



**SAINT AMBROSE ACADEMY**  
At Peace of Christ Parish  
**31 EMPIRE BLVD.**  
**ROCHESTER, NY 14609**  
Phone 585-288-0580 Fax 585-288-2612



November 12, 2020

Dear Saint Ambrose Academy Parents and Guardians,

I know that many of you have questions related to the Covid-19 testing for our school's in-person students and faculty and staff members. Governor Cuomo has designated Monroe County as a Yellow Zone per New York State's Cluster Action Initiative.

The following provides information about what we know as of today:

- Parents need to formally consent to student testing.
- Rapid Covid-19 test kits will arrive tomorrow. Saint Ambrose Academy will test 20% of our community including K-5 students, faculty and staff. We will test 21 students and 5 adults each week. No student will be tested unless parents and guardians opt-in for the test (see link for [consent form](#)). **Please give serious consideration to completing this form for each of your children by Monday, November 16.**
- Schools need to repeat this 20% of in-person testing each week until our positivity rate gets below 3.0%
- Testing will be conducted professionally at school by Ms. Deutsch, Mrs. Campbell or Mrs. Decker, our school nurse.
- If at any point we are unable to get 20% of the in-person population to consent to testing, Saint Ambrose Academy will be forced into a fully remote learning model.
- Test performed at your health care provider's office will be accepted if you choose to opt-out of the weekly testing being performed at school. This Covid-19 test must be performed after the date of receiving the Yellow Zone designation and testing protocols, November 11, 2020.

Dr. Mendoza has provided reassurance that the current Yellow Zone designation is not the fault of school because we are doing everything correctly with our health and safety protocols in place: wearing face coverings, social distancing and washing hands frequently. If we continue to comply with state mandates and our positivity rates begin to go down, we will move out of the Yellow Zone and no longer need to test students and staff.

As we all prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, it is critically important that each of us continues to follow these health and safety precautions in our homes with our families. If the rate of new infections continues to rise and our area moves into the more restrictive Orange Zone, Saint Ambrose Academy will be forced to 100% remote learning model.

I appreciate your continued support and partnership. I pray you will carefully consider participating in the state-mandated testing program that will begin Monday, November 16, 2020. Together, our school will remain safe for in-person instruction.

Prayerfully,

Ms. Christine Deutsch