



Grant Community High School District 124

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Christine A. Sefcik, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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Dear Grant Families,

As part of our commitment to maintain a safe learning environment at Grant Community High School, we are expanding our testing capabilities to include the SHIELD Illinois Rapid rtPCR test. Testing will be phased in, beginning with a limited number of tests conducted two days per week. The SHIELD test is a saliva-based test with Emergency Use Authorization provided by the FDA. Testing is completely voluntary and a consent form must be completed prior to testing. Details regarding the District's COVID-19 Onsite Testing Plan may be reviewed [here](#). The saliva-based test is quick, non-invasive, includes simply providing a drool sample in a vial, and has a high rate of accuracy (sensitivity of 97% and specificity of 99%).

Testing may be utilized to conduct random surveillance to validate risk mitigation efforts, when a student or staff member presents with COVID-19 symptoms at school, or when they may have been exposed to a potentially infected individual. A CLIA approved laboratory will determine results within 4 to 24 hours of receiving the saliva sample and those results will be communicated directly to the parent/guardian at the phone number provided on the consent form.

We are asking you to complete the SHIELD Consent Form in advance of any potential testing, which can be done through your Skyward account:

1. Go to www.grantbulldogs.org, click on the "Find It Fast" tab (top of the page), and select the Skyward Family Access Link
2. Log in to Skyward Family Access using your unique login and password
3. After accessing your Skyward account, fill out the form by clicking on Online Forms
4. If you have forgotten your Skyward Username and/or Password please send an email to tech@grantbulldogs.org

Otherwise, consent will need to be obtained at the time testing is recommended. Again, please remember testing is completely voluntary. The goal for testing is to minimize educational time lost and also provide additional peace of mind with rapid, reliable testing results for students, parents and staff that are interested.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Sefcik, Ed.D.
Superintendent