



Devine Independent School District

605 W. Hondo Ave., Devine, Texas 78016

*(830) 851-0795 Fax (830) 663-6706
Dr. Todd Grandjean, Superintendent*

January 18, 2021

Hello Devine ISD Families,

Thanks to supplies purchased by the federal government, the State of Texas is providing free Abbott Laboratories BinaxNOW COVID-19 rapid tests to participating K-12 public and private schools that are providing on campus instruction to all of the students who wish to attend on campus, currently or within the next two weeks.

Devine ISD has decided to move forward with this initiative. **Participation in BinaxNOW rapid COVID-19 testing is voluntary according to each individual's preference, and minors will not be administered the test without a parent's consent.**

Furthermore, testing is only available to current Devine ISD students and staff and tests will only be administered by protocol of the Devine ISD plan for COVID-19 Rapid Testing.

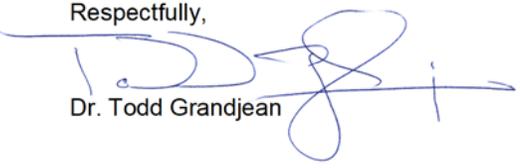
Rapid antigen-based testing will potentially give Devine ISD the ability to quickly identify and isolate individuals who test positive for COVID-19 before they can transmit the virus to others. In turn, this will help reduce the amount of absences for individuals waiting on test results and help to fast track treatment and quarantine protocols for those who test positive and their close contacts.

Devine ISD has received our first round of test kits and PPE, and we currently have five trained individuals (two at Central Office and three at various campuses) qualified to either administer the test or supervise a self-test administration. The state has provided our district with over 1,000 rapid tests and the corresponding PPE (N95 foldable masks, face shields, gloves, gowns, and surgical masks) needed to administer the tests. A detailed list of Frequently Asked Questions can be found at this link: https://tdem.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2020_12_17_FAQ-v1.pdf

Testing will take place at designated locations in the district and will be available through the Devine ISD Plan for Covid-19 Testing as listed in the attachment to this letter. If you have any questions or would like more information, please refer to the district webpage Covid-19 link or call Central Administration at 830.851.0795.

The health and wellness of our students and staff members is a primary concern of Devine ISD. Please also note that, while this testing initiative is meant to be an added option to safety protocols; it will never be a mandatory requirement.

Respectfully,


Dr. Todd Grandjean