

November 18, 2021

Good Afternoon Families:

We are excited to share with you that we have been able to secure testing on-site for our students and staff. The purpose of moving in this direction is to provide convenience for our students, our families, and our staff who need to be tested and provide the opportunity to keep healthy students and staff in school.

The School District of West Salem, in partnership with the WI DHS, has implemented a voluntary COVID-19 testing program to ensure that testing is available to all students, staff, and families in a convenient and timely manner. Parent/guardian consent is required for all student testing. Consent will be a part of the online registration process, which is explained more in the instructional document provided. We will be offering both antigen and PCR testing. Both tests are suitable for anyone; however, please check with our nursing staff for the correct test and situation for you or your child. Both tests are a nasal swab (similar to a Q-tip circling each side of the nostril). The antigen test results are available within 15 minutes, and PCR test results typically take 24-48 hours.

In the documents contained with this message, there is also information regarding the registration and the consent processes. Tests will not be given to students without the registration form or parental consent. Again, this is an option for our families and staff in the hopes to provide a convenient way to get tested on campus and to have more of our students and staff remain in our classrooms.

With this new testing option, we will be updating our protocols to simplify the process for everyone. Attached is the updated and simplified guidelines flowchart for symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. These changes and modifications will be added to our 2021-2022 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity Plan. This updated plan will be available next week.

Thank you, be well, and we appreciate your support!

Ryan G. Rieber  
Superintendent

Dr. Nicole Hennessy  
District Doctor

Kate Brohmer  
District Nurse