

## **TEST TO STAY PROCEDURES/POLICY**

The Mount Sinai UFSD has elected to adopt the guidance issued by the Suffolk County Department of Health regarding “Test to Stay (TTS)” for unvaccinated school-based close contacts (students, teachers and staff) to avoid school exclusion (but not other restrictions of quarantine) by testing negative through serial testings using rapid NAAT, antigen tests and/or Over the Counter tests during a seven-day period following exposure. The following conditions are to adhere in implementing the protocols:

- a) The exposure must have occurred in the school setting while both the person afflicted with COVID-19 (index patient) and the person exposed were consistently and properly masked during regular school hours.
- b) The exposed person must remain asymptomatic; if the exposed person who is permitted to remain in school through TTS develops symptoms, he/she must be immediately excluded from school per current school policy.
- c) The exposed person must be tested a minimum of three times during the seven-day period following exposure, unless recognition of the exposure is delayed, or weekends or school breaks intervene (see possible testing regimens cited below).
- d) The subject seven-day period is to be measured in calendar days wherein the most recent date of exposure is to be considered as day “0.” The first test should be accomplished as soon as possible after exposure is identified (i.e., the first day the student is in school after identified exposure).

Therefore, potential testing regimens may include:

### **MINIMUM TESTING CADENCES**

Day of First Test	Day of Second Test	Day of Third Test
0	2 or 3	5, 6 or 7
1	3	5, 6 or 7
2	4	5, 6 or 7
3	5, 6 or 7	NA
4	5, 6 or 7	NA
5	6 or 7	NA
6	NA	NA
7	NA	NA

Adjustments are to be made to account for weekends and other non-school days, in which case a test should be conducted on the first school day back and continue thereafter according to the chart.

- e) Parents/Teachers/Staff will be furnished (at no cost) with test kits containing two tests when ordered to quarantine by school medical personnel. If an individual is unable to pay for the third test, said test will be provided upon request. Test kits will only be provided to parents/teachers/staff if the District is provided tests through New York State agencies.

f) In the event an individual tests positive, contact-tracing will be conducted by school personnel to the best of their ability to identify contacts.

g) Tests must be conducted—and the results received by the school nurse—before the school day begins; individuals testing positive are to be excluded/isolated per existing procedures.

h) If a test is conducted in an unmonitored setting (e.g. home using an over-the-counter test), parents/teachers/staff need to provide a copy (photo) of the test result to include the name of the individual tested, who administered the test and the date administered. Test results should be sent to the school nurse via email or brought to the nurse in the morning by the student.

i) The exposed person who is permitted to remain in school through the TTS protocol, must be quarantined outside school instruction/academic periods (on weekends/holidays when the seven-day TTS period is active, but no school test is required; after school/evenings; no community activities or extracurricular participation including clubs, sports, arts/performance activities, etc. are to be undertaken). Students participating in TTS will be permitted to continue to ride the school bus following all existing guidance, including required masking.

The District, via its health office, will maintain a record of all testing results. Medical personnel will encourage staff and families to submit positive at-home test results to the SCDHS via the At-Home COVID-19 Positive Test Result Portal which can be found at [www.suffolkcountyny.gov/suffolkcovid](http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/suffolkcovid).