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Hello Gillette Road Middle School families,

As you know, we have been notified by the Onondaga County Department of Health that [all our schools are within the COVID-19 microcluster yellow zone](#). We were informed today that one of our schools has been selected as COVID-19 surveillance test location. **Testing at Gillette Road Middle School will take place on Tuesday, December 8.**

Parents of students scheduled to be in attendance on Tuesday will need to register their child(ren) using the following email link: <https://covid19.ongov.net/appointments/schools/>. If you are the parent of a GRMS student that normally attends on Tuesday and would like to have your child participate, please use the link to sign your child up for testing. Testing is only available for students that are scheduled to be in attendance on Tuesday. The registration must be completed in order to participate.

Testing will be conducted by the Onondaga County Health Department using the [BinaxNow](#) nasal swab (only collects a sample from the lower part of the nostril) that produces results in about 15 minutes. Because a limited number of tests are available, students will only be eligible if they are scheduled to be in attendance on December 8. Weekly testing will continue until the yellow zone designation is removed.

We received a few questions wondering if family members can accompany their child during the testing process. Parents/guardians may accompany their child during the testing procedure only but will only be allowed in at the child's appointment time and must leave as soon as the sample is taken. Parents/guardians may not wait for test results. Accompanying a child is not a requirement and school staff will be present to offer support to any child undergoing testing. **If you plan to accompany your child, please call the school's main office to let them know.**

While we are working on some logistics, this is what we do know:

- Testing will take place on Tuesday, December 8 in the school's dining room.
- There is no requirement for parents to accompany your child to the testing procedure.
- The County is administering the test and NSCSD employees will be available to help and support students.
- There is no cost associated with this test.
- The testing is only for asymptomatic students. If your student is showing symptoms of COVID-19, please do not sign them up for testing.

Thank you for your flexibility and patience as this yellow zone surveillance testing is new and evolving.

If you have any questions please contact building principal, David Cordone at (315) 218-3000.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Bowles, Superintendent of Schools