90 Beach Street, Saco, Maine 04072
Phone: 207.284.4505
Fax: 207.284.5951
Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Dominic A. DePatsy

February 9, 2021

Dear Saco School Parents & Guardians,

The Saco School Department is taking part in a State of Maine program that allows us to conduct Rapid Antigen Covid testing at school for students or staff that develop symptoms of Covid 19 during the school day. The test that will be used is the Abbott BinaxNOW Ag Test.

We will only use this test for students/staff who develop signs and symptoms of Covid during their in-person school day. Please continue to screen your child daily before coming to school and keep them home if they have symptoms – DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL FOR TESTING.

The test is conducted by collecting a sample from the nose by gently inserting a swab into the outer cavity of the nostril and swirling it around 5 times in each nostril. Students over the age of 12 may have the capacity to self-swab with supervision, while school nurses will collect the specimens for children under the age of 12.

Please read and complete the Electronic Consent form for your child to be tested should they develop symptoms during the school day. This form should also be completed if you wish for your student to NOT be tested while at school. The permission form will stay on file for the current school year and only be used if testing is needed.

In the event testing needs to take place at school:

- There will be no charge to families for testing.
- The school nurse will assess your child and determine if they meet the criteria for testing (one high risk symptom or 2 or more low risk symptoms of Covid 19)
- The school nurse will call the parent/guardian to inform you that your child qualifies for testing and to have you pick your child up from school.
- Testing will be conducted with results in approximately 15 minutes.
- **If the rapid antigen Covid test is Negative**, the parent/guardian will be advised to contact their child's health care provider to let them know a rapid antigen test was negative and to seek guidance whether a PCR (molecular) Covid test is warranted.
- **If the rapid antigen Covid test is positive**, the parent/guardian will be given information on quarantine and isolation protocols. The parent/guardian will be advised to contact the child's health care provider to inform them the child had a positive Antigen Covid test and to receive further guidance. Release from isolation will be required from the CDC before your child can return to school.
- Test results will be reported to the Maine CDC by the school nurse.

Thank you for your help in completing this form. By doing so, you are making sure that testing for your student is not delayed. If you have questions, please contact your child's school nurse.

Saco School District Nursing Team

Pre K: Moriah Goff LPN – mgoff@sacoschools.org

Fairfield School: Jessica Morgan RN – jmorgan@sacoschools.org

Young School and Burns School: Deb Malia RN – dmalia@sacoschools.org

Saco Middle School – Joan Holmes RN – jholmes@sacoschools.org