



DeRuyter Central School

Home of the Rockets

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Dear Families:

This week Governor Kathy Hochul announced a statewide goal of providing students the opportunity to be tested for COVID-19 as school resumes after holiday break. **There is no requirement that families test their children**, but the Governor is encouraging the testing of students in order to keep students and school communities as safe as possible. The Governor stated that they will be sending test kits for distribution to our schools and local BOCES.

While it is unclear when the test kits will be delivered, we are working on plans to use our school building as the distribution site. If you would like a kit, please watch for additional information coming soon. In the event that we receive a sufficient supply, there will be a limit of one kit per student. If we receive fewer kits than the number of students in the district, kits will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Please note the district is simply a conduit for distribution. We will not be tracking or reporting results. We ask that families who utilize the kits and have a child with a positive test result report the positive case to the local health department and work with the district to follow all isolation and quarantine requirements. DeRuyter is in four different counties so check your County Health Department Website. This will guide you through reporting any positive cases. Please reach out to your principal or the school nurse, Mrs. Vadala, as you have in the past to inform them. If you need any help, we are all here to guide you. We appreciate the communication you have provided us during this pandemic.

To clear up any possible confusion, this opportunity to receive free test kits is not related to Test to Stay (TTS) programs in which some districts are choosing to participate. DeRuyter is **not** participating in TTS as of today.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate all of this and have a safe and Happy New Year. See you all Monday unless you are not feeling well and then we remind you to keep your children home.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brown

David M. Brown, Ed. D.
Superintendent

cc: Board of Education