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Hello North Syracuse Early Education Program families,

As you know, we have been notified by the Onondaga County Department of Health that <u>some of our schools are</u> <u>within the COVID-19 microcluster yellow zone</u>. Today, we were informed that the North Syracuse Early Education Program (NSEEP) has been selected as a COVID-19 surveillance test location. **Testing at the NSEEP will take place on Monday, November 16**. We are currently waiting for detailed information about a schedule for testing.

Testing will be conducted by the Onondaga County Health Department using the <u>BinaxNow</u> 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 the date of testing.

NSEEP parents will need to register their children through an email link that will be sent to NSEEP families as soon as we receive it from the County later tonight or over the weekend. If you are a NSEEP parent that indicated your child could participate, please be on the lookout for an email from the District that includes the registration link and more details. The registration must be completed in order to participate on Monday.

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. Parents and guardians 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 NSEEP staff will be present to offer support to any child undergoing testing.

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

- The testing will take place at the NSEEP.
- 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 the 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 NSEEP Principal, Dawn Hussein by emailing dhussein@nscsd.org.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Bowles