

Important Surveillance Testing Update

September 29, 2021

Dear Irvington School Community,

I hope this communication finds you and your family well, enjoying the early days of fall. In the schools, we have been thrilled to have our students with us, learning inperson. As you know, mitigating the spread of COVID-19 is critical to keeping our schools open for in-person learning.

In my communication of September 17th, I requested that parents register their children to participate in the surveillance testing program as it would produce important data regarding not only the health of individuals, but it will enable the District to monitor the prevalence of COVID in our schools. In that same communication, I shared that we anticipated initiating the testing program with gateway or baseline testing this week. Unfortunately, <u>the launch of the testing program will be delayed</u> due to the late receipt of the necessary contractual information from the County and our partners at the Westchester Medical Center. These documents are being executed this week and a new date to begin the testing program will be announced in the near future.

Additionally, for pool testing, such as the model the District is seeking to implement, a large representation of students and staff members is necessary. Therefore, if you haven't registered your child(ren) to participate in the testing program, I strongly encourage you to do so. This simple, painless and quick process will provide valuable information to keep every single student and staff member safe and will help to keep our schools open for in-person learning. To register your child for the surveillance testing program, please review my prior <u>communication that is linked here</u> and <u>be</u> <u>certain to complete all three registration steps</u>.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kris

Dr. Kristopher Harrison Superintendent of Schools

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