

**Cromwell Public Schools**

***“Placing Students First”***

**www.cromwell.k12.ct.us**

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**MEMO:**

To: Cromwell Public Schools Staff and Families

From: Enza Macri, Ed.D.

Re: Superintendent’s Update

Date: September 9, 2020

I hope you are all well and your children have had a smooth transition to the school year. As you know, there will be multiple changes throughout the year as we receive continuous updates from the Department of Public Health and the Connecticut State Department of Education. Please see the most recent updates listed below:

**School Schedule Updates**

* During the Hybrid Model, students will be released on a half day schedule on Wednesdays, unless the current calendar changes, these dates will be September 16th and September 23rd. This will allow teachers the opportunity to meet with their Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and make adjustments to their instruction as necessary.
* As of now, we plan for students to return to full capacity in person learning on September 28th. While we are in full capacity in person learning, students will attend school for a full day except at Cromwell High School. At CHS, on Thursdays only, students will be released at 1:25 p.m. as they would during a normal school year.

**Masks/Face Coverings Update**

* In collaboration with the Cromwell Health Department, the district is now requiring students and staff who choose to wear neck gaiters or bandanas to wear three layers of material otherwise they are less effective. Also, masks with vents that allow relief of air pressure upon exhalation (masks with vent valves) are not effective and could possibly increase the spread of COVID-19; therefore, we are requiring students and staff to choose an alternative mask or face covering. If students do not have an appropriate mask they may go to the nurse’s office and they will be provided with one.

 **Traffic Update**

* We continue to assess our morning drop off and afternoon pick up procedures. We are noticing improvements; however, the local police department and the district remain concerned that when all students fully return to school on September 28th, traffic issues at ECS and CMS will increase. At this point, busses are functioning at a very low capacity and if you feel comfortable having your child take the bus, there is space for social distancing. If this is something you are interested in, please contact your school secretaries and they will be able to assist you with making arrangements for your child to begin taking the bus.

Thank you for your continued support.