



August 16, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to return to a more traditional athletics environment and schedule during the 2021-22 school year. However, to ensure that our student-athletes and coaches can safely participate, the Guilford County Board of Education has implemented a testing requirement for those participants who are not vaccinated against COVID-19.

This means that all unvaccinated coaches, sponsors, athletes and other students participating in high-risk activities such as marching band, chorus, orchestra, dance and JROTC will be tested for COVID-19 on a regular basis.

Plans for the testing program are still being developed, but we can share these details.

- Athletic and activity participants who are not fully vaccinated will be required to consent to testing as a condition of participating on the team or activity.
- Participants will be required to get tested for COVID-19 two times per week until the number of cases decrease
- Testing will be conducted on site at the school during normal working hours.
- We have opted to use antigen rapid testing, which will provide results within 1 hour.
- A state-approved medical diagnostics laboratory, Concentric by Ginkgo, will be conducting the testing.
- We will follow a district-wide testing calendar that will be posted and shared with parents.
- If anyone required to participate in testing misses their test, they will not be permitted to participate until they provide acceptable proof of a **negative** test result (antigen or PCR) or until the next cycle of testing at the school.

As we prepare for the testing program, we need to begin collecting proof of vaccination and/or consent forms. Please submit these to the school no later than **Monday, August 23, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.** If the school does not receive the required documentation, the student will not be permitted to participate in any team activities until the information is received by the school.

To submit proof of vaccination, please provide a copy of the vaccination card to your child's school. If you are unable to print a copy, please work with your child's school directly.

We are working hard to do our part and appreciate your support in our efforts to ensure the health and safety of students and staff, while at the same time protecting the academic programs at our schools.

Sincerely

Leigh G. Hebbard
Director III – Activities, Athletics, and Drivers Education