

January 14, 2022

Dear Avonworth Parents & Caregivers,

There is an agenda item on the School Board agenda for January 18, 2022 to update the District's Health & Safety Plan to include a Test-To-Stay (TTS) program.

TTS is supported by the PA Department of Health. Putting the TTS program in place is another step that will minimize the disruption of quarantine on students, families, and staff. TTS will allow unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals (students or staff) identified as a close contact in the school setting to continue in-person learning as long as they remain symptom-free and test negative for COVID-19 on the days tested.

To participate in the TTS program, consent must be given to participate in rapid antigen testing at the school. Because fully vaccinated students and staff do not need to quarantine if they are exposed to an individual who is positive for COVID-19, these individuals do not need to participate in TTS.

An unvaccinated individual identified as a close contact in the school setting would have two options.

1. Quarantine for 5 days, or
2. If consent is provided to participate in TTS, the individual will stay in school and take a rapid antigen test between days 2-4 and 5-7. If the rapid antigen test is negative, the individual remains in school. If the test is positive, the individual will be sent home to isolate. If the individual becomes symptomatic at any time, they will be sent home.

If approved, TTS will begin on January 19, 2022. A message will be sent to inform our parents and guardians whether or not TTS was approved.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work collaboratively through this challenging time.

With sincere gratitude!

Jeffrey M. Hadley, Ed.D.
Superintendent