

From: [Maureen Donahue](#)
To: [SaGurney, Pamela](#)
Subject: district updates
Date: Friday, January 14, 2022 2:43:21 PM

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January 12, 2022

Dear Southwestern families,

In a memo from the Chautauqua County Health Department dated January 7, 2022, Test to Stay (TTS) is defined as "a modified, test-based protocol for asymptomatic Pre-K-12 students and staff who have been identified as close contacts to someone with COVID-19. TTS allows eligible quarantined individuals to attend in-school instruction if they receive a negative COVID-19 viral test (e.g. rapid antigen, PCR) a minimum of two times during the five-day period following exposure unless recognition of the exposure is delayed or weekends or school breaks intervene." One of these tests must take place on day 5 after the exposure. Beginning Tuesday, January 18, 2022, Southwestern Central School District will implement the Test to Stay protocol. It is our hope that this protocol will help our students be in-person for instruction as much as possible. Please note that in order to implement this protocol our school must strictly adhere to the New York State Education Department Test to Stay Guidance as well as the Chautauqua County Health Department Test to Stay Guidance. We are grateful that the Chautauqua County Department of Health agreed to provide this option for our families.

Please note that this protocol is only for students who attend in-school instruction.

Extracurricular activities are still not allowed while in this period after exposure. Our school's universal masking policy is in effect regardless of if students are in this protocol or not.

Vaccinated individuals do not need to participate as they would not be ordered to quarantine unless exhibiting symptoms or positive for COVID-19.

If your student is not vaccinated and you are interested, please complete the online form found on the school website (www.swcsk12.org) by clicking on the "Test to Stay Consent" tab at the top of the home page.

Thank you for continued support and trusting us with your children. Stay safe and healthy, Trojans!

Very Truly Yours,

Maureen Donahue Superintendent

MD/

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