

Lincoln School Committee

Special Meeting to discuss Testing
Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Agenda

- Confirm the goal of testing
- Review possible testing opportunities
- Discuss testing evaluation criteria
- Discuss possible funding models
- Determine next steps

Goals of Testing:

- Capture asymptomatic individuals
- Depending on timing, may provide earlier detection of any positive cases (symptomatic or not)
- Reduction of fear and anxiety among faculty, staff and students
- Maintain in-person learning even when state cases are high

Selection Criteria:

- Type and accuracy of test
- Ability or Cost to “drill-down” to individual positive results
- Administration of the test (Nasal vs. Saliva)
- Collection Location (Home vs. Monitored In-School)
- Costs: Test, shipping, staff to help administer, additional PPE, etc.
- Other Administrative Costs/Effort (kit assembly, test administering, data monitoring, transporting samples to lab)

Company (Towns Using)	Type of Test/ Collection Method	Ability to Drill-Down?	Cost/Funding	Additional Questions/Comments
<p>Concentric (by Ginkgo Bioworks)</p> <p>Westwood</p>	<p>Pooled: In-person nasal swab (PreK-K would need help administering)</p>	<p>No – Must test separately</p>	<p>Pilot program free through 2/5 Then \$150/pool</p> <p>FedEx or deliver to Boston</p>	
<p>DESE Program</p>	<p>Pooled: Nasal swab (short swab) (PreK-K would need help administering)</p> <p>Follow up Test: Abbott BinaxNOW rapid point-of-care antigen test</p>	<p>No – Must test separately. Need to set up Reflex Testing System - BinaxNOW (15 min. results)</p>	<p>Shaw Foundation Funding 6-week free Early Launch period starting Late January/Early February.</p> <p>Approx. \$5/swab after Early Launch</p>	<p>What is the cost of the BinaxNOW test after the initial period?</p>

Company (Towns Using)	Type of Test/ Collection Method	Ability to Drill-Down?	Cost/Funding	Questions/ Comments
Mirimus Wellesley	Pooled: At home collection for saliva, then pooled	Yes	Wellesley Price: \$15/test Up to \$150 extra to drill down	Not open to new accounts until February
JCM Analytics Lincoln Sudbury HS Medway	Pooled: At Home Self- administered nasal swab	Yes	LS Price: \$13/test (\$180 for 3 months) FedEx Parents paid for voluntary testing, some grant money used for initial test.	Need to check if taking new accounts
ExosomeDX Lincoln Nursery School	Individual Testing: Nasal swab	n/a	Charged to individual's Insurance Company	

Administering Testing Questions:

- Remote cohorts/faculty included?
- Will all grades be tested including Pre-K?
- What about Tutors, TAs, Central Office Admin Team, School Admin, Substitutes? How will they be “pooled”?
- Capacity of staff and potential for additional staff needs
- Funding:
 - Families responsible for funding tests with Financial Assistance available?
 - Parent/community fundraising to offset district costs?
 - Federal/State funding? What is the opportunity cost of using these funds?
- Would we change our model after the initial “free phase”?
 - Move to testing only faculty/staff using a model that could drill-down to individual positive test results?
 - Test on a subset of students?
 - Perform full tests prior to returning from school breaks?

Suggested Testing Roles

- Testing Manager: Sets protocols, logistics of testing and provides oversight
- Test Administrator: Administers test on-site and collects samples, organizes/codes samples, and sends tests out to the lab
- Data Collector: Maintains all testing records
- Courier: Delivers tests to lab
- *Community Volunteers could be used to help with assembling kits, driving test to lab, etc.*

Communications to Families/Faculty:

- Program description
- Consent forms
- Training for supporting students with self-swabbing
- Clarity of procedure if there is a positive test in a classroom or identified cohort
- Clarify if this is a pilot or not and if funding is needed or not
- Next steps (consent forms, training, etc.)

Next Steps

- Determine if testing is a good choice for LPS and if yes:
- Identify program vendor
- Additional questions to be asked of vendor
- Create a Test Team to help coordinate implementation
 - Identify Testing Manager
 - Identify Test Administrators for each campus
 - Identify Data Collector
 - Determine testing schedule
 - Gather documents and approvals
 - Create communications for families and faculty