

November 14, 2023

Dear DC Public Schools Parents and Families,

At DC Public Schools (DCPS), the health and safety of our school communities is paramount. With cold and flu season approaching, we want to ensure that our students and families have access to free COVID-19 Test Kits to use during our upcoming breaks.

All schools will receive a shipment of COVID-19 Test Kits this week. **Schools will distribute two boxed kits containing two tests each to every student at their school by Tuesday, November 21.** Teachers and staff will also receive a test kit to take home.

**Please note that students and staff are not being asked or required to share or upload test results before returning to school after Thanksgiving or December break.**

These tests are intended for your personal use should your student or a family member feel unwell or experience COVID-19 symptoms during either break. If your student does test positive, please inform your school and follow current DC Health guidance for [Individuals Who Test Positive](#). Anyone who tests positive is encouraged to follow up with their healthcare provider.

At DCPS, we will continue to anchor our health and safety measures to current guidance from the following sources:

- [Centers for Disease and Control \(CDC\) - cdc.gov](#);
- [DC Health - coronavirus.dc.gov/healthguidance](#), and;
- [Office of State Superintendent of Education \(OSSE\) - osse.dc.gov/page/policy-and-guidance-resources](#)

For more information on School Year 2023-2024 guidance and the OSSE Return to School Criteria, please visit <https://dcpsstrong.com/covid-19/>.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership to keep our school communities healthy and thriving. We hope you and your family have a safe and restful break.

Sincerely,

Ely Ross  
Chief Operating Officer  
DC Public Schools