

Capital Area Technical Center

Nicholas Gannon
Director
nicholas.gannon@augustaschools.org



Stephanie Turgeon
Student Services Coordinator
sturgeon@augustaschools.org

40 Pierce Drive - Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 626-2475, ext. 3102

August 26, 2020

Dear CATC Students and Parents/Guardians,

As we prepare for the opening of school, I would like to share with you and direct you to sources of information to keep you informed about our opening. The majority of the information can be found on our website: <http://capitalarea.mainecte.org/>. In particular please read the **Parent/Student Guide for Return to School**. Your home high school will be making copies of the "COVID-19 Return to School Agreement" available to you prior to the first day of classes at CATC.

You can also find additional information, like a video of our recent information session on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/capitalareatechnicalcenter>.

We plan to be open for in-person instruction to ALL students four days a week- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Students will be in their regularly scheduled programs. This is likely different than the hybrid/cohort system that your home high school is running, but that will be ok. Your home high school administrators have committed and are working diligently to ensure that all students can get to and from CATC all four days regardless of if it is an in-person or remote day at their home high school.

While many schools have found it challenging to meet all of the health and safety measures for a full return to school, CATC is able to open to our full enrollment of students because:

- We have small class sizes (10-15 students)
- We have very large classrooms/shops/labs spaces in order to effectively maintain distance
- We do not serve lunch, thus limiting our need for large group gatherings
- We do not have students passing between classes in the hallway between classes

In addition to these allowances made in order to open schools, we have put in place a significant number of health and safety protocols in order to reopen safely. The way we operate this fall will be far from business as usual, but we are excited and anxious to have students here doing the great work that they always do.

Our last remaining piece of important school reopening information is the date of the **first day of classes** at CATC. Each year CATC begins classes after the first official student day at home high schools in order to accommodate events like Freshman orientation. We have not yet determined the date of the first day of classes at CATC, as sending schools are currently assessing their needs to have students during the first few days of the school year. Please frequently check our website or Facebook page for the latest on CATC's reopening information.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Gannon, Director