Governor

- Vermonter’s need to use commons sense and take precautions during holidays
  1. Get vaccinated – 70% of cases in ICU are unvaccinated
  2. Get your booster – over 18 and 6mo. After MRNA or 2mo. Following J&J
- VT’s should wear masks indoors, be smart about indoor gatherings – get tested. If gathering, get tested.
- Working to gain access to monoclonal antibody treatments.
- Need to keep healthcare system stable and ICU capacity open.
- Unilateral executive authority is not healthy – 44 other states taking same approach without statewide mandates – legislative leaders made clear mandates needed right now. Gov. disagrees, but extended olive branch of special session for local authority. VLCT asked for this last week and this is Gov. compromise. This is as far as he is willing to go.
- Has faith in Vermonters to take common sense steps

Pieciak - **Modeling presentation**

- 2500 cases increase of 260 last week
- Testing remains stable – this week most testing per capita in US – picking up more cases than many other states.
- Positivity rate remains high – not decreasing or plateauing
- 5-11 has highest positivity rate of all age groups
- Case rates increase 64% over 30 days
- 28% increase in hospitalization over 30 days
- 55% of 65 and older fully vaccinated and have received booster
- 3.9 times higher rate of COVID in unvaccinated and unvaccinated increasing quicker
- 2.2 times rate of hospitalization in unvaccinated
- Vaccinated spending 12% less time in the hospital
- Colleges cases calmed down from last week – 60 cases this week vs. 108 last week.
- LTC outbreaks increase from last week – resident cases steady – staff up
- 6 more deaths over the past week
- After Halloween this year and last saw big increases....not so with Thanksgiving last year – case rates decreased to Christmas and New Years – but increased after that.
- COVID cases not expected to decrease over next 4 weeks. Impact of Thanksgiving brings uncertainty.
- Vaccine – rank #1 both fully vaccinated and receiving booster

French

- **Test To Stay**
- response testing strike better balance between health risk of COVID 19 and education risk of missing school.
- 35 SU/SD enrolled ½ of total districts.
- 51,000 antigen test kits on order. Program is ramping up considerably.
- Parent consent – 13,000 signed forms logged to date.
- Key challenge is logistical with staffing.
Smith

- 15,991 have received first doses or have an appt. for vaccine
- VT received 7,000 additional doses over what was originally allocated. This allows state distribution of 3,000 doses to 42 pediatric and family medicine practices – all that have requested.
- 131,000 VT’s have received booster doses. Cases in this group are going down
- Monoclonal antibodies – available at most hospitals and made available to LTC
- Made available 80 sub-acute hospital beds – looking to open additional. Will supply $ to hospitals to staff unopened ICU beds.
- Contact tracing – We need to do better in a delta surge – asking people to take action prior to contact tracing beginning – once know positive
- Thanksgiving – be careful – vaccinated – get booster – get tested prior

Levine

- Appreciation of Senator Patrick Leahy and work to advance public health
- Pandemic is not over – thanks to vaccines changed dramatically, but still not over. Getting closer to endemic, but we are not there yet with high level of transmission.
- Gathering indoors mask less is a recipe for transmission regardless of vaccination status. Need to use knowledge and experience to keep ourselves safe. But Thanksgiving can be risky. If vaccinated have lower risk

Here’s what we can do to make Thanksgiving Safer
1. Have the talk – who is vaccinated? Who is at highest risk? Most
2. Keep it small – more people, more households, more risk
3. Get tested – before gathering – PCR by Monday or antigen at home test Tuesday or Wednesday and another Thursday.
4. Stay home if any symptoms
5. Get tested 5-7 days after gathering
6. Stay outside if you can, mask in public, avoid large gatherings

Contact tracing
If test positive – take action right away – visit [www.Healthvermont.gov/covid19positive](http://www.Healthvermont.gov/covid19positive)
1. Quarantine
2. Notify close contacts

Still contact tracing, but are prioritizing highest risk positives.
No flu yet, not around the country, plenty of RSV