



FOWLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 45

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Francisca Montoya
Governing Board
President

August 17, 2021

Dear Fowler School District Family,

Peggy Eastburn
Governing Board
Clerk

At Fowler School District, we seek to maintain a safe environment for employees, students, families, and the community. To support those goals, we have partnered with [Concentric by Ginkgo](#) to provide an optional and free pooled testing program. This service is added as an additional mitigation strategy for our community.

Ignacio Fernandez
Governing Board
Member

But first, we need your help! We are requesting each family to participate in this program to help safeguard the well-being of our entire school community. Please sign the consent request form attached and read the overview from Concentric to answer some questions you may have.

Marvene Lobato
Superintendent

What is pooled testing?

Pooling can test 25 people using one test. All students in a class, pod, or cohort 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. [See it in action here.](#)

Nora Ulloa
Asst. Superintendent
Business Services

Why pooled testing? Why should my student participate?

You know the old saying: "knowledge is power." Tools like pooled testing empower us to make great decisions. Without knowing the specific prevalence of COVID-19 in our school, it's tough for us to make informed decisions about safeguarding our school community, returning to school, or continuing in-person learning.

Cindy Bradley
Academic Services

Only students with completed consent forms are able to participate in testing. If you do not want your family to participate, your student will not be included in the testing program. Though, we hope you do!

Vince Medina
Early Childhood

Testing empowers us to make these informed decisions about in-person learning and allows students, teachers, and staff to come to school with peace of mind.

Cheryl Miller
Finance

To learn more about pooled testing, read the attached overview of Concentric's pooled testing program and watch this [video](#) from another school using this service.

Pattie Campos
Food Service
Culinary Operations

For more information, visit Concentric by Ginkgo's [website](https://www.concentricbyginkgo.com/) or reach out to your school administrator.

Deborah Riley
Food Service
Nutrition Services

Thank you,

Matthew Camacho
Human Resources Director

Marco Antonio Ruiz, M.Ed.
Assistant Superintendent Educational Services
Fowler Elementary School District

Kristi Stewart
Student Services Director

Enoch Davis
Support Services

Lane Blake
Technology

Leticia Valenzuela
Transportation