



NEWLOTHROP AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

October 8, 2021

Dear Students, Parents, & Staff,

As stated in previous communications, with this pandemic we have to adapt and adjust to the fluidity of our current situation in our homes, at work and in our schools. An issue we are particularly trying to address is how to provide consistency for students who need to quarantine after being deemed a close contact.

We have worked collaboratively with the Shiawassee County Health Department for a possible solution where we can keep our students in school. We will monitor the effectiveness of this protocol as we move forward.

Here are the details regarding the “Test to Stay” protocol, which is scheduled to begin **Monday, October 11th**.

If any student is deemed a close contact and recommended/required to quarantine, then your family would have the following options:

Option 1: Go to school as usual if your child has been vaccinated with a strong recommendation to wear a face mask for 10 calendar days and continue to monitor for symptoms.

Option 2: Quarantine per the [MI Safer Schools Guidance for Managing Students Exposed to COVID-19](#)

NEW - Option 3: You can transport your child (Pre-K through 12th Grade) to the New Lothrop High School where he/she will have a temperature check and a non-invasive (nasal swab) rapid test for **each day** he/she is quarantined (home tests **will not** be permitted at this time). *Students identified as a home close contact are not eligible for this option.* Test results will be known in 15 minutes. You must stay on-site until you have the results of the test. Prior to getting tested parents will be required to sign a daily consent form during the student’s testing period.

a. If the rapid test is **negative**, the student may attend school that day, so long as he/she wears a face mask at all times when indoors (except when eating), including any indoor athletic practices and/or games. Students participating in an outdoor athletic event must remain masked when not competing. The testing will take place 7:15 a.m.- 7:45 a.m. for elementary students and 8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. for high school students. Parents should still monitor their child closely for symptoms up to 14 days after close contact.

b. If the rapid test is **positive**, the student would not be allowed to attend school, until a negative PCR test result can be obtained or complete the 10-day isolation period and be symptom free before returning to school.

We believe this new “Test to Stay” protocol is the step in the right direction for keeping our students at school and engaged in their day-to-day learning. Together, the Shiawassee County Health Department and New Lothrop Area Public Schools will continue to monitor the situation and adjust if necessary.

Sincerely,
Anthony Berthiaume, Ph.D. Superintendent

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