

CLEARPOINT ELEMENTARY IB WORLD SCHOOL

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Friday, October 21, 2021

Dear Clearpoint Parents & Guardians:

As you know, the Ministry of Education and the Department of Public Health have mandated that schools begin rapid testing for COVID-19. We now have a group of staff members who are trained to perform these tests at Clearpoint. The purpose of being able to perform rapid tests at school is if a student shows specific symptoms while at school, it will help to determine if a student is potentially positive for COVID-19. By now you are likely familiar with the chart below which identifies symptoms that may be an indication of an infection with COVID-19.

Any **one** of the following symptoms:

- Fever (38 C or more, oral thermometer)
- Sudden loss of smell without congestion or loss of taste
- Onset or aggravation of a cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat

Any **two** of the following symptoms:

- Abdominal pain
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Diarrhea or gastro-intestinal symptoms
- Intense fatigue
- Loss of appetite
- Muscular pain
- Headache

Here are some important points for parents to understand:

- -As noted above, the rapid test is to be used if a student starts to show symptoms while at school that could be an indication of infection with COVID-19.
- -Parent permission must be given to allow the rapid test to be performed on your child. You can do this using the Mozaik Parent Portal. <u>Click here</u> for a link to instructions on how to do this.
- -If we believe a rapid test is warranted, parents will be contacted before we proceed. If you are able to come to the school, you can be present with your child while the test is conducted.
- -If the test is negative, the child may return to class, or you still may decide to take your child home because he/she is feeling sick.
- -If the test is positive, the child must be picked up immediately by his/her parents. The child will remain isolated until parents can come to the school. Note that the results of a positive rapid test must be reconfirmed by a laboratory test done at a designated clinic.

- -The results of the test are kept confidential and shared only with parents.
- -The purpose of doing this test in schools is <u>not</u> to screen asymptomatic students who may have been in contact with a possible positive case.

We believe that the use of this rapid test procedure can help to reduce the possibility of an outbreak occurring at school, and therefore is an important tool in mitigating the impacts of the pandemic on students.

We thank all of our parents for your continued support and collaboration in keeping children at home should they show signs or symptoms of COVID-19 before arriving at school.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this process, please feel free to contact me directly either by email destok@lbpsb.gc.ca or by text or phone at (514) 773-7989.

Sincerely,

David Estok, Principal