



Bolivar-Richburg Central School District

"The foundation of every nation is the education of its youth." ~ Diogenes

Bolivar Richburg Central School District

COVID-19

Test-To-Stay Plan

Bolivar-Richburg Central School District

Test-To-Stay Plan

Guidelines

This plan is subject to change based on CDC/New York State Department of Health guidelines

Test-To-Stay (TTS)

1. The exposure must have occurred in the school setting and while both the person with COVID-19 (index patient) and exposed person were consistently and properly masked. Students whose exposures occurred outside of school instruction or bus transportation to or from instruction are not eligible.
2. Tests must be conducted, and the results received before the school day begins. Students will report to the nurse's office and/or designated location each morning upon arrival to be tested prior to be able to attend classes for the day.
3. Students must be tested at a minimum of **2x over the 5 days depending on when the exposure is identified (see testing cadence table)**. The testing cadence is measured in calendar days where Day 0 is the date of exposure.
4. If weekends/non-school days occur during the testing program; the student/faculty/staff member should be tested the first school day back and continue with the testing requirements.
5. Students **may NOT ride the bus into school in the morning** and must be transported to school in a private vehicle in case of a positive test result, and the parent/guardian must remain on site until notified by text of results (Positive or Negative). **If the student is negative, they MAY ride the bus home.**
6. The exposed person **MUST** remain asymptomatic; if the exposed person who is allowed to remain in school through TTS develops symptoms, they must be immediately excluded from school per current school guidance.
7. Keeping with District equity standards, no student/faculty/staff member will be charged for any testing while participating in the Test-To-Stay program.
8. If an individual test positive while enrolled in Test-To-Stay, the school district will contact trace the positive individual (if necessary) and transmit information to the County Department of Health.
9. Individuals participating in Test-To-Stay must be quarantined outside of school instruction/academic periods (on weekends/holidays when the five-day TTS period is still active, but no school test is required; after school/evenings; **NO** community activities or extracurricular participation including clubs, sports, arts/performance activities, etc.)
10. Bolivar-Richburg Central School District will have the option to offer/implement Test-To-Stay once the County has adopted and how they see fit for their specific school district.
11. At-Home tests will not be accepted for this protocol.

Test-to-Stay Program

Introduction

On 12/23/21, the NYS Department of Health issued a field memo titled, [Test to Stay Update: Revised Updated Testing and Quarantine Supplemental Information to the Interim NYSDOH Guidance for Classroom Instruction in P-12 Schools During the 2021-2022 Academic Year](#). The memo can be accessed [HERE](#).

This plan has been updated to also comply with NYSDOH 1/4/22 field memo titled, [Interim Updated Isolation & Quarantine Guidance](#) (accessed [HERE](#)).

Based on recent studies released by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the NYSDOH supports Test to Stay as a strategy that allows **asymptomatic unvaccinated school-based close contacts** (i.e. students, teachers, other school staff) to avoid school exclusion (but not other restrictions of quarantine) by testing negative through serial testing using rapid NAAT or antigen tests during a seven-day period following exposure. The intent is to reduce the number of students and staff who are excluded from school due to quarantine orders who are otherwise healthy (asymptomatic and negative).

Test to Stay (TTS) sets forth responsibilities for local health departments and school districts. This Addendum serves to outline those responsibilities and document Bolivar-Richburg Central School District's plan for implementation.

Responsibilities of Allegany County Public Health Department

- Review updated Test to Stay plans for Bolivar-Richburg Central School District and authorize implementation of Test to Stay programs
- Ensure that schools remain current on their reporting of all COVID-19 test results to the NYS COVID-19 Report Card
- Assess available local resources and encourage schools to assess resources that can be used to support Test to Stay programs
- Ensure the opportunity to participate is available to all districts in the county. School districts retain the authority to decide whether or not to participate

Bolivar-Richburg Central School District Test to Stay Plan:

