

September 12, 2021

Dear District #7 Families:

This is a reminder to submit a signed opt-in/consent form if you would like to have your child(ren) participate in the SHIELD testing program. Consent for testing is completely voluntary and will not be administered unless you indicate that you wish your child to participate by filling out and returning the authorization form to your school nurse.

District #7 will tentatively begin the SHIELD Test program on Monday, September 27, 2021. While you may opt-in (or out) at any time, if you wish to begin testing of your child(ren) as early as September 27, 2021, please have your consent form signed and turned in no later than Tuesday, September 14, 2021 to your school nurse. Families opting in after this date may experience a delay in testing availability of up to seven days.

Please refer to the SHIELD testing FAQ to help answer any questions you may have.

Parents/guardians should continue to monitor their children for symptoms of COVID-19, keep their children home if they are ill, and immediately share with their child's school if your child or a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19. All individuals are required to stay at home while symptomatic and are encouraged to test for COVID-19.

TEST-TO-STAY STRATEGY

As an alternative to quarantine, students and teachers who have been identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case have the option of a Test-to-Stay protocol. Close contacts must be tested on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 after exposure. If close contacts remain negative, they are not required to quarantine. **Close contacts are eligible as long as both individuals were masked and at least 3 feet apart.**

VACCINATION CARDS

If your child(ren) has been vaccinated, please submit a copy of that card to your building nurse. They may be scanned and emailed or a copy can be dropped off with the nurse.

PHYSICALS

Parents/guardians may begin taking their child(ren) in for physicals now for the Fall of 2022.

FOOD SHORTAGES

We are experiencing ongoing food shortages in our district. While it is our intention to serve the posted menu each day in each building, supply issues may not make this possible until those supply chain issues are rectified. We will attempt to substitute the scheduled menu item with one that is as similar as possible to the extent we are able to do so. We will continue to provide wholesome meals every day.

With Tiger Pride,



Patrick Shelton, Ed.D.
Superintendent