# WASHINGTON ACADEMY

*Since 1792*

Dear Washington Academy Parents and Guardians:

We will be implementing a free COVID-19 pooled testing program for students and staff this school year at Washington Academy.

Below is a link to a consent form asking for your permission to regularly test your child as part of the pooled testing program. Pooled testing involves collecting several individuals' test swabs together into one "pool" and then testing the pooled sample for COVID-19. This allows us to regularly test our students and employees for COVID-19. If we have at least 30% participation of students and staff it will also allow us to eliminate some of our social distancing and quarantine requirements.

Pooled testing will be performed once per week, using a shallow nasal self-swab for all participating students and staff members. If the result of the pool is negative, then all individuals are presumed to not have COVID-19. If the pool returns one or more positive results, all individuals in the pool will be retested using the Abbott BinaxNOW Rapid Antigen Diagnostic Test. You will be notified if your child requires follow-up testing. Individuals with no symptoms and a negative rapid test will no longer be required to quarantine. Washington Academy will report all follow-up test results to the Maine CDC's REDCap reporting system.

To allow your student to participate in the COVID-19 Pooled Testing Program, including consent to pool test, consent for follow up Abbott Binax Now Rapid Antigen testing, and consent to share test result information with the Maine CDC, please complete the consent form online using the link provided below.

If you have questions regarding the COVlD-19 Pooled Testing Program, please reach out to Washington Academy school nurse Heidi Schwinn h.schwinn@raider4life.org

Link to consent form: http://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com//minor-consent
The school access code for this form is: WA1792

Video on Pooled Testing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GsPUCklRrcQ&t=19s

Kindly,

*Judson McBrine*

Judson McBrine
Head of School