

PORT ORFORD



LANGLOIS 2CJ
SCHOOL DISTRICT

PORT ORFORD-LANGLOIS SCHOOL DISTRICT 2CJ

Steve Perkins, Superintendent

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March 2, 2021

Dear Families in the 2CJ School District:

You may have heard about the BinaxNOW testing system, which tests for COVID. It is a self – administered test for when a student or staff member who is already at school starts to not feel well.

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) require school districts who stay open to in – person learning while the county metrics are in red to offer these tests to their staff and students if they start to show symptoms of COVID at school. This program is only for students in grades Kindergarten through 12 and school staff. **If you do not want your child to be tested for COVID – 19 at school, then you simply do not return the form. No child will be tested unless the parent has returned the completed and signed form to school.**

Here is how the program works: If a child who is already at school starts feeling ill and the school nurse or building administrator determines the child is exhibiting what could be symptoms of COVID – 19, or if your child is exposed to COVID – 19 in a school group, or if the local health authority recommends testing, then we will check to see if we have a parental permission form on file for that child signed by the parent giving us permission to give the student a self – administered test. This is not the “brain tickle” swab you have heard about; this is a swab that goes inside the nose but not all the way up into the nasal passage. The student will be monitored while doing the swab by either our school nurse or building administrator. The swab is then placed in a container and tested for COVID – 19. We should have the results in 30 minutes. There is no charge to the family for this test; it is a service provided by the federal government and the state of Oregon. We are required to make this program available to families starting March 8, 2021.

Again, the test will only be administered to students who have the signed parent release form on file allowing them to opt in. Phone call authorization will not be accepted.

If you decide that you do not want to participate in this program then our current strategy remains in place. If a student who starts to show signs of being ill or tells us they are not feeling well will be quarantined in the school building and the parents will be called to come pick up their student. If your student has primary COVID symptoms, such as fever above 100.4°, cough, or loss of taste or smell, and you do not have them tested for COVID either by us or a medical provider, you will be required to keep your student home from school for 14 days.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the district office at (541) 348 – 2455.

Respectfully,

Steve Perkins
Superintendent
Port Orford – Langlois School District 2CJ