



Kenton County School District | *It's about ALL kids.*

THE KENTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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Dr. Henry Webb, Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

The district has established an [In-Person instructional dashboard](#) that can be located on our district website under the COVID-19 link. The district recently added the district dashboard recommended by state public health officials to our district in-person instructional dashboard to make decisions regarding in-person learning for the district. To ensure that we have specific information to make school level decisions we have added a COVID-19 testing component when/if our county reaches the “critical phase, 25+ cases per 100,000, defined by the Department of Public Health”. We are hopeful that we will not reach this phase which would mean our testing program would never be implemented. However, we believe that if we reach this phase it is more effective to determine through a testing program if we have virus spread in individual schools instead closing the entire district. *It is important to note that all staff and students [can opt-out of the program](#) if they choose not to participate and there are no repercussions for opting out. All stakeholders involved should receive the opt-out form from your local school before leaving for fall break.*

The company the KCS D will be using for the COVID-19 testing program is Advanced Diagnostics Laboratory. Testing will occur each week that the district is in the “critical phase” by randomly selecting 10% of our 2<sup>nd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students (who are in-person) and staff in each school site *that did not opt out*. The test being used is a Real Time-PCR nasal swab that will detect the COVID-19 virus in the earliest stages and the test is reported to have a 99% accuracy rate. The swab will be brushed against both nostrils 10 seconds on each side. *This is NOT a deep nasopharyngeal swab and should NOT cause any discomfort to the student or staff member.* The test will be overnighted to the testing company with a “next business day” result being provided to the school in most cases. Once we have testing data we will follow our in-person dashboard for individual school decisions. Any positive test will be reported to the health department, the family and we will follow all guidance. Also, please keep in mind that athletes who participate in sports designated by NFHS/KHSAA as moderate or high risk are not able to opt out. You should have received a Consent to Participate in School Sport Activities and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19 if your child is participating in fall sports and you will receive this required form for winter sports in the near future. Please contact your school’s Athletic Director if you have further questions regarding the consent to participate. Due to the quick determination of the need to start the testing program, parents will not be notified if your child/student is randomly selected to be tested, however, we will notify everyone if we enter this critical phase as testing will be started. The testing will be done by a trained Health Office staff member at each site.

In closing, we trust you agree that when/if we ever enter the “critical phase” that our testing program to determine if we have virus spread in our individual schools is more effective than closing all schools and programs. Once again, we are hopeful that we will not enter the “critical phase” and we ask for everyone to continue to follow recommended guidelines to ensure we do not reach this level of community spread.

We extend a very special thank you to TEAM KENTON and our extended family for your incredible support and patience during this unprecedented time in history. TEAM KENTON is strong and we will get through this together!

Henry Webb Ed.D  
Superintendent

Kenton County Board of Education

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