

## USD 444 COVID-19 Test to Stay in school protocol and procedures

COVID-19 rapid antigen 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%29](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html - anchor_1616080181070%29)

- **Testing will be available if a student or staff member is considered a **close contact** (see flowchart) at school. Please note household contacts are treated as “HIGH RISK close contact (see flowchart) and are treated differently. Staff or students have the option to be tested daily, for 10 days, and return to class and participate in activities **masked**, regardless of vaccination status.**
- It is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian to complete the consent and HIPPA form prior to the Covid test. Forms can be emailed to the school and time stamped or signed in person prior to testing.
- Parents/legal guardians are **required** to be present during the test Pre-K-6 and encouraged to be present for 7-12.

“Test to Stay” Procedure for **close contacts**:

- This is a nasal (not nasopharyngeal) rapid antigen test. Testing will be done at 8:15am at WES & LR. At Windom, testing will be done while the staff or student stays in the vehicle in the parking spaces outside the main entrance. At Little River, testing will be done while staff or students stay in the vehicle in the circle drive by the main entrance . Staff or students will remain in their vehicle for **15 minutes** while waiting for test results. Instructions will be given according to

results. In inclement weather, a designated area will be established at both locations.

- **If a close contact chooses to not be tested daily, they will not be allowed to attend school and will be quarantined at home for 10 days after exposure. They may return to school on the 11th day.**
- **If a staff or student becomes symptomatic while at school, they will not be tested. They will need to be tested at the Rice County Health Department or other testing sites and follow guidelines for the Health Department.**

Please continue to be mindful of symptoms and **DO NOT** send your student to school if they're experiencing any of the following symptoms: fever (100.4 or higher), new loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath, diarrhea, vomiting, congestion/runny nose, muscle or body aches, fatigue, headache, sore throat, cough or chills.

We want to do our best to keep students and staff in a safe learning environment. Thanks for doing your part in being patient and attentive. We look forward to a safe and healthy 2021-2022 school year! If you have questions or concerns let us know.

# 2021-2022 DISTRICT #444

## Covid Flowchart

Student reports they are positive for COVID-19.

Student will isolate from school 10 days from symptom onset or day of + test if asymptomatic.

All household exposures require 10 days of quarantine starting from last day of exposure (to be served outside of school).

Unvaccinated siblings must remain home for 10 days from the end of the positive case's quarantine.

Vaccinated siblings that are symptom free can return to school masked with daily testing.

Student has a fever of 100.4 or greater

Student/Parent should contact their primary care physician for guidance on whether testing is required.

The student may return after receiving a negative COVID test result or diagnosed by a doctor with a different cause of illness and has been symptom free for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medication.

Student is a LOW RISK if wearing a mask at time of exposure.

Low risk student can stay in school with no symptoms masked for 10 days.

Student is a HIGH RISK close contact Defined by not wearing a mask at time of exposure.

Vaccinated student can stay in school if symptom free, with daily testing and masked.

Student who provides proof of a positive COVID test within the last 6 months can stay in school if no symptoms and masked.

An unvaccinated, maskless student can "stay to test" and remain at school with no symptoms, daily testing and masked.

Student reports someone in their home was exposed to someone who tested positive or has symptoms.

If someone at home is not symptomatic, but just 'exposed,' student may come to school.

There is no need to self-isolate if the student is a contact of a contact.

### If experiencing symptoms contact physician:

Fever (100.4 or higher)	congestion/runny nose
New loss of taste or smell	muscle/body aches
Shortness of Breath	Fatigue
Diarrhea	Headache
Vomiting	Sore Throat
Chills	Cough
Nausea/Vomiting	Ear Pain