

ROCKVILLE CENTRE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The COVID-19 home testing kits arrived in the District this morning and we are preparing for distribution of the kits to parents. Each family will be provided with one test kit for each child currently attending Rockville Centre Public Schools. The person picking up the tests must be the parent/guardian or listed as a contact on Powerschool.

Distribution will be made at the South Side High School campus to parents/guardians only, kits will not be distributed to students. Distribution will be made outside the administration building in front of the colonnade.

Cars will be queued up so that you will not have to leave your car and we can keep the line moving quickly.

Distribution times will be as follows:

Tuesday, January 4th 8:30am to 1:30pm and 3:00pm to 6:00pm

Wednesday, January 5th 8:30am to 1:30pm and 3:00pm to 9:00pm

If parents are not able to pick up the test kits during these distribution times, they will be made available at the front desk in the administration building beginning Thursday morning at 8:30am.

It is important to note that testing an asymptomatic child who has not been exposed to COVID-19 could result in a false positive that requires a 10-day isolation unless a negative PCR result is provided. Understanding it is difficult to receive a timely PCR test/result, families can save the kit for future use should a child become symptomatic or be exposed to the virus. There are two tests in each kit intended to be used over a few days and for students of the Rockville Centre Public Schools only. Also, please be advised that the test kits supplied by the State have an expiration date at the end of January 2022.

Much of this initiative is based on the honor system which the Governor has acknowledged. We are grateful for this additional resource that will eliminate the need for parents to bring sick children out for testing. The District will accept positive home test kit results only for isolation/quarantine decisions. Should your child test positive using the home test kit, please be sure to post the result to the District COVID-19 reporting form which can be found on the District website. There is NO requirement to test any student using these kits.

We understand that families are worried about returning to school in the midst of this surge in COVID transmissions. Please know that the District has been extremely successful in preventing the transmission of the virus among staff and students. The District will continue to monitor the quarantine numbers of both students and staff and will make decisions about pivoting to remote instruction if conditions warrant.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

Robert Bartels

Interim Superintendent of Schools