1. If there is a COVID-19 positive case the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District will conduct contact tracing consistent with Allegany County Public Health guidelines and parameters and as outlined in the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District Reopening Plan for 2021-2022.
2. Any individual (student, faculty/staff member) who is identified by the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District as a close contact as a result of contact tracing will be considered for Test to Stay based on the following parameters:
 - a) The exposure may have occurred in the school setting.
 - b) The exposed person is **unvaccinated**.
 - c) The exposed person is **asymptomatic**; if the exposed person who is allowed to remain in school through TTS develops symptoms, they must be immediately excluded from school per current school guidance. In that instance, the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District will engage in contact tracing following current protocols.
 - d) The exposed person will be tested a minimum of three times during the five day period following exposure, unless recognition of the exposure is delayed or weekends or school breaks intervene.
 - e) The five-day period is measured in calendar days where the last date of exposure is considered Day Zero (0).
 - f) The tests will be conducted, and results received, before the school day begins at the 7:45am. Any positive Individuals will be isolated per existing procedures. Tests conducted at home will not be accepted as part of Test to Stay.
3. The exposed person who is allowed to remain in school through Test to Stay must be otherwise quarantined outside of the instructional school day (after school/evenings; no community activities, extracurricular or athletic participation).
4. Any student who participates in Test to Stay must have a signed consent for testing form from a parent or guardian.
5. Individuals participating in Test to Stay are allowed to continue to ride the school bus following all existing guidance, including required mask wearing.
6. The Test to Stay program will be maintained as long as the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District is able to provide test kits in an equitable fashion, free of charge to students and staff. The Bolivar-Richburg Central School District retains the authority to discontinue the program at any time.

Bolivar-Richburg Central School District
COVID-19 Contact Information:

Bolivar-Richburg Central School District has designated Mrs. Stephanie Pierce, RN to serve as COVID-19 Safety Coordinator, who along with Mr. Michael A. Retzlaff, Superintendent are responsible for the following:

- Be the main contacts upon the identification of positive COVID-19 cases and be responsible for subsequent communication
- Ensure continuous compliance with all aspects of the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District pandemic response plan
- Be the county, state, and federal liaison for all matters related to COVID-19

They can be contacted at: (585) 928-2561.

BOLIVAR-RICHBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR CDC, STATE, AND LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE. THIS PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC PROGRESSES.



Bolivar-Richburg Central School District

"The foundation of every nation is the education of its youth." ~ Diogenes

Consent for Student Rapid COVID-19 Testing "Test-To-Stay"

Upon consent, your child will receive a free diagnostic test for the COVID-19 virus that will be administered by Bolivar-Richburg Central School District and/or Allegany County - DOH.

We will notify you if your child tests positive for COVID-19. Any students who test positive will be sent home and must follow the quarantine orders of the local County Health Department before a return to school. Please contact your primary care provider immediately to review the test results should your child test positive for COVID-19.

STUDENT INFORMATION			
Student Name:			
Student Date of Birth:		Student Grade:	

Some information about your child could be shared with the local County Health Department and New York State Public Health Agencies. This includes notifying the local County Health Department of the student's name, gender, address, phone number, and result of the COVID-19 test. By signing below, I attest that:

- I have signed this form freely and voluntarily, and I am legally authorized to make decisions for the child named above.
- I authorize the Bolivar-Richburg CSD and/or Allegany County – DOH to test my child for COVID-19 infection.
- I understand that my child may be tested at multiple times during the 2021-2022 school year.
- I understand that this consent form will be valid through June 30, 2022, unless I revoke such consent in writing.
- I authorize my child's test results and other information to be disclosed to any governmental entity as may be required or permitted by law.
- I acknowledge that a positive test result will require my child to be sent home from school and remain at home until he/she meets the criteria to return to school according to the local County Health Department.
- I understand that this testing does not replace treatment by my child's medical provider, and I assume complete and full responsibility to take appropriate action regarding my child's medical treatment in light of the test results.
- I understand that, as with any medical test, there is the potential for a false positive or false negative COVID-19 test results.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____