January 6, 2021

To: Spectrum Parents/Guardians

Re: Free COVID-19 Testing for Students and Families

The Minnesota Department of Education has requested that schools share information on the following two ways that students and families can access free COVID-19 testing.

1. **Student COVID-19 Testing**
   Students will now be able to send their Vault-at-Home tests back to the lab through their schools.
   How this works:
   - Students or families order tests through the Vault-at-Home program *(remember tests are no costs to Minnesota residents).*
   - Students complete their test at home.
   - Students seal their sample tube and place it in the biohazard bag. The biohazard bag then gets sealed in the shipping bag that comes with the test. The shipping label sticker is attached to the bag.
   - Students bring their sealed shipping bag with the shipping label to school on the school's designated onsite testing days for staff.
   - Spectrum's testing dates are on the following Thursdays: April 15th, April 29th, May 13th, and May 27th
   - If a student wants the school to mail their test from Vault-at-Home, it must be returned in the shipping bag to the high school on the designated testing date no later than 10:00 a.m.

   Questions about dropping off home tests at school should be directed to Michele Newberger, Spectrum's COVID-19 Coordinator, at (763) 450-9804 or mnewberger@spectrumhighschool.org.

2. **COVID-19 Testing for Families**
   The Minnesota Department of Health recommends that all school-age youth on campus, in youth sports or extracurricular activities, and their families, get tested every two weeks through the end of the school year. While it is not a requirement, they indicate that regular testing complements other safety measures already in place, such as masking and social distancing. More information on testing for students and families can be found here.