

In our continued effort to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, Lane Middle School will participate in a weekly COVID-19 Screening Testing Program, a partnership between the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and PPS. Screening testing provides early detection of COVID-19, even when individuals have no apparent COVID-19-like symptoms.

If you are interested in having your student(s) participate in this free weekly COVID-19 screening testing program, please be sure to return a signed copy of the opt-ins provided to your student earlier this week.

If I enroll my student in this testing program, what should I expect?

- 1. Families who wish to participate in the testing program must fill out the consent forms and health authorization forms we sent with your student on Monday, Oct. 4, 2021.
- 2. Our school will receive testing kits and labels to send home every Wednesday.
- 3. We ask that every Thursday, your student spit into the test tube. We encourage you to watch <u>this 4 minute video</u> on how easy it is to collect a spit sample.
- 4. Please return the spit samples that same morning. Dropboxes will be located at the entrance of the Lane Main Office. Samples will be collected by OHSU for transportation to the lab for testing.
- OHSU will share the results within 48 hours of the specimen being dropped off at school. You will receive a secure email with your child's results. Please note: PPS will not receive the results of your student's test.

If it is a positive (or inconclusive) result, we ask that you keep your student home from school. **Please call us immediately** (503-916-6355) and we will follow the guidance provided by our partners at the Multnomah Health Department.

We know that this is an important tool in our effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It's also important to remember that despite the availability of this program, the best tools to protect individuals against COVID-19 are vaccination for those eligible, physical distancing, masks, proper ventilation and airflow, hand hygiene, and staying home if ill or exposed to someone with COVID-19.

We are excited for the launch of this screening testing program, helping us make more informed decisions about our students safety and health.

Mike Rowell, Principal Lane Middle School