

# Oriskany Central School District

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Oriskany Central School District's Test to Stay Plan was approved by the Oneida County Health Department on January 4, 2022. Under this plan, students deemed a close contact at school will be able to remain in school provided that they are tested on a designated schedule to ensure that they remain healthy and are COVID negative.

Please know, to be eligible for Test to Stay, a student must be deemed a close contact to a positive individual at school, on a school bus or be part of an Oriskany Central School District afterschool activity. Students exposed to a positive individual at home, outside of school, are not eligible to participate, per the Oneida County Health Department and the New York State Department of Health. The exposed student must remain asymptomatic (no symptoms) and be tested at least three times during a five-day window during their Test to Stay period beginning with first exposure.

Please remember that the Test to Stay program is optional for parents. A parent may request to keep their child out of school for the required pre-cautionary quarantine period instead of participating in Test to Stay. Please also note, fully vaccinated students are not eligible for this program as they are already allowed to stay in school if deemed a close contact.

If a student qualifies for this program, the student's parent/guardian will be contacted by our school nurse to explain the program and arrange for the parent to sign the Oriskany Central School District consent form and pick up the required Test to Stay informational packet if appropriate or has not been done so by a parent or guardian already.

If you would like to proactively complete the Test to Stay permission slip for your child, please complete the PDF fillable consent form found [HERE](#). Please note that the testing period is now based on a five-day window and a possible testing regimen may include:

Possible Testing Schedule		
Day of First Test	Day of Second Test	Day of Third Test
0	3	5
1	4 or 5	N/A
2	4 or 5	N/A
3	5	N/A
4	N/A	N/A

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If you would like a hard copy consent form, please call either the Jr./Sr. High School nurse's office or the N.A. Walbran Elementary School nurse's office to request the same.

Additionally, you may have some questions regarding the recent quarantine, isolation information or other announcements from the CDC, New York State Department of Health and our Oneida County Health Department.

Isolation and quarantine periods for school students have been changed to **five (5)** days. We will be sure to let you know of any changes as soon as we receive notification from the New York State Department of Health. We are currently working with the Oneida County Department of Health for further language clarifications regarding how recent guidance impacts Oneida-Herkimer-County Schools.

As always, please be sure to keep your child home if they are exhibiting any symptoms of illness and call the school nurse. Please remember that positive home test results must be reported to the school nurse and the Oneida County Health Department.

We are here for you to answer questions and help in any way we can and we will continue to keep you updated with important information as it becomes known.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools, students, families and community.

Sincerely,

Timothy Gaffney  
Superintendent of Schools