

Dear DISTRICT Parents,

In DISTRICT, we are committed to doing all we can to keep staff and students healthy and safe. With this goal in mind, we are pleased to share that we will be taking part in a statewide program offering rapid tests for use in schools. This program will allow DISTRICT to test both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals—including staff and students-- and reduce the risk to our school community. This email offers further information on the tests and the testing program. If you have additional questions, you can contact the front office at 281-398-8031, ext. 100.

What COVID-19 tests are used in this program?

This program uses [BinaxNOW tests](#), which provide results in 15 minutes and are administered using a nasal swab in the front area of the nostril. These tests have been shown to be highly accurate, with accuracy rates of 97-98% for symptomatic individuals.

Who will be tested and when?

At Calvin Nelms Charter School, we will be offering these tests to staff working on campus at minimum on a MONTHLY basis. These tests are optional, but we encourage all staff who work on campus to participate in the testing program.

Additionally, Calvin Nelms will be able to test any individual who is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 with consent.

How will the information from the tests be used?

If a parent has given permission for Calvin Nelms to administer the BinaxNOW test for their child, your child's school will call you to let you know that your student is experiencing symptoms and that they will be administering a BinaxNOW test. The test administrator will also call to share the results after the test has been administered. Additionally, the student's parent or guardian will receive test results via text and will also receive a confirmation email within 24 hours.

The results will also be shared with the school/district and with the local health department to allow for public health reporting and contact tracing and to determine the stay-at-home period for individuals who test positive. Additionally, the total number of positive tests per school will also be shared with the Texas Department of State Health Services as is required by law.

What happens next?

Tests are available to all students who are showing symptoms of COVID-19. To participate, parents must complete this form.

If your child is experiencing symptoms and you would like for him/ her to be tested, please do NOT send him/her to campus. Please keep your child at home and notify the front office.