



# **Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District**

COVID-19 Testing Plan  
Protocol and Procedures

*August 14, 2020*



### **What is COVID-19? (FDA: [LINK](#))**

*Note: Please consult the link for the most up-to-date information*

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. CDC has information on [COVID-19 symptoms](#) and caring for yourself and others. COVID-19 is a new disease, caused by a novel (or new) coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans.

### **Know how it Spreads ([LINK](#)):**

*Note: Please consult the link for the most up-to-date information*

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person.
  - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
  - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
  - These droplets can land in the mouth or nose of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
  - Some recent studies have suggested COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

At this time the District does not anticipate conducting COVID-19 tests or providing them on school facilities. The District will follow any state and local Department of Health protocols for testing any students, faculty, staff, and where applicable, contractors, vendors, and on-site visitors that demonstrate COVID-19 like symptoms, including recommending that these individuals seek testing where appropriate. If a student or faculty/staff member exhibits signs of COVID-19, the school nurses will work with families about necessary next steps including seeing their healthcare provider. The healthcare provider will determine if COVID-19 testing is needed and will direct the ill persons to a specified Erie County Testing Site using the NYS link "[Find a Test Site Near You](#)" or [Erie County COVID-19 Testing Sites link](#) or call Erie County Department of Health at 716-858-2929. Our nurses will make parents/guardians and employees aware of the following COVID-19 testing sites located in Sloan, New York 14212:

- Jericho Road Community Health Center (1021 Broadway);
- Rite Aid- Buffalo (2474 Bailey Avenue); and/or
- WellNow Urgent Care- Cheektowaga (3450 Union Road).

In some cases, COVID-19 test results might dictate timelines and other procedures related to return to school or work in the District.



**COVID-19 Testing Information-** Information Erie County, NY Department of Health ([LINK](#))

*Note: Please consult the link for the most up-to-date information*

Two kinds of tests are available for COVID-19:

1. Diagnostic test (swab test)- Tells you if you have a current infection
2. Serologic antibody test (blood test)- Tells you if you had a previous infection. It is very important to remember that when antibodies to COVID-19 are found in a person, scientists do not know yet if there is protection from future infections and how long the protection lasts. COVID-19 is caused by a new virus and many studies are under way to learn more about the disease and how the immune system responds to it.

*Note: If you test positive or negative for COVID-19, no matter the type of test, you still should take preventive measures to [protect yourself and others](#).*

For more information about testing see:

- [COVID-19 Testing FAQs](#) (CDC)
- [COVID-19 Testing FAQs](#) (FDA or call 1-888-FDA-INFO)
- [Abbot Antibody Fact Sheet for Recipients](#)
- [Erie County Data Map](#)
- Testing for COVID-19 (CDC)
  - See, "Guidance on Interpreting COVID-19 Test Results" [Link \(08.10.2020\)](#)

**Reporting Positive Cases of COVID-19.** School principals are designated as COVID-19 resources persons and will be the point of contact for any identified positive cases.

These COVID-19 screening contacts are:

Theodore Roosevelt: Mr. Jeffrey Mochrie, Building Principal PHONE: 716-891-6424

Woodrow Wilson: Mrs. Elizabeth Zaccarine, Building Principal PHONE: 716-891-6419

JFK Middle School: Mr. Robert Julian, Jr., Building Principal PHONE: 716-891-7300

JFK High School: Mr. Robert Julian, Jr., Building Principal PHONE: 716-891-6407

All principals will notify the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Andrea L. Galenski, upon receiving any information regarding a confirmed COVID-19 case.



**Notification of the Positive COVID-19 Cases.** The District must notify the state and local health department upon being informed of any positive COVID-19 diagnostic test results by an individual in school facilities or on school grounds, including students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Please see the supplemental flowcharts available on the District Webpage for more information:

- Flowchart: “Protocol for Symptomatic or Positive COVID-19 Student or Staff
- Flowchart: “Erie County Department of Health: Has an employee or student at your school tested positive for COVID-19?”

**Management of Ill Persons- Students.**

Parents are required to keep sick children home. If students begin to experience any COVID-19 symptoms after arriving at school, they must notify the classroom teacher or nurse immediately. Each school building has identified a separate area for anyone who is exhibiting COVID-like symptoms during the hours of operation, and will ensure that children are not left without adult supervision. This separate area is to ensure that the nurse’s office in each school is maintained as a space for healthy students to obtain medications and nursing treatments.

The student will be evaluated by the school nurse and when necessary, arrangements will be made for a parent/guardian to pick up the student. Upon pick-up, the nurse will provide the parent with guidance from the CDC or DOH and the child will need to see a physician. In extreme situations where medically warranted, the District may arrange to have the student transported to a healthcare facility or home, depending on the circumstances. Due to the high transmission rate of COVID-19, parents must pick up their child or make alternative arrangements for their sick child to leave school as soon as possible.

**Management of Ill Persons- Faculty and Staff.** Faculty and staff are required to stay home if they are sick. All staff are required to notify their supervisor immediately if they begin to experience any of the COVID-19 related symptoms while on-site. The employee will be placed in an Isolation Room to be evaluated by a school nurse, and will receive further instructions on how to proceed. The District will make arrangements to transport an employee to a healthcare facility or home, if necessary.

**Return to School After Illness.** The District will follow the latest government guidance with respect to identifying, managing, and responding to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, including:

- The NYSDOH’s Interim Guidance for Public and Private Employees;
- Returning to Work Following COVID-19 Infection or Exposure;
- Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection released by the CDC;
- CDC Interim Considerations for K-12 School Administrators for SARS-CoV-2 Testing;



## *Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District (CSUFSD)- COVID-19 Testing Protocol and Procedures*

- Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings; and
- New York State Contact Tracing Program.

The facts and circumstances surrounding each case will determine the proper steps for notification, testing, contact tracing, school closures, cleaning and disinfecting, and the parameters for returning to work/school. These factors include whether or not the individual is/was symptomatic, asymptomatic, or tested positive for COVID-19. The District will contact the student and family or employee to provide additional guidance on when to return to work/school.

**Cleaning and Disinfecting Following Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Case.** The CSUFSD will follow all CDC and NYS guidelines and requirements for cleaning, disinfecting or school closure after a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.

If someone is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19:

- The District will close off areas used by the person who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. The District does not necessarily need to close operations, if they can close off the affected areas (e.g., classroom, restroom, hallway) but will consult with local health departments when developing these protocols. If, in accordance with the CDC and NYSDOH, the recommendation is to close the entire building, then the District will comply and communicate with families and faculty/staff.
- Open outside doors and windows, where possible, to increase air circulation in the affected area(s).
- Wait 24 hours before all areas used by the person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, such as offices, classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas.
- Once the area has been properly cleaned and sanitized according to all required guidelines, the area can be reopened for use by individuals without close contact with the suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case.
- If more than seven days have passed since the person who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary, but routine cleaning and disinfection will continue.

The District will collaborate with our local health department to determine the parameters, conditions or metrics (e.g., increased absenteeism or increased illness in the school community) that will serve as early warning signs that positive COVID-19 cases may be increasing beyond an acceptable level. The District will consider closing school if absentee rates impact the ability of the school to operate safely. The District will consult with our local department of health when making such decisions.