

FRONTIER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FRONTIER EDUCATIONAL CENTER

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Richard J. Hughes, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Linda M. Leising
District Clerk

December 8, 2020

Dear Frontier Families,

Last Friday evening, school districts across the state received updated guidance related to testing requirements in Orange/Red Zones. An Orange Zone designation requires 20% of in-person students, staff, and faculty to be tested while a Red Zone designation requires 30%. Testing must be spread out evenly over a month. We applied for a Limited Service Laboratory Registration (LSL) with NYSDOH through our partnership with Mobile Primary Care.

As mentioned in last week's letter, consent is required for testing. This link to the digital consent google form is here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeWpfqUmnGgQs2Bbv-8VMoP9bdiroYob82TwplnEhVQAIB4w/viewform?usp=sf_link

A link to the hard copy form is also included. A hard copy of this letter and consent form will also be mailed to the parents/guardians of each child. Please complete the digital form or return the hard copy to your child's building ASAP. This will allow us to know who is available for the testing pool once our LSL has been approved.

The BinaxNow tests were already ordered. A video about the BinaxNow test can be viewed at the following link <https://www.globalpointofcare.abbott/en/support/product-installation-training/navica-brand/navica-binaxnow-ag-training.html>. The swab for the test is only inserted into the opening of the nose as opposed to the much more invasive test into the pharynx. A trained medical professional will administer tests with positive results reported to Erie County Department of Health. All health data is maintained in compliance with privacy laws.

We are going to keep January 4th as our anticipated return date for hybrid learning. While a number of school districts in Erie County are trying to return to hybrid learning on December 14th, many have also chosen to wait until after the holiday recess. Neither choice is an easy one. The number of positive cases in our community continue to increase. That is not counting the likely surge from the Thanksgiving break. With the number of staff and faculty being added to quarantine, the lack of substitutes across the county, and the concern for those working in our buildings, now is not the time to return to in-person learning. Let's continue to do everything we can over the holiday season to decrease the positivity rate by wearing masks and social distancing.

Yours in Blue,

Richard J. Hughes, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools