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University Lake School Testing School Community Before Returning to Campus

ULS plans to offer regular COVID-19 testing for extra layer of protection

(Hartland, Wis., January 6, 2021) – University Lake School (ULS) is conducting COVID-19 testing for students, faculty and staff in order to re-establish a safer environment before returning to school after winter break and the holiday season. The school also plans to continue testing every two weeks with a rotating subsection of the school community at no charge.

“Our ultimate goal is to keep students and teachers in the classroom, but we want to do it as safely as possible,” said Tim Horner, interim head of school and head of administration. “The rapid testing gives us another way to protect our community in addition to masks, social distancing and cleanliness.”

ULS has partnered with Milwaukee-based Novir to manage testing and results. Novir works with REM Occupational Health & Wellness to administer rapid, on-site testing at the school.

The testing process includes point-of-care antigen and serological antibody tests that deliver results within 15 minutes. If there is a positive result, the “gold standard” polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are used to confirm positive antigen results, with results returned in 24 to 48 hours. Antigen tests use a nasal swab to collect a sample that detects the surface protein of the COVID-19 virus. Antibody tests use a single drop of blood to detect if the individual has produced antibodies to COVID-19, indicating a previous infection.

“We are proud to partner with ULS on this innovative testing program,” Novir president and founder Alexander Kempe said. “Novir was founded to help schools, businesses and other organizations reopen, and stay open, safely and confidently. More and more schools are seeing that testing is a critical part of slowing the spread of the virus, and delivering additional peace of mind.”

Testing in Progress

ULS has begun testing already. On the first two days of testing, out of more than 325 tests performed, there were no positive test results. Students, faculty and staff must have two negative results in order to return to in-person learning. If they choose not to be tested or missed the testing dates, students can return on January 19 to allow 14 days since the winter break. Classes resumed on January 4 via distance learning.

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“Novir made this really easy for us, and we were very pleased at the large turnout of families who came in over winter break to get tested,” said Horner. “This tells me that our community is committed to getting our students back in the classroom with a reduced health risk for all.”

ULS has a medical advisory task force that gives expert advice in order to create safe protocols for the school. In partnership with Novir, the school will conduct maintenance testing every two weeks with a rotating subsection of the school community who opt in. The task force approved this plan as one more way to reduce risk.

ULS is an open-enrollment school and accepts mid-year transfers. Guided tours are available by appointment. Please visit universitylake.org/admissions for more information, or write admissions@universitylake.org to schedule a tour.

About Novir

Novir was founded with a mission to drive early detection of life-threatening infections. It is focused on providing access to reliable, low-cost screening solutions at scale with an unmatched team of medical experts, trusted partners, and technology. It offers smart, fast and flexible COVID-19 testing programs with access to FDA-authorized, high-quality rapid point-of-care antigen tests, serological antibody tests and diagnostic tests including PCR tests, and all supported by TRACK™, a technology platform to provide actionable baseline data to support wide-scale testing efforts in managing COVID risk effectively and to comply with state and federal reporting. Novir provides a safer environment across multiple customers and settings, including, schools, manufacturers, pharmacies, retail, communities and other businesses and organizations. The company also equips organizations to do their own testing, and develops, manufactures, and distributes its own COVID-19 antibody and antigen tests, INSTA™. More details on the [Novir website](#). For additional information and to set up interviews with Novir representatives, please contact Erik Brooks: 414-651-1105 or erik@novir-usa.com.

About University Lake School

University Lake School (ULS) is an independent college preparatory school serving preprimary through 12th grade in Hartland, Wis. One hundred percent of ULS graduates are accepted to competitive colleges and universities. University Lake School delivers an incomparable education through the pursuit of academic excellence and the development of the whole student in a unique learning environment that fosters intellectual curiosity, original thinking, personal integrity and character through service. ULS is an educational innovator empowering students to lead and thrive in a global community.

University Lake School

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