



39 Woodland Street  
Hartford, CT 06105  
Ph: 860.807.2200  
Fax: 860.807.2196  
[www.cttech.org](http://www.cttech.org)

---

March 13, 2020

Dear CTECS families,

I am writing to inform you that all of Connecticut's technical high schools will be closed for two weeks, starting Monday, March 16.

On the advice of our local health departments, CTECS, along with many other school districts across the state, have made a decision to put the health of our community (both our school community and the community at large) at the center of our decision to close schools. We have been advised by local health authorities that the implementation of social distancing measures is a proven science-based intervention that has been shown to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with communicable disease outbreaks. In the past, communities in which schools closed were able to positively impact and reduce the spread of disease. We felt compelled to make this decision to prevent the spread of illness among our students, staff, and our communities.

We also clearly have been told that we cannot confirm how long it will take for this illness to run its course. As such, we made the determination to start with a two-week closure. This decision was made in consultation with and with the support of the health departments, elected officials and emergency management professionals.

There has been much discussion about the concept of distance learning during prolonged absences. At this time the Connecticut State Department of Education has discouraged districts from utilizing this approach due to concerns over instructional consistency, equity of access both intra-district and inter-district, disruption of special education services, and multiple employee contractual issues. We will continue, during this school closing, to seek ways to provide supplemental education to our students.

We will continue to communicate as we receive updated guidance from our public health officials, the CDC, and state officials. Please continue to monitor your email and/or ParentSquare to ensure receipt of the most current closure information. You can plan on receiving weekly updates, if not more frequently, as things evolve.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this unprecedented event.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Wihbey  
Superintendent of Schools