

Nevis Public School Families

### **FREE COVID-19 TESTING FOR ALL STUDENTS**

The Minnesota Department of Health has announced a recommendation for all school-aged students returning to school, youth sports, or extracurricular activities and their families get tested for the Corona Virus every two weeks for the remainder of the school year.

Testing is not a requirement but is seen as an additional measure to support the mitigating safety measures we all use already, such as masking and social distancing. Getting tested every two weeks can help to keep our schools open and our extracurricular programs going while we do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) is teaming up with MDH to make the process easier for students and families. TESTING IS FREE! Here is how it will work:

- Students or families order tests through the [Vault-at-Home program](#) . The test take 2-3 days to arrive in the mail.
- Students complete their test at home. The tests are delivered to your home and the directions are very simple to follow.
- Students seal their sample tube and place it in the biohazard bag. The biohazard bag then gets sealed in the shipping bag that came with the test. The shipping label sticker is attached to the bag.
- Families can then send the test back via UPS or can have the school district send it in for you on the same day our school conducts onsite testing.
- Students bring their sealed shipping bag with the shipping label to school and turn it in to the elementary or high school office on the following days:
  - April 1, 15, 29
  - May 13 and 27
- Once students receive notice that their sample is being processed at the lab, they can order another Vault-at-Home kit for the next screening day.
- The process is completely anonymous and no record of your test will be provided to any person at the school district. The school district is simple helping by ensuring UPS receives the package.

Our communities have done a great job of keeping our schools open over the past three months. FREE TESTING provides one more opportunity to keep kids in schools and to keep them participating in sports and activities.

Thank you all for your support.

Superintendent Parks