



## Jacksonville | North Pulaski SCHOOL DISTRICT

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[www.jnpsd.org](http://www.jnpsd.org)

*Building Futures: Every Scholar, Every Day*

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August 18, 2020

3:38 pm

JNPSD School Community:

Please continue to stay informed through all of our postings on JNP social media, JNP website, local media, and other communication outlets. All community updates and other information posted since March 6 is available for your reference.

### **GOVERNOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (APSRC REPORT)**

Arkansas Department of Health State Epidemiologist Dr. Jennifer Dillaha provided an overview on the two types of tests available and the situations in which they are used. Dr. Dillaha said when a person is infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, it can take up to 14 days before they become ill. However, on average, people will develop symptoms within 5 to 6 days of contracting the virus, and they can spread the virus one to two days before they show symptoms. That's why it's so important to wear face coverings even if you do not think you are sick.

Once a person has been infected, and if they are well enough to recover at home, it can take 10 days for the body to clear the virus and they are no longer able to spread it. However, if they have required hospitalization or have an underlying condition that suppresses their immune system, they will need to isolate for 20 days.

One way individuals are tested is through the PCR test. Initially, these tests required a nasal swab to take a sample from the back of the throat. However, as technology has improved, individuals are now able to get a sample simply through swabbing the inside of their nose. According to Dr. Dillaha, the PCR tests is the most accurate test available, but it does require for the sample to be sent off to a lab. This means the timing when you receive your results will largely depend on the demand and capacity to run the test of the lab it is sent to. If it is sent in to the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) the turnaround time is usually a couple of days, whereas a commercial lab will take longer.

The second type of testing coming online is the antigen test. These tests are useful because the machines can be made available in a clinic, doctor's office or public health unit, and results are available within 15 to 20 minutes. However, these tests only work

for those who are showing symptoms and they can generate a false negative. So it is important to follow an antigen test up with a PCR test for confirmation.

Dr. Dillaha stressed that antibody testing which requires blood to be drawn will not show a possible infection until the body is already beginning to recover for the virus. Therefore, it should not be used to make decisions on whether or not someone needs to be isolated.

### **ATTENTION PARENTS AND STAFF:**

In an effort to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus within our staff and scholars, we are asking all parents / guardians of scholars who will attend classes on campus (as well as all staff members) to notify the JNP Point of Contact immediately when the following occurs:

1. Someone in the household has tested positive for COVID-19.
2. Someone in the household has been identified as a close contact to a positive case of COVID-19 and is required to quarantine to be tested for COVID-19.
3. Scholars or staff who are being tested for COVID-19 and symptomatic should remain in quarantine pending results of their COVID-19 test.

Please call LORRI STINNETT, JNP Point of Contact, at 501-613-7740 or [lstinnett@jnpsd.org](mailto:lstinnett@jnpsd.org). Medical documentation will be required before returning to school. Thank you for your cooperation in providing this information.

### **VIRTUAL SCHOOL SCHOLARS**

Parents: Please complete one more short survey regarding breakfast and lunch. This link is <https://forms.gle/i5ypdqvyuf4pKBG7>.

We will post on social media and send via automated caller through parent contact information in the eSchool system. Please update contact information if you believe anything is incorrect.

Major announcements from the state level can occur at any time and has the potential to change school planning and operations. Thank you for your patience.

Respectfully,



Bryan Duffie. Ed.D.  
Superintendent