**COVID 19: WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOUR CHILD NEEDS A NASAL SWAB TEST**

**Once you have signed the permission form**

* Help prepare your child for the COVID- 19 test by telling them if they become sick at school, they may have a test. The test includes using a swab put a little way into their nose and twirled around for a few seconds. It may tickle or feel a little itchy. Their eyes might water, or they might even sneeze or cough. This feeling is normal and will go away. Both sides of your child’s nose will be swabbed.
* The child’s job is to lean their head back and sit as still as possible for the test.
* A child may bring a comforting object (i.e. widget) to hold during the test.
* Everyone will need to wear a mask or face covering (over age 2).
* Your child will have to remove any nasal piercings prior to the test.
* If your child has had a problem with their nose, like a deviated septum, broken nose and/or recent surgery, you should call your child’s doctor to discuss their recommendations for testing.
* If you are at a school drive thru site, the school nurse will ask you to stay in your car. Children should remain in their car seats. You may sit next to the child and hold them or their hand.
* If the child is 12 years and older and willing, they may be asked to collect the sample by putting the swab in their nose. The school nurse will coach the child on how to collect the sample. A caregiver may assist your child.
* The school nurse will be wearing masks, gloves, and gowns (PPE) in order to keep everyone safe. S/he will ask some questions, may take your temperature and will explain what type of test is being used at the school. The school nurse will give the child a tissue to wipe their nose after the test.
* The child or the school nurse will insert a very skinny swab into the nose and twist it around to collect some material from inside the nose. It will not go far back, only ½-1 inch, depending on the size of the child. It will only last a few seconds.

* The school nurse will then complete the test per the Abbot BinaxNOW instructions. The results are ready in 15 minutes. The most important thing is to follow the instructions the school nurse gives you after the test. If the test is positive, you will get a phone call. If the test is negative, an email may be sent instead of a phone call.