



ANNOUNCEMENT

BORGER ISD COVID-19 Rapid Testing

Borger ISD and The Texas Education Agency (TEA) with guidance from the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM), and Center for Disease Control (CDC), will be implementing a COVID-19 rapid testing program using BinaxNOW Rapid Tests. This rapid antigen-based testing gives results in 15 minutes and are administered using a nasal swab in the front of the nostril. These tests have been shown to be highly accurate with accuracy rates of 97-98% for symptomatic individuals. Results will be received via text within minutes and individuals will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours. Results will be shared with the school/district and with the local health department to allow for public health reporting and contact tracing. Additionally, the total number of positive testes per school will be shared with the Texas Department of State Health Services as required by law.

Testing will potentially give BISSD the ability to quickly identify and isolate positive individuals before they can transmit the virus to others. It is our hope that this will help reduce possible exposures and/or absences for individuals waiting on test results.

The Rapid Testing program will not eliminate the CDC recommended 14-day quarantine for contact traced individuals.

BinaxNOW rapid tests are available to symptomatic BISSD students. Nurses will use discretion to test asymptomatic students. Participation is voluntary. Students will only be tested with parent permission. There will be no charge for these tests. If you would like more information please contact your school nurse.

Chance Welch, Superintendent