



**Millinocket School Department**  
**Nursing Services**

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Dear parents/guardians,

One of the best ways to prevent COVID-19 is through testing. That is why we are planning to make testing of students quick and easy, should it be needed. The Millinocket School Department has opted into a State of Maine program that will allow us to get and use the Abbott BinaxNow Ag Tests. This test provides results in 15 minutes. The BinaxNOW test can be used for early detection of COVID-19 in students, staff members and teachers. We will only use this test for individuals who develop the following signs and symptoms during the school day and if we have signed consent from the parents/guardians. The following signs and symptoms would meet criteria for a student to be tested:

- Fever above 100.4 or chills
- New, uncontrolled cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue, muscle or body aches
- New headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

Students over the age of 12 may have the capacity to self-swab with supervision, while the school nurse or other trained school personnel will collect specimens for students under the age of 12. We are asking parents/guardians for permission to test their child at school should they develop any of the following symptoms of COVID-19. Please sign and return the attached consent form if you give permission for your student to be tested for COVID-19 at school.

- This permission form will stay in your student's health file (for one school year).
- There will be no charge to families for testing.
- The school nurse or trained personnel will be in communication with the parent/guardian of anyone tested and results will be shared with the parent/guardian.
- Test involves a gentle swab (½ to ¾ inch) insertion into each nostril.
- Parents/guardians that opt out of school testing will need to arrange testing through their primary care provider or other testing site if directed to do so by the Maine CDC.

Thank you so much for your help in completing and returning this form. By doing so, you are making sure that testing for your student is not delayed. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,  
Katie Carr/RN (School Nurse for the Millinocket School Department)  
(207) 447-6596 (Granite Street School) and (207) 447-6505 (Stearns Junior Senior High School)