



Akron Central School District

In Pursuit of Excellence

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

January 4, 2022

Dear Akron Parents, Students, and Staff,

Like many of you, I am so proud and grateful to be part of a school community that responds to unanticipated events in such a positive and collaborative manner. Such was the case with the recent distribution of COVID-19 antigen home test kits. Thanks to our parents and staff, we were able to give the tests to families that wanted them and ultimately reduce the number of COVID-related exposures here at school this week. Like all districts throughout the State, we have seen an increase in positive cases. In light of that and the recent announcements from local, state, and federal public health agencies, this correspondence is intended to answer some common questions.

Will additional home test kits be available after this week?

The limited supply of test kits we received from NYS were intended to be used prior to students returning from the holiday recess and/or within the first few days of school this week. There has been no indication at this time that the state will provide additional home testing kits beyond this one time opportunity.

What do I do if my child tests positive for COVID?

If your child tests positive for COVID at a clinic or with an at-home test, please do the following:

- Begin isolating your child immediately
- If your child tested positive with an at-home test, please report the positive result to the [Erie County Department of Health \(ECDOH\) using this link](#).
- Contact our school Health Office to let them know the date the symptoms started

How long will my child need to quarantine if they test positive for COVID?

If your child tests positive for COVID, the period of isolation remains 10 days. During that time, your child will not be able to attend in-person classes or school activities. (*Note: The 5-day quarantine period adopted by the ECDOH is only in effect for essential workers—not for students.*)

How long will my child need to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact?

The ECDOH has implemented a test-out program. After 5 asymptomatic days, a negative COVID test allows the quarantined person to return to school on day 8. The tests can be antigen (rapid) or PCR and they must be confirmed by a lab. An at-home test cannot be accepted. ([Click here to access the "Release from Quarantine with COVID-19 Testing" document from the ECDOH.](#))

Will my child need to quarantine if they are vaccinated and identified as a close contact?

No. As long as your child is fully vaccinated and asymptomatic, they will not be required to quarantine.

When will the “Test-to-Stay” program begin?

Like other districts in Erie County, Akron is currently working with the ECDOH to put in place the protocols needed to set up a “Test-to-Stay” program. More information on this program, including the start date, will be forthcoming.

How can I find a testing site in Erie County?

If you [click here, you will find information on testing sites from the ECDOH.](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools