

*ELPS Updates
December 5, 2021*

Sign Up Now for the MI Backpack Home Test Program

We are pleased to be able to offer another COVID-19 testing opportunity to our families and staff - the MI Backpack Home Test Program! This program provides a limited number of free, at-home COVID-19 antigen tests to students and staff in Michigan's schools during the 2021-2022 school year. This pilot program offers one more tool—in addition to in-school testing, masking, ventilation, and other strategies—to create a safer environment for students, staff, and families.

You must register to receive the home tests - we expect to receive tests in about a week or so and then will send them home with our registered students. I've also included attachments that include a staff letter, family letter, overview of the program and at-home testing guidance. All K-12+ students and staff are eligible to register - please register separately for each individual if you have multiple people to sign up.

Link to register a student or staff

member: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=h3D71Xc3rUKWaoku9HII0ZGHyz3HKppAusICATcUVNIUQIVKWFYyVTRBUzNJOVgzRzUzNDFPRk03TCQIQCN0PWcu>

Info. Letter to Families: [Letter to Families](#)

Info. Letter to Staff: [Letter to Staff](#)

Program Overview: [Program Overview](#)

At-home Testing Guidance: [At-Home Testing Guidance](#)

Updated COVID School Guidance from MDHHS and the Ingham County Health Department

On Friday, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services released new guidance for Managing Students Exposed to COVID

19: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/MI_Safer_Schools_Guidance_for_Managing_Students_Exposed_to_COVID-19_734750_7.pdf

Subsequently, the Ingham County Health Department released a new Emergency Order regarding Isolation and Quarantine in Educational

Settings: <https://hd.ingham.org/Portals/HD/Home/Documents/cd/coronavirus/EOSept2-2021-3.pdf>

The School Guidance packet has also been updated to reflect the changes: <https://hd.ingham.org/Portals/HD/Home/Documents/cd/coronavirus/ICHDSchoolCOVIDHandouts.pdf>

The new county guidance impacts our Test to Stay Program.

- Current Test to Stay Testing Days: Days 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7, with Day of Exposure as Day 0
- New Test to Stay Testing Days: Days 3, 5, and 7 with Day of Exposure as Day 1

Board of Education Meeting – Monday, December 13, 2021

The ELPS Board of Education will be holding its next regular meeting Monday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room in East Lansing High School. The meeting will be held in person and will be live streamed.

Here is a link to access the recording of the November 22 meeting: <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/east-lansing-high-school-east-lansing-mi>

Under "Other Events," click "On Demand" - you should see the link to the 11/22 meeting.

Comments & Resources regarding the Oxford High School Shootings

Communication was sent out to staff, families and students Friday afternoon regarding the Oxford High School shootings that includes resources for talking to your child following this tragedy. The letter was sent through eblast and can also be accessed on the main page of our website: <https://elps.us/Core/News/Article/11436>

ESSER III Funding Stakeholder Input Survey - Last Call - Survey Closes Tomorrow Morning

East Lansing Public Schools is applying to receive Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds to address learning recovery from the impact of COVID-19. These funds are designated for one-time or short-term expenditures to address the ongoing impact of the pandemic.

ELPS is seeking input from stakeholders to determine how the district should utilize these resources. Please take a few minutes to let us know your opinion by completing the survey below.

School staff, parents/guardians, students and community members are encouraged to participate.

The survey will close Monday, December 6 at 8:00 a.m.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdzFed9X5DEv04tJEXv9p24nUIVRkD9NRAbPggqROsrKBnVTg/viewform?usp=sf_link

ELPS COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic - Dose 2

If your child received their first vaccine dose Saturday, November 20 at ELHS, please plan to return for a second dose Saturday, December 11 between 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - appointment times are the same as they were for the first dose.

Clinics are held in the Student Union (cafeteria) at East Lansing High School. Please park in the lot behind the tennis courts and enter the building through Door #8 (Night Activities Entrance). Staff will be there to provide direction. A parent/guardian must accompany each student, and only one adult will be allowed in the union for each child in order to allow as much distancing as possible.

Here is an FAQ document for Ages 5 - 11 vaccinations: [FAQ COVID-19 Vaccine for 5 - 11](#)

Flyer for December 11 Dose 2 Clinic: [EL Dose 2 Flyer](#)

Holiday Giving Opportunity to Support ELPS Families

We had an overwhelming response last year to our request for support for families over break and would like to provide support to our families over the upcoming two-week winter break as well. We have two ways families and community members can contribute.

1. Make a Donation - We will use these funds to purchase food, personal care items and/or gifts for students and their families. Please write the check to ELPS and send to the address below.

2. Purchase and Donate a Gift Card – This will allow families to purchase food, gifts or other needs during their time away from school. Purchase a gift card(s) from the list provided below in any increment, and we will get these in the hands of our families while doing our best to match these gift cards to our families' needs and wishes. Please write the amount on the gift card.

Donations and gift cards will need to be received by the end of the day December 14th so we have time to distribute items to families before break.

Suggestions for gift cards:

- Meijer
- Kroger
- Walmart
- Target
- VISA Gift Card
- Local pizza place that delivers

Donations & Gift cards can be mailed to:

ELPS Support c/o Superintendent's Office
501 Burcham Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823

OR... Dropped off at any ELPS school main office

To Request Support for your Family

Please contact your school principal, counselor, social worker or reach out directly to Nick Hamilton, Director of Student Support Services, at nick.hamilton@elps.us.

Updated Board Policy Manual Available for Review

The Board of Education's Policy Committee has spent many months reviewing available policy manual services, selecting a policy manual service and updating and individualizing Board policies. The draft policy manual is available to the public using the link below. The manual is currently being reviewed by all Board members and will come to the Board for action at one of the next couple Board meetings. Please utilize the Board Contact Form if you have input or feedback regarding Board Policy.

Link to draft Policy Manual:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1gtqsTp0Bs3bJiu3KGiM55qEICOau_4-y?usp=sharing

Link to Board Contact Form: <https://elps.us/our-district/board-of-education/contact/>

COVID-19 Reporting and Communicating

Here is a link to the district's COVID-19 dashboard. Positive school-related cases must be posted on this site within 24 hours of the district learning of the case. If we are notified of a case over the weekend, updates will be posted Monday.

<https://elps.us/our-district/district-covid-19-dashboard/>