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November 1, 2021

Updated Testing and Quarantine Supplemental Information per NYS DOH Guidance 10/27/21

Effective, November 2, 2021, Prattsburgh Central School District will be following the Test to Stay protocols as outlined below as allowed by Steuben County Public Health as of this date. Test to stay (TTS) is a strategy that allows close contact to avoid school exclusion (but not other parameters of quarantine) by testing negative with a rapid NAAT or antigen test (eg. Binax NOW) on each school day for seven days after exposure.

1. The school/district must have a written protocol. PCS will adhere to the following:
 - a. **Consider equity** – no family will be asked to pay for the daily testing. Tests and materials are supplied by Steuben County Public Health. All families may take advantage of this testing option (this practice is NOT mandatory for families).
 - b. **Actions to follow up on transmission in the event an individual tests positive**—contact tracing will occur for every positive individual. The school is responsible to provide a list of school contacts to Steuben County Public Health for investigation and isolation/quarantine purposes.
2. **The daily test must be conducted, and the results received before the school day begins--** The daily test must be conducted, and the results received before the school day begins, and positive individuals excluded/isolated per existing procedures. **As a result, students will not be permitted to ride the school bus in the morning prior to receiving their test.** Students/ staff will be tested in the Health Office and then will need to wait until the test result is seen by the nurse. With a negative test, the individual can stay in school. With a negative test result, students can ride the school bus home at the end of the day.
3. **The tests must be done in a monitored setting** – The test must be completed at school and home tests will not be accepted.
4. **The exposed person who is allowed to remain in school through TTS must still be quarantined outside of school instruction/academic periods**—No school test is required on weekends and holidays when the seven-day TTS period is still active. No community activities or extracurricular participation including clubs, sports, arts/performance activities is permitted while the student remains in quarantine. The student/staff member may only go from home to school for instruction and back home again.
5. **If the exposed person who is allowed to remain in school through TTS develops symptoms, they must be excluded from school per current school guidance.**