

# **SOLVAY SCHOOLS**

*Solvay Union Free School District  
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November 10, 2020

Dear Solvay Community,

Yesterday, Governor Cuomo announced that our district boundaries are within an area now designated as a yellow zone. Specifically, the village of Solvay is included within the yellow zone, which means only the elementary school and high school. The yellow zone designation is a precautionary/buffer area to limit the spread of COVID into the broader community. For more information please refer to the [Governor's Micro Cluster Metrics](#).

In order for schools to remain open in a yellow zone, they are mandated by the State to conduct surveillance testing by randomly testing 20% of the students, teachers, and staff in-person in each building located within a yellow zone. At this time the district needs to identify students from the elementary and high schools that would be willing to participate in the voluntary surveillance testing. If your student participates in hybrid learning (cohort A or B) and attends either the elementary or high schools [please complete this survey by 2 pm, Wednesday, November, 11](#). If your child attends the middle school please do not complete the survey.

This testing is for asymptomatic students and staff only. If a student or staff member is exhibiting symptoms or has been exposed to a person who has COVID-19 they need to be tested by a health care provider or one of the county provided symptomatic testing locations.

The testing will be conducted by the Onondaga County Health Department at the elementary and high schools. The testing being performed is the [BinaxNow](#) nasal swab (only collects a sample from the lower part of the nostril) that produces results in about 15 minutes. The County is currently developing a schedule for all schools in yellow zones. We do not yet know when this testing will be done in Solvay but anticipate it happening soon. Once the County notifies the District of the on-site test date, students will be randomly selected to participate based on the survey referenced above. Students will only be eligible if they are scheduled to be in attendance on the date of testing and parents will need to register them (registration information will be forthcoming). Weekly testing will continue until the yellow zone designation is removed.

The District is focused on the health and well-being of our staff and students. We will continue to keep you informed via ParentSquare, our webpage, and social media.

If you have a specific question, please submit those by calling the District's COVID-19 hotline (315-468-7058) or emailing [covid19@solvayschools.org](mailto:covid19@solvayschools.org).

Thank you.



Jay Tinklepaugh  
Superintendent of Schools

JT/ac