




Superintendent's Update – September 17, 2021

Montville Public Schools



 <p>Transportation</p>	<p>As you know there is a nation-wide shortage of bus drivers, and it very acute in Eastern Connecticut. We have made the difficult decision not to run a late bus this year in order to be able to transport our athletes to competitions. Effective Monday, there will be no late bus runs.</p> <p>We are very fortunate to have enough skilled drivers to manage our runs, but we do not have a single extra driver.</p>
 <p>Challenges This Fall</p>	<p>We anticipated that this fall would be a significant transition for students as they adapt to full-time in-person school with classrooms, buses, and hallways at full capacity. We are dealing with challenging behaviors both in school and on our buses. Administrators have worked extremely hard to rethink the use of staff, collaborate with students and families, and set clear expectations and supports.</p> <p>We do ask for your help at home. Students need to hear from all of us that they cannot participate in TikTok Challenges that damage school property, and that they must meet behavioral expectations at school. We have added additional staff to better support students' social and emotional needs.</p>
 <p>Vaccine Clinic Today</p>	<p>We are holding a vaccination clinic in the MHS cafeteria this afternoon from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and again on October 8th from 3:00-7:00 p.m.</p> <p>You can walk-in at any time, and you are able to choose whether you would like to receive the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson and Johnson vaccine.</p> <p>Anyone who is 12 years or older is welcome.</p>



COVID-19 Cases

Instead of sending out emails for cases this year, we have a table of cases posted on the website and update it daily. You can view that table at: [MPS COVID-19 Data – Positive Cases and People Quarantined](#). All people who might be considered close contacts whether they are vaccinated or not will always be notified personally as part of the contact tracing process.

We currently have a 5.5% positivity rate in Montville, and the rates in the area are the highest they have been since February. We have had 6 positive cases this week which resulted in the quarantine of 27 students.



Help Wanted!

We are still hiring daily and permanent substitutes, monitors, paraprofessionals, behaviorists, bus drivers, and custodians.

The state has revised the requirements for substitutes and you do not need a Bachelors' degree to work in our schools as a daily substitute. Please see our [website](#) for more information about vacant positions.



Documentation of Vaccination

Staff and students are required to submit a copy of their vaccination cards to the school nurse in order to be exempt from quarantine. This information will be kept confidential but when we conduct contact tracing, if we do not have a vaccination card on file, we will require close contacts to quarantine.

You can email a copy (or photo) of your student's vaccination card to the school nurse or bring your card to your school and we will make a copy for you. [School nurses and their email address](#) are listed on our website.