

# ***MOUND CITY R-2 SCHOOL***

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TO: Mound City R-2 Parents/Guardians  
FROM: Mr. Korey Miles  
DATE: November 30, 2021  
SUBJECT: TEST TO STAY OPTION (COVID-19)

Since the start of the school year I have included a section at each school board meeting to discuss COVID-19 and its impact on our district. Here in recent months our community has seen a rise in COVID-19 cases which has resulted in more students in quarantine. At the November meeting I discussed with the board the Test To Stay option that would provide an opportunity for students to stay in school even if they are close contact. The School Board made a motion and approved the opportunity for me to apply for Mound City R-2 to participate in this program. The process is still ongoing and it is not in effect yet, but here is how it works:

- If a student or teacher at Mound City R-2 tests positive for COVID-19, we would contact trace to determine close contacts to that individual. The students or teachers that are deemed close contacts can get tested in our building 3 times during the quarantine period (as long as asymptomatic) and as long as the test comes back negative, the student or teacher can stay in school while appropriately wearing a mask during the quarantine period. If the individual has an activity/game during this time, they would have to test on that day in addition to the routine testing days.
- The test is a nostril swab that then gets placed into a solution. Results are given within 15 minutes. If student is negative they may go to class with mask appropriately worn, if it is positive they get sent home.
- We would test school close contacts only, no home close contacts.
- School Nurse and Administrators will be trained in how to properly administer the test.

Most of us would agree that in-school learning is the best for students and the purpose of using the Test To Stay Option is to allow students that are close contacts yet asymptomatic to stay in school to receive valuable instruction from their teachers. In order to participate in this program, each student will have to fill out a permission slip that will require parent signatures to participate. No Permission Slip on file will mean the student will be in regular quarantine out of the building.

As the process gets started I will send more information, but wanted to share what I know at this time. Please remember that if your students exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, please err on the side of caution and keep them home. If you have any further questions, please contact Korey Miles at 660.442.3737 or via email at [korey.miles@mndcty.k12.mo.us](mailto:korey.miles@mndcty.k12.mo.us) Thank you!