



# CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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12/9/20

Dear Cheektowaga Central Parents and Students,

I am writing to share information with you about our COVID-19 Student Testing plan and make you aware that you will receive another message from me in the upcoming days with the procedures for our testing program. Testing consents are needed for students enrolled in the Hybrid Instructional Model. Testing would begin in January 2021 when we return to in-person instruction.

With the recent updated guidance received from the NYSDOH, we are now able to share our testing plan and consent process with you. As you may be aware, the new guidance provides clarification on the testing requirements and the thresholds necessary to keep buildings open for the Hybrid model. A summary is below:

- Schools in orange zones may remain open for in-person instruction by complying with the 20% monthly testing requirement; 30% monthly testing in a red zone.
- Once back in school, faculty, staff and students must continue the [daily screening protocols](#). All must follow the state-issued requirements of mask wearing and maintaining social distance while on campus.

We have been proactively planning for the testing component and the following aspects are in place:

- CCSD has been approved as a Limited Service Laboratory by the NYSDOH to administer tests at each school and the district office site.
- Our licensed RN's have been trained to administer the [BINAXNow rapid test](#), a minimally invasive test with results in 15 minutes. Many report that it "tickles" the nose and is easy to do.
- We expect to receive the test supplies next week.
- We plan to begin testing the week of Jan. 4, 2021 by selecting a random group from those that have provided consent. We will continue that process while we are under the orange zone.

The COVID-19 Student Testing Consent Form will be available within the next couple of days and you will receive a link to complete the online form. Please know that we need support from our parents to allow their child to be tested so we can return to the Hybrid Instructional Model.

*Mary A Morris*

Mary A. Morris  
Superintendent of Schools