



# TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

100 HINDS STREET  
TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150  
716-694-7784-Phone 716-695-8738-Fax



TIMOTHY A. OLDENBURG, Ed.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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December 30, 2021

Dear Tonawanda City School District Families:

Happy New Year to All!

Our district continues to prepare for the expected Test To Stay (TTS) program guidance from the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH). This program will allow for asymptomatic, close contacts of a confirmed COVID case to return to school through routine COVID testing instead of remaining in quarantine throughout this period.

Our district is preparing to operationalize this program once it becomes supported and available from the ECDOH for our district. This includes securing testing resources, planning for execution of testing, and reporting requirements.

Additionally, we are aware of the Governor's initiative to distribute COVID rapid tests to school districts for use by children of consenting parents. The district is awaiting shipment and receipt of these COVID tests. The intention of this initiative by NYS is to provide equity in testing opportunities for students as they return to school after the recent holiday break.

**\*\*\*COVID TESTING IS NOT MANDATORY OR A REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS TO RETURN TO SCHOOL\*\*\***

Parents that are interested in receiving a COVID rapid test for student use can pick up a test kit on SUNDAY, January 2, 2022 at the main entrance of Mullen Elementary School or the MS/HS building at door 1 from 9am-12pm by completing the form linked below to secure a test kit for EACH child.

OR

Parents that cannot pick up a COVID test at the location and times listed above but consent to the district sending a test home with their child(ren) on Monday, January 3, 2022 must complete the following consent and request form linked below to secure a test kit for EACH child.

*Please be aware that a COVID rapid test kit includes all materials (swab, chemical solution, and associated items) necessary to perform this COVID rapid test at your home.*

**Test Kit Sign-Up Form** (This form will close on Saturday, January 1, 2022 at 5pm)

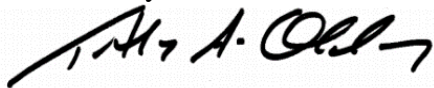
*Please note: Students that test positive for COVID from the use of these tests cannot return to school the following day. Additionally, parents of COVID positive students must report this positive case to the district's COVID Coordinator, Mary Beth Scullion at 716-694-7688 or [mscullion@tonacsd.org](mailto:mscullion@tonacsd.org).*

We know that schools continue to be one of the safest places to be for students and staff during the pandemic. This initiative and these tests from NYS are another layer of protection and opportunity for consenting parents to have equitable access to COVID testing. We want to continue to keep schools as safe as possible while maintaining a 5-day per week in-person instructional model.

Please contact the building principal for more information or if you have questions.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy A. Oldenburg", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Timothy A. Oldenburg, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools