



JOINT PRESS RELEASE

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Clint ISD & YISD combine efforts to protect health of student athletes

The Clint Independent School District and the Ysleta Independent School District are working together to safeguard the health of their student athletes, with Ysleta ISD agreeing to test all Clint ISD athletes for COVID-19 this week.

Earlier this month, Ysleta ISD was chosen by Gov. Greg Abbott's office to participate in a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program. The district has been provided thousands of BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card tests, which are designed to detect proteins from the virus that causes COVID-19 in as little as 15 minutes.

As a result, Ysleta ISD has been fortunate enough to provide weekly COVID-19 testing to its high-school sports teams, with a positivity rate that hovers around 2 percent – dramatically lower than the positivity rate currently being seen in the El Paso community.

With other area school districts having canceled their high-school sports seasons this fall, and in the spirit of being a good neighbor, Ysleta ISD reached out to offer its testing resources to Clint ISD athletes as well, given that they have several teams in postseason play. Clint ISD is expected to receive their testing supplies from the state and begin their own testing by the end of the week.

"The safety of students and staff continues to be at the forefront of what we do every day," said Ysleta ISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Xavier De La Torre. "We are fortunate to be able to ensure a safe environment for both teams by using the COVID-10 rapid-results tests provided to us by the governor's office, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), and TEA."

Testing for more than 250 Clint ISD high school athletes and athletics staff is taking place at Mountain View High School and Clint High School on Thursday afternoon. Once Clint ISD is approved and receives its COVID-19 rapid results tests from the TDEM, officials have agreed to replace the tests that Ysleta ISD is using to test athletes this week.

"Clint ISD appreciates the partnership with Ysleta ISD as we continue our high school athletic programs. The rapid testing occurring today will help protect the health and safety of our students and community," said Dr. Juan I. Martinez, Superintendent of Schools of Clint ISD.

The testing is taking place in advance of Friday's scheduled 1-4A district championship football game between Riverside High School and Clint High School.