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Hello North Syracuse Central School District 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>. We have been informed that our impacted elementary schools have been selected as COVID-19 surveillance test locations. **Testing at Allen Road Elementary School, KWS Bear Road Elementary School and Roxboro Road Elementary School will take place on Tuesday, November 17.**

Parents will need to register their children using the following email link:

https://covid19.ongov.net/appointments/schools/. If you are the parent of a Cohort A elementary student at one of the impacted schools 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, November 17. The registration must be completed in order to participate.

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 (Cohort A) on the date of testing. 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:

- Testing will take place at each school.
- 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 your child's building principal.

Sincerely.

Daniel D. Bowles, North Syracuse Central School District Superintendent of Schools