



THE PROTESTANT SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE

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March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

Recently the provincial government introduced voluntary targeted COVID-19 testing with school boards across the province to provide further protection in helping limit the spread of COVID-19. The focus for this initiative has been on larger school boards in the province, specifically, boards that have 10 or more schools in their system. However, the Ministry has been working with us to coordinate opportunities for our school community to participate in this voluntary initiative.

We have partnered with LifeLabs, Canada's largest medical laboratory, to provide free COVID-19 testing for all students and their family members and staff at Burkevale PSS.

This COVID-19 testing initiative is voluntary and only for asymptomatic individuals (those who are not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms).

We have secured the following date for this to occur at Burkevale Protestant Separate School:

- **Tuesday, March 23rd from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

Participants will not have to pre-register for this clinic - it will be a walk-in only process. Consent will be required from parents in order for students to be tested.

The test process is very simple and safe, and the collection site will be staffed by professionals who will be following a multitude of safety parameters. LifeLabs uses a swab similar to a Q-Tip that is inserted into the front part of the nostril 1 cm up and rotated for fifteen seconds (per nostril). After the sample is collected, the test results will then be available within 24-48 hours on LifeLabs' WorkClear Thrive application. If an OHIP number has been provided at the time of check-in/registration, results will also be uploaded to www.covid19results.ehealthontario.ca

Further information and frequently asked questions can be accessed through the following links:

<https://www.lifelabs.com/covid-19-updates/covid19-pcr-testing-for-schools/>

FAQs: <https://lifelabs.azureedge.net/lifelabs-wp-cdn/2021/02/LifeLabs-Testing-in-Schools-FAQ-for-Parents-Registration.pdf>

The school and the board will communicate with parents, guardians and staff should the need for future targeted testing dates arise.

Take care,

Tim Overholt
Supervisory Officer
The Protestant Separate School Board of the Town of Penetanguishene