



Eddie Hesseltine
Director of Operations

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www.sintonisd.net

Dear Sinton ISD Parents,

In SINTON ISD, we are committed to doing all we can to keep staff and students healthy and safe. With this goal in mind, we are pleased to share that we will be taking part in a statewide program offering rapid COVID-19 tests for use in schools. This program will allow SINTON ISD to test symptomatic students and staff, thus reducing the risk to our community. We started testing staff in phase one and have streamlined the process. The information below offers further details on the tests and the testing program. If you have additional questions, please contact our District Nurse, Lori Soliz RN, at lsoliz@sintonisd.net or Eddie Hesseltine, Director of Operations at ehesseltine@sintonisd.net

What tests are used in this program?

This program uses BinaxNOW tests, which provide results in 15 minutes and are administered using a nasal swab in the front area of the nostril (not the deep nasal swab). These tests have been shown to be highly accurate, with accuracy rates of 97-98% for symptomatic individuals.

Who will be tested and when?

In this second phase of Rapid COVID-19 testing the SINTON ISD, will be offering tests to students on an as needed basis for students experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 only. These tests are optional, but we encourage parents to let their Sinton ISD student participate in the testing program as needed. Once they have started experiencing symptoms please follow these steps:

Step 1 If your student is experiencing symptoms, they will need to stay home, just as always and let your child's campus know.

Step 2 you will fill out the appointment document by clicking the following link:

<https://forms.gle/P5nDfRCeX9QqWQ4WA>

Step 3 Fill out permission slip for each student being tested for Pre-K through 12th grade by clicking the following link. <https://forms.gle/4wmqnyFdmayvV6rt8>

Step 4 Show up the Lamar Building at 800 S. San Patricio front parking lot on the day and time reserved. They will need to stay in your vehicle, and we will call your child in when it is their time to come in. All Welder or Sinton Elementary students must be accompanied by their Parent or Guardian. Everyone must wear a mask at all times. Understand the time we give you will be approximate depending on the cleaning of the testing room after each test.

The nurses will be conducting testing Monday through Friday from 3pm-5pm. Tests will be conducted at Lamar in the teachers' lounge behind the front office.

How will the information from the tests be used?

If a parent has given permission for SINTON ISD to administer the BinaxNOW test for their child, the test administrator will call to share the results.



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All results will be confidentially shared (using no names) with the school/district and with the local health department to allow for public health reporting and contact tracing and to determine the stay-at-home period for individuals who test positive. Additionally, the total number of positive tests per school will also be shared with the Texas Department of State Health Services and with the Texas Education Agency as is required by law.

What happens next?

Tests are available to all students who are showing symptoms of COVID-19. To participate, parents must complete the permission slip form. The first date testing will be available is January 5th, 2020 from 3:15pm-5:00pm scheduled appointments only. NO WALK INS.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: If your child is experiencing symptoms and you would like for him/ her to be tested, **please do NOT** send him/her to campus. Instead please schedule a time to come in for a test.

What is required to participate in the program?

The student testing program is available to all students of Sinton ISD. To participate, students must bring their permission slip form and pre-register as advised by the nurses with them to the testing site (Lamar). For any students from Welder or Sinton Elementary the parent must be with the child while testing.

Thank you,

Eddie Hesseltine
Director of Operations
Sinton ISD
