



Office of Superintendent

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Dear MJSD Families,

As I have stated in previous letters, our top priority is to have all students in school for in-person learning throughout this school year. We will continue to practice the following mitigation strategies in our schools:

- Wearing masks,
- Social distancing; where it is possible,
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all schools,
- Schools and classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned each day,
- Building air filtration will be maximized per guidelines,
- We will contact trace and quarantine or isolate, as needed.
- We will continue to encourage people to get vaccinated, if they are able and willing.
- Testing for COVID with parent permission, as available, in cooperation with the Menasha Health Department.

The testing mentioned in the final bullet point is now available as we work to identify whether a student or staff member is or is not infected with COVID so we can isolate, quarantine, or get people back to school as quickly and safely as possible.

Here are some elements of the testing process:

- ❖ Testing is being offered to students and staff for FREE through the K-12 school based testing program funded by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.
- ❖ Convenient, reliable COVID-19 testing is one mitigation strategy we are using to help keep our schools healthy and safe environments for student learning.
- ❖ Testing can be conducted at each school between 8am and 3pm.
- ❖ Testing will be conducted by Summit Clinical Laboratories staff.
- ❖ Testing is quick and easy, and it is not painful. Our schools will be using rapid antigen tests. The test is processed onsite and the results are available quickly – usually within one hour.
- ❖ Who can be tested: MJSD staff and students who are symptomatic (sick) or close contacts.
- ❖ Parents/Guardians will need to sign a written consent form in order for their student to be tested at school. In addition to the written consent, parents/guardians will **also be asked for verbal consent prior to the test** being performed (via a phone call or in person).
- ❖ Participating in this program can help students and teachers get back to school as soon as possible, minimizing the amount of missed school time. Results are fast and reliable.

The consent forms can be found here [Student](#) or on our [website](#). If you can print one, please sign it, and return it to your student's school office or teacher. Hard copies of the form will be sent home with preK-5 students and mailed to grade 6-12 parents. Returning these forms will speed up the process for getting your child tested, if needed and if you approve.

NOTE: We must have the signed form in order to complete the testing and even with a signed form, we will require verbal permission prior to any testing procedures.

This testing option is one more way we are working toward our goal of maximizing the in-school, in person instruction that we all want for our children this year.

Please check our [website](#) and [Menasha Health COVID webpage](#) for additional resources and updates.

Sincerely,

Chris L. VanderHeyden

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Superintendent