

# COVID-19 SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAM

## Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Guardians,

We know that last year was tough, but we're excited to get back in the classroom this fall. We are committed to taking the steps necessary to help us have a safe school year. As part of steps to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep our school open for in-person learning, we will offer a **free COVID-19 Testing Program for students and staff at Otis-Bison Schools**. Regular testing will help protect our students, staff, family members, and others who are not vaccinated against COVID-19 or are otherwise at risk for getting seriously sick from COVID-19.

Through this program, we will be able to identify COVID-19 cases quickly and early, which can help us stop an outbreak before it happens. This will help us keep students in the classroom and able to take part in the school activities they love.

We are working with our KDHE and Rush County health department and are joining other school districts throughout the state that offer this program.

- **Who will be tested?** We will offer testing to all students and staff identified through contact tracing—even if they don't have symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Testing is also available to staff who have symptoms of COVID-19, even if vaccinated, or who have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- **How is the testing done?** The COVID-19 testing is free, quick, and easy. Members of our school staff will oversee testing with an antigen test, which includes:
  - Gently swabbing the inner part of the lower nostril. This test is not painful. We do not use the longer swabs that reach higher into the nose.
- **Where and when is the testing done?** Our school's testing site will be room 204 in the JH/HS building, and will take place as needed in the mornings between 7:15 and 8:00 A.M.. Results will be available within 15 minutes.
- **How can I be sure that my child's information will be protected?** Sharing of information about your child will only be done for public health purposes and in accordance with applicable law and policies protecting student privacy and the security of your child's data.
- We are extremely grateful to our committed families and staff who continue to show great flexibility and resilience as we work together to contain the spread of this virus. If you have questions regarding the COVID-19 Testing Program, please reach out to [kaempfeb@usd403.org](mailto:kaempfeb@usd403.org).

Sincerely,

Brent Kaempfe

USD 403 Superintendent

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