

# FACT Update

Working Group Analysis & Recommendations



# Current System

FACT - Ed. Center through CIC-Health & Broad Institute

Voluntary Opt In for Staff Working In Person

Every other week 12/21 - 1/19 and weekly since 2/1/21

2,860 tests performed so far (12/16/20 - 2/8/21)

Requires a minimum team of 5-6 staff for each session and well over 40 cumulative hours per week to administer



# Why Increase Surveillance Testing

Limit spread of virus by identifying asymptomatic infected individuals

Monitor prevalence of virus in school community

Extra measure of safety in addition to ventilation project and 4 pillars precautions

# Key Elements for an Effective Program

Must be:

Feasible ~ Expandable ~ Flexible

Flexibility necessary to:

- Reevaluate based on positivity rates
- Determine progress duration
- Assess need to test after vaccination

# Considerations in Choosing a Program

Minimize personnel required to administer so program can become building-based

Protect in-person learning time, which is already limited

# DESE Program

We expected to choose this option

NPS assigned to Project Beacon with testing by Broad Institute

Requires:

- Onsite observed anterior nasal swabbing and personnel handle specimens to create the pools (pool size limited to 10)
- Testing must occur during school day
- Lab costs low (free until 3/28) - operations and logistics extensive and expensive
- Those in a positive pool must return to school for Reflex testing via BinaxNOW Antigen Test with results within about 15 minutes

# JCM Analytics

Nasal Swab for RT-PCR test can be self-collected at home

Pools can contain as many as 16 specimens

Administration involves logging in specimens only

Individual checking in the specimen does not have to touch the swab or tube

Reflex testing run on initial sample without obtaining a second swab

Results of the reflex testing often return at the same time as the pool results



# DESE Probable Onsite Collection Program

Need to collect nearly 1,200 student and 400 staff samples over a one-week period (split into 2 cohorts)

Requires approx 3 hours per day for 4 days per week to test at each HS

If use predetermined pools, placing samples in correct pool increases time and manpower; observers have to either place swabs in a pool container, or if watch test takers do it, have to cap the tube

Separate reflex testing required - may take as long as 48 hours to identify those needing the test and difficult to quarantine when returning to school for the test

DESE paired us with Project Beacon - software not straightforward





# Home Collection Program (JCM)

No guarantee sample collection is supervised

Students and staff pick up their kit or kits and return it on their assigned day

Reflex testing uses the same sample so no delay in determining positive sample within the pool

Checking in the sample should not require significant time



# Fiscal Analysis

Current CIC contract cost so far - approximately \$131,00 for 2,700 tests

-Does not account for logistics, operational, or human capital investment

Would probably switch staff to JCM model as continuing with CIC program for staff would cost an additional \$961,000 for approximately 1,200 additional tests weekly through the school year

JCM = approximately \$13-15/test in a pool and \$26/needed reflex test

Estimating costs presents many unknowns ~ overall cost, scope of need, vaccine influence, etc.

Monthly monitoring needed to determine how program working

Currently unfunded - not in FY21 budget



# Rough Financial Comparison

JCM Analytics		DESE State Plan Summary	
Test Cost	\$ 1,459,644	Test Cost	\$ 79,742
Staff Costs	\$ 253,590	Staff Costs	\$ 1,280,040
Estimated Reflex Testing	\$ 22,441	Estimated Reflex Testing	\$ -
On boarding and training	\$ 4,045	On boarding and training	\$ TBD -
Program Mgt, technical spt	\$ 8,302	Program Mgt, technical spt	\$ TBD -
JCM Works Software	\$ 42,488	Software	\$ 10,000
Transport and logistics	\$ 30,934	Transport and logistics	\$ 1,500
Barcode Scanner	\$ 867	Barcode Scanner	\$ 2,000
Optional Lanyards/Id Card	\$ 4,552	Optional Lanyards/Id Card	\$ -
Total 16-week Cost estimate	\$ 1,826,863	Total 16-week Cost estimate	\$ 1,373,282



# Recommendations

1. Continue weekly testing for PK-8 faculty and staff possibly shifting to JCM model and small pools - center based
2. Immediately contract with JCM Analytics to provide weekly pooled testing for our high school and post-secondary faculty, staff, and students
3. Carefully monitor the implementation of pooled testing at the HS; expansion to other levels (middle school first, followed by elementary, and then pre-school) at the earliest possible time
4. As students added, staff testing would shift to the assigned schools

# Possible Timeline

<b>Week Of:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
3/1/21	Start HS, Post-Secondary and Ed. Cntr. Students and Staff (stop CIC testing for this group)*
3/22/21	Start MS Students and Staff (stop CIC testing for this group)*
4/5/21	Start PK & Elementary and Ed. Cntr. Staff (END CIC Testing for all)*
4/26/21	Start PK & Elementary Students (ALL PK-post-secondary students and staff)
6/7/21	Potentially stop staff testing (Vaccine dependent)
6/14/21	End testing for HS seniors

\*If staff testing moves to JCM model, would check in sample at EdCenter until assigned school added



**Questions?**