

November 17, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am writing to inform you of a **voluntary opportunity** to have your student take part in Arlington's weekly COVID testing program. The NYS Department of Health requires that we offer this voluntary testing opportunity to all students. Please note – this is a **COVID Monitoring System** and NOT available to symptomatic students or close contacts of positive cases who may require a test. Symptomatic students and/or close contacts should continue to seek out diagnostic testing through a medical provider as appropriate.

If you are interested in having your child enter our COVID Monitoring System, please read below for details:

- We have established a tentative start date for this program as December 1, 2021.
- Both vaccinated and unvaccinated students are eligible for this program.
- Our vendor uses the **BinaxNow Rapid nasal swab** test. Results are typically available within fifteen minutes and parents are notified only if there is a positive result.
- Interested parents **MUST** complete the District's interest survey at: [COVIDTestingforStudents](#)
- Testing times will vary based on the school your child attends. The testing window will be designed to allow for students to be tested either just before/after school with a parent present OR in-school without a parent present. **It is important to note that in-school testing will mean a disruption to your child's instructional day. Once enrolled, parents will not be allowed to alternate between in-school and out-of-school testing.**
- The District will only track who is enrolled in the system and any positive COVID cases that are discovered.
- Registered students will receive follow-up information about specific testing days/times during the week of November 22, 2021.
- You may opt out of the program at any time.

Again, it is important to understand that this is a **monitoring system only**. This is NOT a testing system designed for symptomatic students or identified close contacts of positive cases.

If you have any questions, you may email us at StudentCovidTesting@acsdny.org

Sincerely,

Paul Finch, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources