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Good Morning Grand Erie Families,

The well-being of all members of our school board, including staff, students, and their families is a top priority. As a result, we wanted to let you know that the province released its testing plan last Friday: [Protecting Ontarians Through Enhanced Testing](#).

Ontario's testing guidance indicates that you should visit an assessment centre if you:

- Have at least one of the [symptoms of COVID-19](#)
- Do not have symptoms but are concerned you might have been exposed
- Do not have symptoms but think you are at risk through your employment (for example, if you are an essential or health care worker)
- Would like to be tested

To support Ontarians who have identified the need to get tested, as of May 24, people will no longer need a referral to go to any of the more than 130 assessment centres across Ontario for testing. No Ontarian will be declined a test.

Given this expanded guidance, if you do choose to get tested, here are a few important notes:

- Testing is voluntary.
- You do not need an OHIP card to be tested. It is a free service.
- Some assessment centres may require you to book an appointment first or have certain restrictions (for example, some are unable to test young children). [Find out more about an assessment centre near you](#).
- You can also take an online [self-assessment](#) to help determine if you should get tested.
- If you are free of symptoms and have not had contact with anyone confirmed to have COVID-19 when presenting for testing, you will not be required to self-isolate. However, you should self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days regardless of your test result. If you begin to develop symptoms, self-isolate and contact your local public health unit for further advice.

Stay informed and visit Ontario's [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect Ontarians from COVID-19.

Local information is also available from the [Brant County Health Unit](#) as well as the [Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit](#).

Sincerely,

B. Blancher

Director of Education

SUCCESS for Every Student