



RESPONSIBILITY | COURAGE | HONESTY | RESPECT

January 10, 2022

Dear Sherman School Families,

I am writing to provide an important update regarding the status of our response to COVID-19. A series of documents from the DOE, DPH, and CDC have been released recently which have resulted in some revisions to our practice at The Sherman School. A meeting on Friday with our Health Team led to the following changes, which will take effect immediately.

COVID Self-Tests

In recognition of the shortage of home test kits and the limited availability of appointments for PCR tests, the State has provided us with a limited supply of test kits that are intended for use by our staff and students. If a student develops symptoms in school, the test kit will be sent home with the child for administration of the self-test, as we will not administer a test in the school. If a test is administered at home, and you would like your child to return to school, please take a photo of the test result and attach it to an email to Lorraine Spinetti with the student's name, grade, and the date that the test was administered. Because each kit contains two COVID self-tests, you may keep the second one for future use.

5-Day Quarantine and Isolation

The CDC has revised its guidance to reduce the time for quarantine and isolation from 10 to 5 days for all staff and students. Please take the time to review [this information](#) as it contains clear and succinct details regarding the steps you should take if you are determining when to quarantine, when to isolate, and when it is permissible to return to school. Students currently in Knight School who have quarantined for at least five days and are asymptomatic, or who have isolated for at least five days and whose symptoms are improving (including being fever-free for at least 24 hours) are no longer eligible for Knight School and are expected to return to in-person instruction. Please reach out to Lorraine Spinetti should you have any questions regarding your child's individual circumstances. Thank you, in advance, for your continued support and cooperation with these guidelines.

Contact Tracing

The DPH has advised school districts that it is no longer necessary to contact tracing students and staff who are COVID positive. Instead, our nurse will return her focus on providing care to our students and guidance to ensure health and safety within our school community.

Masks

The CDC has suggested that KN95, N95, and surgical masks are preferable over cloth masks and gaiters. We are in receipt of a large supply of N95 masks, which although not required, are available for any parent who asks. If you would like N95 mask(s) for your child, please email or call the main office and we will send some home with your child.

Vaccination Van

The Sherman School will be hosting a vaccination van on January 26th and February 16th where students and families can receive free vaccinations and boosters. Please see [this flyer](#) for additional details.

In partnership,

Jeff Melendez
Superintendent-Principal
melendezj@shermanschool.com