

## Test & Stay Program for Unvaccinated Students and Staff Exposed **at School** to a COVID-19 Positive Person

Beginning Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> any unvaccinated student or staff exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual at school will have the opportunity to take a BinaxNow rapid test, and if negative, remain at school. In order to participate we must have parent, or if over 18 your own consent to be tested. If you have already consented to pool testing you need not consent again. Please follow this link to give consent:

<https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma>

This is how the program will work:

1. Those students/staff identified as close contacts of a COVID-19 positive individual while at school will go to the school health office. Parents will be notified by phone. If consent is not given students will be sent home to quarantine for either 7-10 days as we have been doing. If consent is given, the exposed individual will be given a BinaxNow rapid COVID-19 test. This test uses a nasal swab. If negative the student will return to class. Positive individuals will be sent home and asked to take a PCR test to confirm results.
2. Daily rapid testing is required every day before coming to school for 7 days. This testing will be done in the gymnasium at the Savage Center between 6:30-9:00 a.m. It will be the responsibility of the parent to transport their student to the Savage Center, wait the 15-minute test time, and if negative, take their student to school. Anyone who converts to a positive test will be sent home and asked to take a PCR test to confirm results. Masks must be worn in the testing area.
3. The Test & Stay program applies to school activities only. There will be no testing on Saturday & Sunday. If not involved in a school activity all those identified as a close contact should follow the rules of quarantining and remain at home.
4. High School students who may be participating in school sponsored sporting events on the weekend will be given special instructions for proctored home testing. The verified results of that testing must be shown to the coach before the student is allowed to participate.

\*This program offers us the opportunity to keep students in class whenever possible while simultaneously protecting our school communities. It is not a general screening program. Please continue to not come to school when feeling ill. Please do not call or come to the school health offices and request to be tested for a possible outside of school exposure. Please do continue to feel free to contact your school nurse if you need guidance or information on keeping your family safe during this pandemic. Jill Driscoll, Nurse Leader, Norwood Public Schools 781-440-5843 or [jdriscoll@norwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jdriscoll@norwood.k12.ma.us)