



Dear SMFCSD Families,

In the San Mateo-Foster City School District, we seek to maintain a safe environment for employees, students, families, and the community. To support those goals, the district has partnered with [Concentric by Ginkgo](#) to provide an optional and free COVID-19 pooled testing program. Participating in this program will help safeguard the wellbeing of our community. We are planning to launch this program on September 20, 2021.

Pooling can test 25 people using one test and provide results within 2 days. The testing is simple: students in a class will swab their own noses and place their swabs in a single tube (that's the pooling step). The samples in that tube are then run as a single sample, using one test. If a positive test is received, Concentric staff will return to individually rapid test the pool to locate the positive individual(s). The pooled testing will take place weekly, on Mondays and Tuesdays, with any necessary rapid follow-up testing on Thursdays or Fridays.

Only students with completed consent forms are able to participate in testing. We strongly encourage your child's participation because the pooled testing program is a valuable tool in slowing the spread of COVID-19. Pooled testing allows students, teachers, and staff to come to school with peace of mind.

Your child's principal will send you information about how to sign-up for the pooled testing program.

Learn more about pooled testing in the SMFCSD by checking out our Pooled Testing Plan (attached). Additionally, you can click [here](#) to be directed to pooled testing resources available on the District website.

For more information, visit [Concentric by Ginkgo's website](#). Any further questions can be directed to:

E-mail: covidtesting@smfcsd.net

Phone: 650-312-7345

We appreciate your support of the pooled testing program!

Sincerely,

Diego R. Ochoa
Superintendent
San Mateo-Foster City School District