received a makeover for next year! Instead of two calendars separated by grade, there is now just one universal calendar for **all** grades, PK-12.

The 2017-2018 calendar can be found on our [website](#).

Another benefit of this new and improved calendar is that it will be updated to reflect ongoing changes, including **snow days**. No more counting to figure out the last day of school; you can just pull up the calendar and it will be updated. When thinking about snow days (and we already are!), please keep in mind that we do not build potential snow days into the calendar. We normally have between 2 and 4 snow days, depending on the winter, which means we will most likely still be in session the week of June 18th.



Early Release Days

Wednesday September 27, 2017	Wednesday December 6, 2017	Wednesday February 7, 2018	Wednesday April 11, 2018
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For the upcoming '17-'18 school year, CSD will have **four** early release days. Mountain Transit will transport students home via their regular bus route. Dismissal times will be:

- 12:00 p.m. for Colchester Middle School and Colchester High School
- 12:45 p.m. for the Malletts Bay School, Porters Point School, and Union Memorial School

We understand the difficulty and challenges that early release days may present to families. When making early release day arrangements for your child, please remember that although CSD does not directly provide supervision for students on these afternoons, [Colchester Parks and Recreation](#) will be offering after-school programs to any interested families.

Returning Student Verification

If you have a student coming back to Colchester for another year, you need to fill out their online Returning Student Verification form. You should have received an email on Tuesday with a **snapcode link**. (If you have multiple children in the district, they each have their own code). If you did not receive an email with a **snapcode link**, or if you need assistance filling out the form, please contact your school.

The online verification process is required for all returning students.
Access to the internet and district-provided 1:1 devices will be restricted for students whose families have not completed the verification process by the start of the school year.

Student Transportation

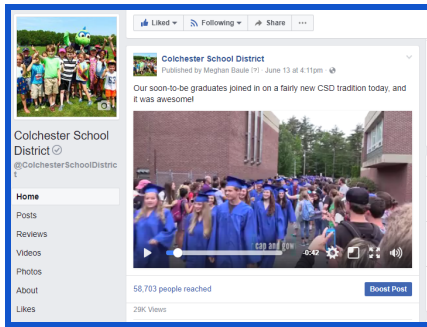
Mountain Transit will continue to provide transportation services from Colchester and the Islands, however, they are in the process of **consolidating** many of the existing bus routes. This means your student's bus number, route, pick up and drop off times might change this year. We are hoping to have finalized routes by August 21st. The routes will be emailed and posted on the CSD Website:

www.csdvt.org/Bus



Mountain Transit is need of bus drivers. No experience necessary and hourly rates range from \$16 - \$18 per hour. **If you or know someone who is interested in applying, please contact 893-1334.**

Communication and Connections



It's official, we have reached a milestone **1,000** followers on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ColchesterSchoolDistrict). That's a thousand community members who are interested in what's going on at CSD! It's been great sharing upcoming events, photos, and recognition for our talented faculty and students. Over the course of this past year, we found that **VIDEOS** allowed us to paint a fuller picture of the happenings throughout the district. The community agreed; they liked, loved, emoji'd, and crafted supportive comments on all of our posts. We've had wonderful success (*and fun!*) showcasing all the things that make our District proud.

Here are **three of our favorite videos** from this year. Combined, they've been viewed a whopping **69,477** times!

- ★ Ruthie turns 80 and gets a sweet surprise from the students at CMS: [WATCH HERE](#)
- ★ The Class of 2017 takes their cap and gown for a test drive before graduation: [WATCH HERE](#)
- ★ Mr. Albee's Kinders set out to buy a goat for someone halfway around the world: [WATCH HERE](#)

Do you know of something going on in the district? An event, teacher, or student that should be highlighted? Email our Communications Director, Meghan Baule at meghan.baule@colchestersd.org or call her at 264-5990.

