WHY SHOULD WE TEST FOR COVID-19 IN SCHOOLS?

- To reduce community spread and keep schools open.
- To help ensure equitable access to testing.
- To increase confidence in schools as a safe learning environment and assess whether school mitigation strategies are working.

TYPES OF COVID-19 TESTING

| SCREENING TESTING TO PREVENT SCHOOL OUTBREAKS | To identify infections in people without symptoms. Should be done at least once per week with rapid reporting of results, or before engaging in high risk activities. |
| DIAGNOSTIC TESTING TO IDENTIFY CURRENT INFECTIONS | For people who have symptoms or who are close contacts of those infected. |
| SURVEILLANCE TESTING TO KEEP TRACK OF COVID-19 IN THE SCHOOL | Helps determine the level of infection in school populations and is helpful in assessing how well mitigation practices are working. |

SCREENING TESTING IS RECOMMENDED FOR

- Students who are not up to date on recommended COVID-19 vaccines when community transmission is at moderate or higher levels.
- Teachers and staff who are not up to date on recommended COVID-19 vaccines regardless of community transmission level.
- Schools unable to consistently implement multiple layered mitigation measures.
- All participants, attendees and staff who are not up to date on recommended COVID-19 vaccines prior to engaging in high risk athletics, competitions, or extracurricular events.
- For higher risk activities, consider testing those who are not up to date on recommended COVID-19 vaccines more than once a week.