

# Superintendent's Snapshot

MARICOPA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 10, 2021

Dear MUSD Parents,

The goal of MUSD is to prioritize in-person instruction as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Voluntary pooled testing is a mitigation strategy that has the potential to decrease the spread of COVID-19 by identifying positive cases within our schools.

## How it Works

- Voluntary pooled testing combines 5-25 samples from a classroom and uses them to conduct one PCR laboratory test to detect the COVID virus.
- All participants swab their own noses with a short swab. Each swab is dropped into a short tube ("pooling" step). This pool is then processed as a single test.
  - If no positive cases are detected within the classroom pool, then no further testing is needed.
  - If a positive test is detected, individual student diagnostic testing would occur the next day.
- Only students whose parents give written consent are tested.
- [Learn more about Pooled Classroom Testing.](#)

## What it Costs

- There is no cost to the District or families. It is paid for through a partnership with the Arizona Department of Health Services.

## Survey

- MUSD is gauging interest through a parent survey. Please complete the [Voluntary Pooled Testing Survey](#) by Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 5 pm.
  - Parent responses to the survey will help us determine if we proceed with voluntary pooled testing, or identify selected locations to participate in voluntary pooled testing.

Thank you for choosing Maricopa Unified School District.

Sincerely,



Dr. Tracey Lopeman, Superintendent  
Maricopa Unified School District

