



SUSQUEHANNA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
3192 TURNPIKE STREET
SUSQUEHANNA, PA 18847

BRONSON STONE
Superintendent of Schools

BRENT SODEN
Junior/Senior High School
Principal

PETER SUPKO
Elementary School
Principal

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

Greetings! The Susquehanna Community School District is committed to providing the safest learning environment possible during the Covid-19 pandemic. The district has been informed by the PA Department of Health and the PA Department of Education that there is an option to reduce the amount of education missed by students and staff identified as close contacts to a person who has been confirmed as having Covid-19. Under this new option, students identified as close contacts may remain in school under the district's **free** Test To Stay (TTS) Program if they submit to diagnostic testing, remain symptom free, demonstrate strict adherence to masking protocols and follow enhanced social distancing guidelines. This new option has the potential to greatly reduce and/or eliminate the amount of missed face-to-face education that occurs when a student has been identified as a close contact.

The following is how the TTS Program will operate in the school district:

1. A student is identified as a close contact because of physical proximity to a person testing positive for Covid-19 at school or at a school-based event. **Unfortunately, this program may not be used for students who are identified as a close contact because of exposure that occurred outside of the school setting.**
2. The parent/guardian has authorized the student to participate in the TTS Program. To participate in the program, your child must have a permission on file with the school district. The student will:
 - a. Undergo two short-swab nasal Rapid Antigen Tests, once between Day #2 and Day #4 post-exposure and once between Day #5 and Day #7 post-exposure.
 - b. Eat breakfast and/or lunch in a location where there is at least six feet of distance between the student and other students that are in the TTS Program. Take masking breaks in a location where there is at least six feet of social distancing between all students.
 - c. Report to the nurse's office immediately upon the development of any symptoms related to Covid-19. If symptoms of Covid-19 are developed by an individual, he/she will receive a symptomatic diagnostic test, be removed from the TTS Program, and required to follow normal quarantine procedures.

- d. Follow all masking requirements in all settings during his/her seven days in the TTS Program:
- i. Correct and proper wearing of masks at all times - classrooms, hallways, transportation, etc..
 - ii. Wearing of masks during athletic activities, including practices and contests.
 - iii. Wearing of masks during both indoor and outdoor recess and physical education.

A student found to be in violation of the masking requirements will be immediately removed from the TTS Program and required to quarantine outside of the school setting.

- e. Be removed from the TSS Program after Day #7 if the student has a negative test result between Day #5 and Day #7 post-exposure.

I strongly encourage you to consider enrolling your child in the TTS Program to reduce the possibility of your child missing face-to-face instruction if he/she were to be identified as a close contact. This program balances the need to keep the schools of the district as safe as possible with the need to ensure that students identified as close contacts can continue receiving the best education possible. If you have any questions on this program, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school nurse's office.

To register your child for the TTS Program, please register online with the following link:

<https://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com/minor-consent/>

- The access codes are:
 - Elementary School: **0NZ8P9** (first digit is the number zero)
 - High School: **AJKWDL**

Note: If you need to provide consent for more than one child, please complete the process once for each child. If your child is 18 or older, the registration must be completed by using a paper form that will be sent home with your child. If your child is 18 or older, the registration CANNOT be completed online.

Thank You and Happy Holidays!


Bronson Stone, Supt. of Schools