December 31, 2021

Dear Lamoille North Lamoille Families and Staff:

As we approach the return to school after break, I want to provide you with some important updates and reminders.

Antigen testing has been provided by the state for children, grades K-12, with recommendations to test students twice, at least 24 hours apart starting two days before school begins.

Sat., January 1: take the first test Sun., January 2: take the second test Mon., January 3: return to school

If both of your child's tests are negative and they have no <u>COVID-19 symptoms</u>, they can return to school. Any child experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home from school regardless of their test result.

In response to the CDC's updated guidance on quarantine, the health department has updated guidance for quarantine for those who test positive https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19 19/symptoms-sickness/what-do-if-you-test-positive-covid-19 and those who are a close contact of someone who tests positive https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19 and those who are a close contact of someone who tests positive https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/symptoms-sickness/what-do-if-you-are-close-contact. These guidelines are effective immediately.

Please <u>report your test result to the Health Department</u>. School nurses will **not** be conducting contact tracing on positive antigen test results that were distributed by the state.

In other news, we will continue surveillance testing on Monday, January 3, 2022. Students may only participate in the program with permission from a parent or guardian. For your child to participate in the program, you must sign this <u>consent form</u> on behalf of your student. There is no charge for participating. Any student aged 5 years or older is eligible to participate. Please be sure you indicate the school your child attends and that the consent is for a student.

We will also continue implementation of the Test to Stay program across our district and we are awaiting further information regarding at home testing. The AOE has created one universal consent web form for all forms of response testing (antigen, PCR and any potential new testing technologies).

Universal Consent for Response Testing for SU/SDs: <u>https://vermont.us20.list-</u> manage.com/track/click?u=d01e01e425fa1e66c26167761&id=e1bb777c83&e=029e711dc8

We are in the planning stages with the VDH Morrisville District Office to offer school-located booster clinics for students ages 16-17 and dose 1 or dose 2 for students 12 years or older. You will hear updates on this as soon as possible.

Be well, and thank you for your supportive efforts through this new year,

Florence M. Kelley, RN, BSN District COVID-19 Coordinator, LNSU