

Good Afternoon SJS Families,

I hope everyone has a great weekend and stays healthy. I want to send a quick synopsis of Dr. Flieger's email from yesterday regarding the updated DESE Guidelines. The guidelines are ever changing, so I wanted to provide a snippet of updates that will be happening at SJS within the next few weeks.

These updates include:

- Test and Stay program discontinued for close contacts once we receive shipment of rapid tests. These rapid tests are for staff and students. You must opt in, link below. Free!
- No further contact tracing
- Discontinuing identifying close contacts (Although, professional discretion may be used to determine if specific situations warrant contact tracing).
- Focus on symptomatic testing when a student arrives at the health office not feeling well.
- Continuing to keep your student home if they are sick.
- **Free Rapid test kits-** If you opt in, staff and students will receive rapid antigen tests (iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test) from DESE that will be sent home with staff and students. You must click this link below to opt in here <https://forms.gle/uZJ1LUY33ujDa6H57>
- We will pick a day each week for you to test your student at home. We will determine the date once we receive the tests. If positive it is important to keep your child home for a five quarantine with release on day six. You must notify the school nurse @ [Tara.medeiros@SJScanton.org](mailto:Tara.medeiros@SJScanton.org)
- Unvaccinated students with covid in the home, may not attend in person learning. In some cases, individuals may be asked to follow specific testing and quarantine response protocols (including durations for quarantine/isolation) provided by the school nurse, contact tracers or local health officials, which may differ from the recommended protocols below.

Best,

Tara Medeiros

SJS Nurse