

USD 403- COVID-19 Testing Procedure

COVID-19 testing will be available as an *option* for all students and staff PreK-12 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Per CDC recommendations, viral testing strategies in partnership with schools should be part of a comprehensive prevention approach. Testing should not be used alone, but in combination with other prevention to reduce risk of transmission in schools. When schools implement testing combined with prevention strategies, they can detect new cases to prevent outbreaks, reduce the risk of further transmission, and protect students, teachers, and staff from COVID-19. There are many public schools that are offering optional testing. (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html#anchor_1616080181070)

Testing will be available to any student or staff member in two different scenarios:

- **If a student or staff member is quarantined due to a close contact at school or during participation in a school activity:** The student or staff member has the option to choose to be tested daily for (7) consecutive days and return to class or work masked each day they test negative or quarantine for the RCHD recommended amount of time.
- **If a staff member is exhibiting symptoms at home or school.** Staff will have the option to request being tested at school. With a negative test, the staff member may return to school 24 hours after fever and/or other symptoms resolve.

Testing requirements:

- Parental/Legal Guardian consent. It is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian to ensure the school district is aware of who the legal parent/guardian is. Consent forms can be emailed to the parent and time stamped or signed in person prior to testing.
- Parents/legal guardians are required to be present during the test PreK-6 and encouraged to be present for 7-12.

Testing procedure:

- Daily testing for close contact:
 - Whenever possible, testing will be conducted prior to school from 7:15-8:00 A.M..
 - Whenever possible, student and/or staff member will be held in designated testing area until test results are completed (approx. 15 min). The designated testing area is room 204 that is located in the Otis-Bison JH/HS.