



Connecticut State Department of Education Professional Support Series for Districts

Please see below and join as we learn together and grow together.

Series 13 — August 13, 2020

Department of Public Health and Department of Education Webinar Series

COVID-19 and Schools — Mitigation Strategies, Community Spread, and Decision-Making

Epidemiologists and technical experts from the CT Department of Public Health and Yale Schools of Medicine and Public Health will discuss the importance and dynamics of the different mitigation strategies to be utilized in school settings this year, including face coverings, appropriate distancing, cohorting, and others. In addition, the presenters will discuss the latest science on COVID-19 spread; updates on the current disease trajectory in Connecticut; and different community-based COVID-19 metrics that school administrators, local officials, and local health departments can use to help inform their decision-making around whether and at what level in-person instruction should continue in their schools or whether instructional models should move toward a blended learning or fully virtual model.

Presenters: Lynn Sosa, MD, Deputy State Epidemiologist, TB/STD Control Programs Medical Director, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Richard Melchreit, MD, MPH, Connecticut Department of Public Health on assignment, Medical Reserve Corps; Thomas St. Louis, MSPH, Epidemiologist, Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Albert Ko, MD, Department Chair and Professor of Epidemiology (Microbial Diseases) and of Medicine (Infectious Diseases), Department Chair, Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases, Yale University

Date: Monday, August 17, 2020

Time: 3–4 p.m.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5389655775184444688>

(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.)

Preparing School Water Systems for Fall Reopening

Building and school closures for weeks or months reduce water usage, potentially leading to stagnant water inside building plumbing. This water can become unsafe to drink or otherwise use for domestic purposes. CT DPH recommends that building/school owners and managers take proactive steps to protect public health by minimizing water stagnation during closures and taking action to address building water quality prior to reopening. This webinar will cover the recommended proactive steps that can be taken at each school to ensure safe and adequate water is provided on the first day of school.

Presenters: Michael Hage, MS, PE, Water Supply Section Supervisor, Drinking Water Section, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Mandy Smith, Supervising Sanitary Engineer, Drinking Water Section, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Tom Barger, Water Quality Manager, South Central CT Regional Water Authority

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Time: 3–4 p.m.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3488268118228027407>

(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.)

Connecticut State Department of Education

Professional Support Series for Districts

COVID-19 and Schools — Case Management, Testing, and Assisting with Contact Tracing

Epidemiologists and technical experts from the CT Department of Public Health and a Local Health Department in Connecticut actively involved with contact tracing (Chatham Health District) will discuss the importance of contact tracing; and strategies for schools to recognize who is considered a contact and how to assist local health departments with their informational needs. Presenters will also provide clarity around issues related to scenarios for COVID-19 positive individuals in the school setting and how school administrators and health staff should approach the identification, isolation, exclusion, and return to school for students and staff. In addition, panelists will discuss when testing for students and staff is a useful tool and why in many cases it is not.

Presenters: Lynn Sosa, MD, Deputy State Epidemiologist, TB/STD Control Programs Medical Director, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Kristin Gerard, MPH, Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance Coordinator, Immunization Program, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Kristen Soto, MPH, Epidemiologist, Infectious Disease Section; Laurie Ann Wagner, LCSW, Contact Tracing Project Manager, Connecticut Department of Public Health (Secondment); Thomas St. Louis, MSPH, Epidemiologist, Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment, Connecticut Department of Public Health; Russell Melmed, MPH, Director of Health, Chatham Health District

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2020

Time: 3–4 p.m.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2542026212340762127>

(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.)