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Date: Monday, December 20, 2021

Memo from: Sr. Margaret Mancuso and Sr. Marlene Pape

Memo to: All Nazareth Elementary Parents and Guardians

Subject: **iHealth COVID 19 Antigen Rapid Test Kits**

As you may have seen on the local news, Monroe County has asked the schools to assist in the distribution of at-home COVID test kits. To help in this effort, we will be sending one kit home with each student on Tuesday, December 21. The kit will be in an envelope and placed in each child's backpack. For families with multiple children, each child will have a kit in their backpack.

This envelope also contains a fact sheet from the County Health Department which describes the purpose of the kit and how it should be used. Primarily, the county's intent is that the kit be used for testing your student before gathering with people outside of your household over the holiday break, in hopes of cutting down the spread of COVID before students return to class. It is NOT intended to replace more formal testing that might be done in school, at your pediatrician's office, or at local pharmacies.

Please remove the kit from the backpack when your child comes home tomorrow. If you have any questions about the use of the kit, please call or email one of our school nurses at **585.458.3786 x3207** or **mpape@nazarethschools.org**.



Department of Public Health

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

Michael D. Mendoza, MD, MPH, MS
Commissioner of Public Health

Why is my student being given an iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test kit? Monroe County is providing one iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test kit to every student. We encourage your student to self-test immediately before gathering with people who do not live in your home. This will help limit the spread of COVID-19 before students return to class.

How do I administer the test? Carefully read and follow the instructions in the Quick Start Guide for Consumers, included in your box of test kits. You can also download the iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test app on your smartphone to watch step-by-step videos. Adults should administer the test in children under age 15.

How long do we have to wait for results? After administering the test, results will be available in 15 minutes.

Can other family members use the tests instead of our student? Each box contains two tests. At least one of these tests should be used by your student.

When should we use these tests? The two most important times to be tested are *after* a possible exposure to someone with COVID-19 or *before* your student spends time with a vulnerable person, such as an older adult. Keep in mind, the test results only show if your student has COVID on the day the test is administered. So use the tests right before gathering with people outside of your household. The tests may be used regardless of vaccination status.

I'm taking the test because I was exposed to someone with COVID. What should I know? If you are having COVID-like symptoms, you should take the test right away. If you don't have symptoms, you should wait at least 3 days after the exposure before taking the test.

What should we do if someone in our household tests positive? Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 should immediately isolate from others and contact their primary health care provider. Whenever you cannot maintain a 6-foot distance from an infected individual in your home, you should both wear masks.

Do we need to report a positive test result? Yes, within 24 hours you should upload your positive home test result to MCDPH. Take a picture of the test kit showing a positive result and upload it using the online form available at www.monroecounty.gov/health-covid19-reporting. If you need assistance, please call Monroe County's COVID hotline at 585-753-5555.

What happens if I don't report my positive test result within 24 hours? If MCDPH does not have a record of your positive test result, we cannot legally provide an official Release from Isolation Order that is required by many employers, schools, etc. when your isolation period is over. Please plan ahead!

Do we need to report a negative test result? No, you do not need to report a negative home test result to the Monroe County Department of Public Health.