

Good Evening, Everyone,
I hope this email finds you well. It is hard to believe it is the middle of October already!
Below, please find pertinent updates and reminders for our school community.

COVID Positives October 15, 2021

We are reporting COVID Positives at AHS (2) and AMS (2) today.

Special Attention!

- 1- Please pay special attention to the **COVID Testing program** mentioned below. If you have not signed your child up to be tested in school if they are deemed a close contact, please do so. In three days, we have administered 87 BinaxNow Rapid tests to students who would otherwise have been required to quarantine at home.
- 2- If you and/or your child are feeling unwell, and/or there is a **COVID POSITIVE** individual in your home, **regardless of vaccination status**, please keep all children home until you have conferred with your school's nurse.
- 3- If your **child is in quarantine** they should be home until their quarantine is over. Regardless of tests taken (home or otherwise), students should not be on school property for any reason until cleared by their respective school nurses.

OPT IN FOR SCHOOL BASED COVID TESTING

If you are interested in having your child participate, please read the following information and complete the consent form (link is below). **If we do not have parental consent to test, we will be forced to send unvaccinated close contacts home.** Below, again, is the information regarding this program with the link.

Symptomatic Testing

Under this program, we will be able to test staff, and students (with the consent of a parent or guardian) who may become symptomatic in school. Staff, and students with very mild symptoms and a negative COVID test, may be allowed to stay in school.

Test and Stay

In addition, staff, and students who may be deemed "close contacts" to a COVID positive person in school, can opt to be tested daily in school for at least five days. If the test is negative and there are no symptoms present, staff, and students will be allowed to stay in school.

Details

The testing that is being offered will not allow us to test students or staff who become symptomatic outside of school or become a close contact to someone

who is COVID positive in a setting other than school. Please do not send your child to school if he or she is not feeling well.

Parent/Guardian Consent

In order to implement these programs, we must receive consent from parents or guardians in order for any child to be tested. If you would like your child to participate in the testing and monitoring that these programs will provide, please follow this [link to the consent form](#) and complete the form for your child(ren). If you do not complete the consent form or deny consent through the form, we will not include your child in any of the testing that will be offered.

If you provide consent, please note that you will be providing consent for Symptomatic Testing, Test and Stay and Routine COVID Safety Checks(formerly named Pooled Testing). However, at this time, the Auburn Public Schools has only opted to offer the Symptomatic and Test and Stay options.

If you are registering your child(ren), please select 'sign consent for a minor' and enter the requested information. If you have more than one child, please complete a form for each child.

Once into the consent portal, you have the option to select languages other than English for the translation of the consent form.

Please complete the consent form as soon as possible so that we can offer a robust response to students.

If you have questions, please reach out to Dr. Beth Chamberland, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, at bchamberland@auburn.k12.ma.us .

Continuation of Masking in the APS

As referred to in the Commissioner's most recent memorandum to all school districts in the Commonwealth, the masking order in all schools has been extended through at least November 1, 2021. As we approach November, we will continue to keep you apprised of the direction received from the state.

Reminder Regarding Masks

Related to the previous paragraph, please be reminded students are responsible for supplying their own masks. Schools have extras for students and visitors who forget them, but we appreciate your help providing a mask for your child.

Auburn Youth Basketball

Please see the attached informational letter from Auburn Youth Basketball regarding registration and tryouts.

Substitute Nurses

The Auburn Public Schools is looking for substitute School Nurses. If you are a Registered Nurse or know someone who is and are interesting in working in our school buildings, please contact either Leah Gauthier, Lead Nurse, at lgauthier@auburn.k12.ma.us or Beth Chamberland, Assistant Superintendent, at echamberland@auburn.k12.ma.us. Substitute RNs receive a daily rate of \$ 150 and you get to work with our amazing students and staff.

Substitute Teachers and Support Staff

The Auburn Public Schools is looking for substitute teachers and support staff. If interested, please come to 5 West Street to complete an employment application. Applications are reviewed and training is provided to qualified candidates. Applicants should have an Associate or Bachelor's degree. You are able to select the days you work to make it convenient for your schedule. You can also select the school or schools you would prefer to support. Substitutes for teachers are paid \$80-\$85 per day based on certification, Instructional Assistants are paid \$ 12/hour, ABA substitutes are paid \$ 12.30/hour and retired teachers who retain their certification are paid \$ 90 per day.

I wish you all a great weekend and thank you for your continued support of the Auburn Public Schools. If you have community information you would like shared through this update, please send information to Mrs. Mandy Williams at mwilliams@auburn.k12.ma.us by Wednesday afternoon for the current week's update.

Most Sincerely,

Casey

Casey J. Handfield, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools