

Greetings West Sylvan Families,

We hope that you are looking forward to the long weekend! We are continuing to feel grateful for the hard work of our educators and our families to help keep us in-person on campus during a time when other campuses are struggling to safely run schools in-person. As a reminder, there is no school on Monday, January 17th for MLK Jr. Day.

Like most schools in the nation, we have had a busy week of contact tracing for reported cases of COVID-19, unfortunately. As is the case everywhere, we are seeing an increase in the number of reported positive cases to our school since the return from winter break. This week, there have been 10 reported cases who were on campus, either last week or this week. In many instances, we are hearing about the positive test results a number of days after the scholar has been absent from campus, as families are doing their best to keep scholars home when symptoms first appear. Per our contract with our educator team, we send out community notifications to our entire community when cases on campus are confirmed. The updates may start to feel overwhelming, but we have an obligation to continue sending

campus could test to stay on campus. We would give the BinaxNOW rapid nasal swab test on campus to non-symptomatic scholars who could have been in close contact with someone on campus with a positive COVID-19 test, and pending a negative result, scholars would return to class, rather than automatically being advised to quarantine at home. There would be one more necessary test on campus within 5-7 days from the initial close contact, also. [Here](#) is more information.

OHSU COVID-19 Screening Kit Information:

PPS has partnered with OHSU to arrange for weekly COVID-19 screening test kits, which arrived just before the fall break. Test kits are for non-symptomatic home screening only. Especially while tests are hard to find in stores, this is an easy and free way to have your scholars tested weekly for your own family's knowledge. We are distributing these once a week on Thursdays, during the last few minutes of 7th period, to all scholars who opted-in to the program and submitted completed consent forms. Scholars will do the saliva test at home the next morning and return the kits on Friday morning at the Main Office. OHSU picks up the kits each Friday, processes them, and sends results directly to families. Scholars may drop off signed forms to our attendance window, or families can scan and send them via email to jsolonche@pps.net. If you haven't signed up and are still interested, the forms are below.

Consent forms to sign and return to West Sylvan:

- [OHSU Weekly Screening Authorization Form](#)
- [General Consent School Opt-In Form](#)

Uploading Proof of Vaccinations:

Families can also upload their scholars' vaccination status when they complete the yearly registration verification processes. Directions to upload items are [here](#) for ParentVUE. When families have items uploaded, this information shows up in ParentVUE under the documents tab on the scholar page for internal administrative review.

Notes of Appreciation?

All sales of yearbooks will be pre-ordered directly through an outside company. Yearbooks will not be purchased through the school. If you do not preorder, we will likely run out of books, and there will be no opportunity to get one later in the year as the company only prints a set number of copies, which are determined through preorders . To order your yearbook, go to yearbookordercenter.com and enter

Being fully vaccinated

Wearing a mask correctly and consistently

Practicing appropriate physical distancing

The CDC recently advised that a 5 day quarantine was acceptable, and we are now following those recommendations. Anyone with a positive COVID-19 case will be asked to quarantine for five days from the date of the first symptoms. If fully vaccinated, scholars and staff who are symptom-free are not required to quarantine. When unvaccinated, and a close contact, there is the Test-

Enjoy the long weekend! Go Wolfpack!

Jill, Evening and Ben