

Eustis School Department
Stratton School
65 School St., Stratton, ME 04982

Dear Parents:

October 21, 2022

This notice is to inform you that many individuals associated with Stratton School have recently tested positive for Covid-19. This happened very quickly in a matter of about 10 days. ****It is of the utmost importance that students with symptoms of illness do not come to school. These symptoms include headache, fever, cough, runny nose, congestion, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, exhaustion, body pains, and loss of smell or taste. ****

Covid-19 testing should be done at home as soon as symptoms develop. Repeat testing may be needed if symptoms persist or additional symptoms develop. The antigen test is a snapshot at that moment that you swab and may result negative for a few days until there is enough virus detected to trigger the test to result positive. For this reason, staying home for a day or two and monitoring for additional symptoms is necessary. Although your child may feel well enough to attend school, attending puts others at risk.

I have seen a trend of people taking anywhere from 1-4 days after symptoms start before they are getting a positive result by the rapid antigen tests. I am also seeing more vomiting associated with the recently diagnosed Covid-19 infections in comparison to those last year. Please do your part to help control the spread of contagious illness in our school and community.

Free at home tests are available from project act @ accesscovidtests.org. They can be ordered each month beginning on the first. The site allows 5 tests per month per address. Tests are also available from pharmacies, stores, and insurance companies. Please find a resource so that you have tests available at home.


**** Starting today 10/21/22, anyone testing positive will be instructed to isolate for 5 days from the positive test date and not the symptom onset date. Student can return to school after the 5 days of isolation, if they are improved and not had vomiting, diarrhea, or a fever for 24 hours. Masking is required on days 6-10 after the 5 days of isolation. Anyone living in a home with a positive person is required to mask 10 days after their last contact.****

Anyone that arrives to school with a symptom or develops symptoms at school will be evaluated. Clinical judgment will be used to determine the next course of action. Actions include testing with parental consent, instructing people to mask, or calling home for student pick up. Those who have a symptom and do not consent to testing will be sent home with instruction to return when they are symptom free. A new consent for Covid-19 testing is attached.

As always, please contact me for any questions during work hours at school from 8:30-12:30 or by e-mail at tlebeda@strattonschool.org.

Sincerely,


Trisha Lebeda
R.N.


Tabitha I. Emery
Principal

**COVID-19 TESTING CONSENT
2022-2023**

Stratton School seeks to maintain a safe environment for employees, students, their families, and the community. This consent form provides Stratton School with your permission to perform Covid-19 testing for your child at the school.

By signing this form, you are giving consent for your child to be tested for Covid-19, if they experience symptoms.

The test is administered by the school nurse. It involves a nasal swab. The specimen collected for a rapid test (Abbott BinaxNOW) gives results in 15 minutes. The Nurse will communicate the results to you as well as instructions on next steps. The test results will be shared with Maine CDC through a REDCap reporting system.

Students Name _____ Grade _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____