TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS

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December 30, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians/Faculty/Staff:

Below is some information regarding Governor Hochul's recently announced COVID testing initiative:

- This week Governor Hochul announced that at-home COVID tests would be sent to local school districts for distribution to parents, guardians, faculty and staff. The intent is for parents/ guardians to use these tests with students, and for faculty/staff to use these tests on themselves.
- We anticipate taking possession of these at-home COVID tests within the next week or so. Once we are in possession of these tests, we will alert parents, guardians, faculty and staff via School Messenger of our plans for distributing these tests to those members of our school community who want them.
- Please note that this at-home COVID testing is optional. The intent is to offer members of our school community an additional COVID testing option in order to keep everyone safe as we return to school after our holiday break.
- These at-home COVID tests do not replace the ongoing COVID surveillance/diagnostic testing that we are doing in conjunction with the Onondaga County Health Department.
- These COVID tests will be antigen tests. Anyone who tests positive using one of these antigen tests should immediately contact a health care provider.
- Parents/guardians and faculty/staff will need to report positive results of these at-home COVID tests to the Onondaga County Health Department. Here is a link to the website where results can be reported: <u>Report COVID Test Results</u>.
- Please note that masks and appropriate social distancing are still required in our school buildings.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable New Year's Eve.

Sincerely, **Robert J. Hughes** Robert J. Hughes Superintendent of Schools