

Introducing a new COVID-19 testing program for Shenandoah Elementary in EBRPSS

Shenandoah Elementary families,

As we begin this new school year, the health and safety of all students and staff remains our top concern. I'm excited to announce that Shenandoah Elementary is starting a **voluntary** student weekly COVID-19 testing program to help keep our school community safe and allow us to have regular in-person learning. Staff participation in the program is required. Through this program, we will offer the highest quality PCR testing available at **no cost to staff and students.**

Keeping school buildings open depends on our ability to identify and take immediate action to address COVID-19 concerns on our campus. By identifying infections early, weekly testing will help keep transmission low and students in school for in-person learning, sports, and extracurricular activities.

This program will allow EBRPSS to test both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals and reduce the risk to our school community. Each **Thursday from 9:00am-10:00am** in our school cafeteria, a trained healthcare team will visit our school to conduct the testing program using a short nasal swab. The samples will be couriered to the CLIA-certified laboratory and tested using PCR technology. Results will be delivered by text or email usually before the next morning and any individuals with positive tests will be contacted by our team about next steps.

Soon you will receive information regarding registration for testing, as well as a Frequently Asked Questions document. Every additional person tested reduces the chance of the virus spreading in our community. It is my hope that all our families will take advantage of the opportunity to help our school be as safe as it can possibly be and remain open without any disruption.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to 225-910-8308 or visit the website www.k12testing.com.

We deeply appreciate your partnership and your commitment to keeping our school community safe and healthy.

Amy G. Butler
Principal

