



Collinsville Community Unit School District 10

201 West Clay Street • Collinsville, IL 62234 • 618-346-6350 • fax 618-343-3673

December 3, 2020

Dear Kahok Family:

Collinsville Community Unit School District 10 has been offered an opportunity to participate in a Rapid Point-Of-Care Antigen Testing for COVID-19 in schools. The rapid point-of-care antigen nasal swab test is authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and is recommended to diagnose current COVID-19 infection. BiNaxNow is a quick nasal swab test designed to give our trained health staff results within fifteen (15) minutes. Rapid POC antigen tests may be a useful diagnostic tool for testing students in the early stages of infection. This optional opportunity is a free COVID-19 testing option for parents/guardians and would only be used when a student is symptomatic at school or has symptoms when completing the self-certification health check. The potential benefits of the POC antigen test in schools include: rapid confirmation of suspected COVID-19, helping your child's healthcare provider to make a timely informed decision about your child's plan of care, assisting for an expedited and safe return to the classroom for students and to help to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in school and community. Attached to this email is a Fact Sheet with information to help you understand the risks and benefits of using this test for the diagnosis of COVID-19.

In order to receive approval from the Illinois Department of Public Health to implement rapid POC antigen tests, the District has successfully completed the following prerequisites:

- 1) Received approval from Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) for the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CLIA) Waiver to meet all requirements of testing.
- 2) Secured approved licensed healthcare professionals to perform the swab antigen test.
- 3) Arranged to have all tests be performed under the direction of a healthcare provider's order.
- 4) Developed training protocols for test performance and result interpretation for the test administrators as required by the FDA and require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) during testing.
- 5) Developed an approved plan for medical waste handling and disposal.
- 6) Developed a plan for reporting test results to state and local public health officials (per CDC) as well as to the parent/guardian of the student.

Detailed information regarding the Rapid Point-Of-Care Testing for COVID-19 in schools may be accessed via the [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) website. The Collinsville CUSD10 plan for Rapid Point-Of-Care (POC) Testing for COVID-19 includes an initial "pilot school" rollout at Kreitner Elementary School during the second academic semester. The District is hopeful to expand Antigen Testing in schools throughout the District in a phased approach.

In addition to the above prerequisites for testing, the District must obtain parent/guardian consent prior to conducting the COVID-19 Antigen Test for students. [Parent/Guardian Authorization and Consent for COVID-19 Testing forms may be completed by any one of the following methods:](#)

- 1) Electronically through the [Google Form](#) sent as a part of this notification
- 2) Download document attached to this email, print, sign and return to your child's school
- 3) Download document posted on the [CUSD10 Website](#), print, sign and return to your child's school

If you have any questions or need any assistance completing the [Parent/Guardian Authorization and Consent for COVID-19 Testing](#) parent/guardian permission form, please contact your child(ren's) school.

We appreciate your assistance and cooperation as we continue to work with state and local health departments for the safe education of your children. Please know how much we all appreciate the partnership we have with our parents. Keeping your child(ren) safe as we teach during this pandemic is our highest priority, and we are committed to the health and safety of our students and staff in Collinsville CUSD10.

Sincerely,

Brad Skertich

Dr. Mark B. Skertich
Superintendent, Collinsville Community Unit School District No. 10